



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 08

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717; in emergency - 0452 524 169)

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.

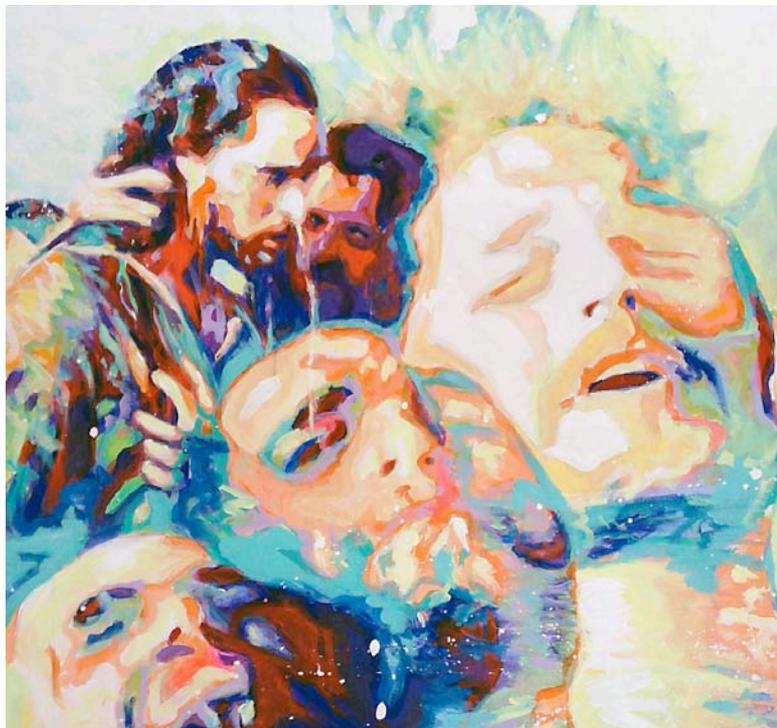
CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES

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

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions (1 person per 4 sqm) we are only permitted up to 39 people in our Church.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-11

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as

my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-9

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our

(Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

January anniversaries

Eunice Airton, Eileen Bateman, Dorothy Brook, Monica Buick, May Cairney, Dominic Cash, Marlene Cummins, 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.

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

ROSTERS

Comm	Reader	Cleaning
10/1 M Slagter	W Bennett	A Bevan
17/1 J Fernandez	K Wales	K Brinkley
24/1 K Hammat	P Clark	K Brinkley
31/1 S Semler	A Gibbs	A Clark

COVID Marshal

10/1 P Bennett
17/1 M Slagter
24/1 J Fernandez
31/1 C Weatherstone

JANUARY PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

10 January	Fr Josy
17 January	Communion Service
24 January	Fr Dev
31 January	Fr Prathap

QR CODES FOR ALL PARISH COMMUNITIES

From the beginning December it is mandatory for all public activities with a Covid-Safe plan to display a QR code.

A QR code is like a barcode, consisting of black and white squares. When you arrive at a venue or business, you will use the COVID SAfe Check-In feature in an app on your smart phone to scan the business' unique QR code instead of

signing in manually. If you do not have a smart phone, a paper record will still be available for you to provide your details.

If you would like more details about the QR code, please go to this link:

https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/329413/20101130-COVID-SAfe-Check-In-FAQs-for-Individuals-final.pdf

PS: Do you know what the QR stands for in QR code? It stands for Quick Response.

While they may look simple, QR codes are capable of storing lots of data. But no matter how much they contain, when scanned, the QR code will allow the user to access information instantly – hence why it's called a Quick Response code.



Did you miss out at Christmas?

WEEKLY WELLSPRING REFLECTION

John was the last and greatest of the prophets - the one who prepared the way for the coming of Jesus. His greatness did not go unnoticed and many wondered whether he was, in fact, the Messiah. He was adamant that this was not so. Such is the greatness of the one who is to come that John says he feels himself to be unworthy even of kneeling before Him to undo the strap of His sandals.

In asking John to baptise Him, Jesus is making a clear statement about the meaning of greatness. God Himself has declared Him as Son - but Jesus is content to allow a human-being to baptise Him.

We are reminded again that Jesus did not cling to His divine nature but emptied Himself and became fully human. The One who was the Messiah, the One who was to come

in glory, comes with humility and respect for the ministry of others.

These qualities were to characterise Jesus' ministry. He was not afraid to challenge those charged with ministering to God's people when they failed to fulfil their responsibilities.

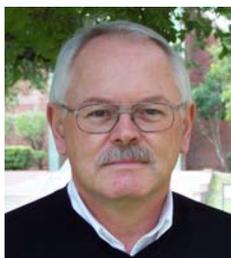
However, His attitude to those who are weak and fragile is unfailingly kind. His own humility gave people confidence to approach Him - His respect gave people a feeling of worth that enabled them to believe that they could change. Meeting Jesus - God and man - people learnt that God really loved and valued them - that God's favour could rest on them too.

DATES

Jan 26	Australia Day
Jan 27	First School Term '21 begins
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday
Feb 21	First Sunday of Lent
Mar 8	Adelaide Cup Day
1 Apr	Holy Thursday
2 Apr	Good Friday
3 Apr	Holy Saturday
4 Apr	Easter Day
5 Apr	Easter Monday
9 Apr	Last day School Term 1
25 Apr	ANZAC Day
27 Apr	First day School Term 2

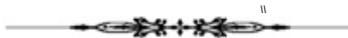
- I hate it when people act all intellectual and talk about Mozart, while they've never even seen one of his paintings ...*
- Breaking News! A US vicar has died after injecting himself with disinfectant ... Donald Trump is being charged with bleach of the priest.*
- I see people around my age mountain climbing. I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.*





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.



WHAT IS YOUR PRACTICE?

Today, the common question in spiritual circles is not, “What is your church or your religion?” But, “what is your practice?”

What is your practice? What is your particular explicit prayer practice? Is it Christian? Buddhist? Islamic? Secular? Do you meditate? Do you do Centering prayer? Do you practice Mindfulness? For how long do you do this each day?

These are good questions and the prayer practices they refer to are good practices; but I take issue with one thing. The tendency here is to identify the essence of one’s discipleship and religious observance with a single explicit prayer practice, and that can be reductionist and simplistic. Discipleship is about more than one prayer practice.

A friend of mine shares this story. He was at a spirituality gathering where the question most asked of everyone was this: what is your practice? One woman replied, “My practice is raising my kids!” She may have meant it in jest, but her quip contains an insight that can serve as an important corrective to the tendency to identify the essence of one’s discipleship with a single explicit prayer practice.

Monks have secrets worth knowing. One of these is the truth that for any single prayer practice to be transformative it must be embedded in a larger set of practices, a much larger “monastic routine”, which commits one to a lot more than a single prayer practice. For a monk, each prayer practice is embedded inside a monastic routine and that routine, rather than any one single prayer practice, becomes the monk’s *practice*. Further still, that monastic routine, to have real value, must be

itself predicated on fidelity to one’s vows.

Hence, the question “what is your practice?” is a good one if it refers to more than just a single explicit prayer practice. It must also ask whether you are keeping the commandments. Are you faithful to your vows and commitments? Are you raising your kids well? Are you staying within Christian community? Do you reach out to the poor? And, yes, do you have some regular, explicit, habitual prayer practice?

What is my own practice?

I lean heavily on regularity and ritual, on a “monastic routine”. Here is my normal routine: Each morning I pray the *Office of Lauds* (usually in community). Then, before going to my office, I read a spiritual book for at least 20 minutes. At noon, I participate in the Eucharist, and sometime during the day, I go for a long walk and pray for an hour (mostly using the rosary as a mantra and praying for a lot of people by name). On days when I do not take a walk, I sit in meditation or Centering prayer for about fifteen minutes. Each evening, I pray Vespers (again, usually in community). Once a week, I spend the evening writing a column on some aspect of spirituality. Once a month I celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, always with the same confessor; and, when possible, I try to carve out a week each year to do a retreat. My practice survives on routine, rhythm, and ritual. These hold me and keep me inside my discipleship and my vows. They hold me more than I hold them. No matter how busy I am, no matter how distracted I am, and no matter whether or not I feel like praying on any given day, these rituals draw me into prayer and fidelity.

To be a disciple is to put yourself under a discipline. Thus, the bigger part of my practice is my ministry and the chronic discipline this demands of me. Full disclosure, ministry is often more stimulating than prayer; but it also demands more of you and, if done in fidelity, can be powerfully transformative in terms of bringing you to maturity and altruism.

Carlo Carretto, the renowned spiritual writer, spend much of his adult life in the Sahara Desert, living in solitude as a monk, spending many hours in formal prayer. However, after years of solitude and prayer in the desert, he went to visit his aging mother who had dedicated many years of her life to raising children, leaving little time for formal prayer. Visiting her, he realized something, namely, his mother was more of contemplative than he was! To his credit, Carretto drew the right lesson: there was nothing wrong with what he had been doing in the solitude of the desert for all those years, but there was something very right in what his mother had been doing in the busy bustle of raising children for so many years. Her life was its own monastery. Her practice was “raising kids”.

I have always loved this line from Robert Lax: “*The task in life is not so much finding a path in the woods as of finding a rhythm to walk in.*” Perhaps your rhythm is “monastic”, perhaps “domestic”. An explicit prayer practice is very important as a religious practice, but so too are our duties of state.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Current - updated 14 December)

- Attendance for Mass is capped at 100 people, whilst maintaining 1:4 sqm.
- Funerals are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Weddings are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Singing as a congregation is to be avoided.
- Except for families and household groups, people should socially distance. There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group.
- 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 to be 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 but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- Care should be taking at the dismissal and on leaving the church to minimise social contact.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.

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faith. Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth – so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree.

We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus approaching him and said: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:7-11

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

REFLECTION FOR THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Baptism of the Lord is the great event celebrated by the Eastern churches on the feast of Epiphany because it is the occasion of the first public revelation of all the Three Persons in the Holy Trinity, and the official revelation of Jesus as the Son of God to the world by God the Father. Hence, it is described by all four Gospels. It marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. The Christmas season, celebrating the Self-revelation of God through Jesus,

comes to an end with the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Christmas is the feast of God's Self-revelation to the Jews, and Epiphany celebrates God's Self-revelation to the Gentiles. At his Baptism in the Jordan, Christ reveals himself to repentant sinners. The liturgical season of Christmas comes to a conclusion this Sunday with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord.

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent to our Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 70 AD, it was common for Jewish people to use a special pool called a Mikveh -- literally a "collection of water" -- as a means of spiritual cleansing, to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men took this bath weekly on the eve of the Sabbath; women, monthly. Converts were also expected to take this bath before entering Judaism. The Orthodox Jews still retain the rite. John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continuing ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our life of Faith. In effect, He fused His Divine Essence with the water and the ceremony.

"Vatican News"

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(11 January - 17 January)

- **Monday, 11:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:21-28)
- **Tuesday, 12:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28)
- **Wednesday, 13:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39)
- **Thursday, 14:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45)
- **Friday, 15:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12)
- **Saturday, 16:** Weekday, Ordinary Time 1 (Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17)
- **Sunday, 17:** 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (1Sam 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42)

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).