



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Cluster of Catholic Parishes)

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Vol 10 : No 08

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717;
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Fr Prathap Katta (A/Priest -
8382 1717)
Fr Arul Dev (A/Priest - 8382 1717)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009 or kimumford@bigpond.com)

PARISH NEWSLETTER Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131, paclark@muckra.com.au) (All items for the newsletter must be received no later than Tuesday evening.)

SPONSORSHIP KANGAROO ISLAND TRANSFERS (0427 887 575) generously donate transport for our visiting Priests.

CHILD PROTECTION Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES This weekend Mass will be held at Kingscote at 9.30am.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

‘Console my people, console them’
says your God.

‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her that her time of
service is ended, that her sin is
atoned for, that she has received
from the hand of the Lord double
punishment for her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the
wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert. Let every valley be
filled in, every mountain and hill be
laid low. Let every cliff become a
plain, and the ridges a valley; then
the glory of the Lord shall be
revealed and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has
spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain, joyful
messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud
voice, joyful messenger to
Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to
the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your
God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his

flock, gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother
ewes.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30
Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

God’s grace has been revealed, and it
has made salvation possible for the
whole human race and taught us that
what we have to do is to give up
everything that does not lead to God,
and all our worldly ambitions; we
must be self-restrained and live good
and religious lives here in this present
world, while we are waiting in hope
for the blessing which will come with
the Appearing of the glory of our great
God and saviour Christ Jesus. He
sacrificed himself for us in order to set
us free from all wickedness and to
purify a people so that it could be his
very own and would have no ambition
except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God
our saviour for mankind were
revealed, it was not because he was
concerned with any righteous actions
we might have done ourselves; it was
for no reason except his own
compassion that he saved us, by
means of the cleansing water of

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Bill Roestenburg, Peter Weatherstone, Melanie Howson

January anniversaries: Eunice Airton, Eileen Bateman, Dorothy Brook, Monica Buick, May Cairney, Dominic Cash, Maureen Dunn, Marlene Cummins, Pauline Deegan, Jim Dodgson, Lucy Edwards, Colin Fahey, Margaret Flemming, Ralph Florance, Catherine Glynn, Alec Goodwin, Edward Hughes, Ida Jackson, Christina James, Jack Kindellan, Ettie McDonald, Irene Northcott, Ottaviano Orsi, Marj Phillips, Una Reynolds, George Rowen, Ann Smith, Sheila Tabor, Lorraine Laher-Storfer, Mary Weatherstone, ... And all the faithful departed.

Please pray for all the faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ.

ROSTERS

	Comm	Reader	Cleaning
9/1	A Gibbs	M Slagter	A Bevan
16/1	K Hammat	A Clark	A Bevan
23/1	M Slagter	S Semler	K Brinkley
30/1	P Bennett	A Gibbs	K Brinkley

COVID Marshal

9/1	A Clark		
16/1	M Slagter	23/1	W Bennett
30/1	H Mumford		

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)
9/1 Fr Josy

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Prayer for Healing and Renewal gatherings - Thursdays from 9.00am - 9.30am.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the PPC following Mass this weekend. All members are urged to attend.



POPE FRANCIS' NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE CALLS HURTING WOMEN 'AN INSULT TO GOD'

Pope Francis has strongly condemned violence against women, telling in his New Year's Day homily that "to hurt a woman is to insult God."

Speaking at the Vatican on Saturday, the head of the Roman Catholic Church strongly condemned violence against women.

"How much violence is directed against women! Enough! To hurt a woman is to insult God, who from a woman took on our humanity," the pontiff said.

The pontiff, who recently celebrated his 85th birthday, also praised mothers in his address, saying they "look at the world not to exploit it but so that it can have life.

"Women who, seeing with the heart, can combine dreams and aspirations with concrete reality, without drifting into abstraction and sterile pragmatism."

He added that mothers "know how to overcome obstacles and disagreements, and to instill peace.

"In this way, they transform problems into opportunities for rebirth and growth. They can do this because they know how to 'keep,' to hold together the various threads of life."

He added: "We need such people, capable of weaving the threads of communion in place of the barbed wire of conflict and division."

Francis delivered his New Year's message during a mass at St. Peter's Basilica. Except for the pope and members of a chorus made up of boys and adults, participants in the Mass wore face as part of COVID-19 precautions. Francis, who is vaccinated against the disease, wore a surgical mask during a prayer service in what, according to the Associated Press, was a rare departure from his shunning of masks during public ceremonies throughout the two-year pandemic.

The pope's comments on violence against women echo those he made on Italian TV last month when he described violence against women as "almost Satanic."

"The problem is that, for me, it is almost satanic because it is taking advantage of a person who cannot

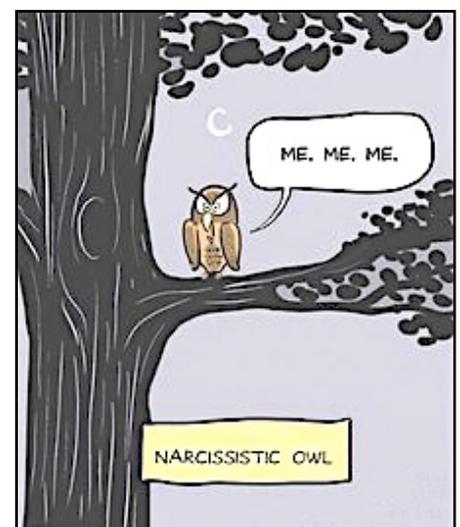
defend herself, who can only [try to] block the blows," the pope said. "It is humiliating. Very humiliating," he said.

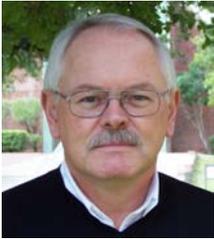
Francis also made reference to the Virgin Mary during that interview, as he drew on her during mass on Saturday. He was speaking to a woman named Giovanna who said she had left a violent home with her four children.

"I see dignity in you because if you didn't have dignity, you wouldn't be here," the pope told her. "Look at the Blessed Mother and stay with that image of courage." *Excerpt from "Newsweek" 1/1/22*

PARAPROSDOKIANS

- *Where there's a will, I want to be in it.*
- *The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list.*
- *If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.*
- *War does not determine who is right - only who is left.*
- *Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.*
- *They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell us why it isn't.*
- *To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.*





Ron Rolheiser column

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He is a community-builder, lecturer and writer. His books are popular throughout the English-speaking world and his weekly column is carried by more than sixty newspapers worldwide

AT THE ORIGINS OF OUR UNIVERSE – JESUS AND THE BIG BANG

Recently NASA launched the *James Webb Space Telescope* into space, the biggest and most expensive telescope ever built. It will take six months for it to travel a million miles from the earth, find its permanent place in space, and then start transmitting pictures back to earth. Those pictures will be such as have never seen before. The hope is that it will enable us to see much further into space than we've ever seen before, ideally to the very ends of our still expanding universe, right to the first particles that issued forth from the original explosion, *the Big Bang*, that began time and our universe.

Scientists estimate that our universe began 13.7 billion years ago. As far as we know, prior to that there was nothing in existence, as we understand that today (except for God). Then, out of this seeming nothingness, there was an explosion (*the Big Bang*) out of which everything in the universe including our planet earth formed. As with any explosion, the parts that were the most intimately intertwined with the expelling force are those driven furthest away. Thus, when investigators try to determine the cause of an explosion they are particularly interested in finding and examining those pieces that were most closely tied to the original force of the explosion, and generally those pieces have been blown furthest away.

The force of *the Big Bang* is still going on and those parts of our universe that were most intimately intertwined with its beginnings are still being driven further and further into space. Scientists are investigators, probing that original explosion. What the *James Webb Space Telescope* hopes to see is

some of the original parts from that unimaginable explosion that gave birth to our universe because these parts were there at the very beginning, at the origins of everything that exists. By seeing and examining them, science hopes to better understand the origins of our universe.

Looking at the excitement scientists feel around this new telescope and their hopes that it will show us pictures of particles from the beginning of time, can help us understand why the Evangelist, John, has trouble restraining his enthusiasm when he talks about Jesus in his first Epistle. He is excited about Jesus because, among other things, Jesus was there at the beginnings of the universe and indeed at the beginnings of everything. For John, Jesus is a mystical telescope through which we might view that primordial explosion that created the universe, since he was there when it happened.

Let me risk paraphrasing the beginning of the First Epistle of John (1, 1-4) as he might have written it for our generation vis-a-vis our curiosity about the origins of our universe:

You need to understand of whom and what I am speaking:

Jesus wasn't just some extraordinary person who performed a few miracles or even who rose from the dead. We are speaking of someone who was there at the very origins of creation, who himself is the foundation for that creation, who was with God when "the Big Bang" occurred, and even before that.

Incredibly, we actually got to see him in the flesh, with human eyes, the God who created "the Big Bang", walking among us! We actually touched him bodily. We actually spoke with him and

listened to him speak, he who was there at the origins of our universe, there when "the Big Bang" took place! Indeed, he is the One who pulled the switch to set it off, with a plan in mind as to where it should go a plan that includes us.

Do you want to probe more deeply into what happened at our origins? Well, Jesus is a mystical telescope to look through. After all, he was there at the beginning and unbelievably we got to see, hear, and touch him bodily! Excuse my exuberance, but we got to walk and talk with someone who was there at the beginning of time.

There are different kinds of knowledge and different kinds of wisdom, along with different avenues for accessing each of them. Science is one of those avenues, an important one. For far too long theology and religion did not consider it a friend. That was (and remains) a tragic mistake since science has the same founder and same intent as theology and religion. Theology and religion have been wrong whenever they have sought to undercut science's importance or its claims to truth. Sadly, science has often returned the favor and viewed theology and religion as a foe rather than as a colleague. The two need each other, not least in understanding the origins and intent of our universe.

How do we understand the origins and intent of our universe? Science and Jesus. Science is probing those origins in the interest of telling us how it happened and how it is unfolding, while Jesus (who was there when it happened) is more interested in telling us why it happened and what it means.

You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser's weekly columns from his website at: www.ronrolheiser.com

COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 05 January, 2022)

- Places of Worship are restricted to 1 person per 4 square metres - with social distancing of 2 metres.
Gathering at home cap: 10 (gatherings at residential premises, including residents of residential premises)
- Wearing of masks is mandatory. (An official doctor's certificate must be produced on request, if claiming an exemption.)
- At this time, we haven't received any information re singing during Church services, but certainly singing has been restricted in other venues.
- Social distancing is mandatory - DO NOT CONGREGATE at entry/exit and outside.
- There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details - either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log - both located at the entrance to the Church
- Hand sanitizer is available at Church entrances.
- Offertory procession will be omitted. Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- Collection plates will not be passed around.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- The Archdiocese recommends Covid vaccination for all (please check with your GP if you have concerns).
- Obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage. You may wish to access:
[Mass for You at Home – The official website of Mass For You At Home, Australia](#) online and on Channel 10 every Sunday at 6 am.

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rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

GOSPEL BACKGROUND

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian

community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(10 - 20 January)

- **Monday, 10:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20)
- **Tuesday, 11:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28)
- **Wednesday, 12:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39)
- **Thursday, 13:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45)
- **Friday, 14:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22; Mk 2:1-12:)
- **Saturday, 15:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17)
- **Sunday, 16:** 2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).