



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B**

**Vol 9 : No 03**

## **KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH**

Parish House: 22 Giles Street,  
KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Phone: 8553 2132

Postal address: PO Box 749,  
KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Email: [cphkings@adam.com.au](mailto:cphkings@adam.com.au)

Web: [www.kicatholic.org.au](http://www.kicatholic.org.au)

## **NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY**

Phone: 8382 1717

## **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](mailto:kimumford@bigpond.com))

## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131,  
[paclark@muckra.com.au](mailto: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.

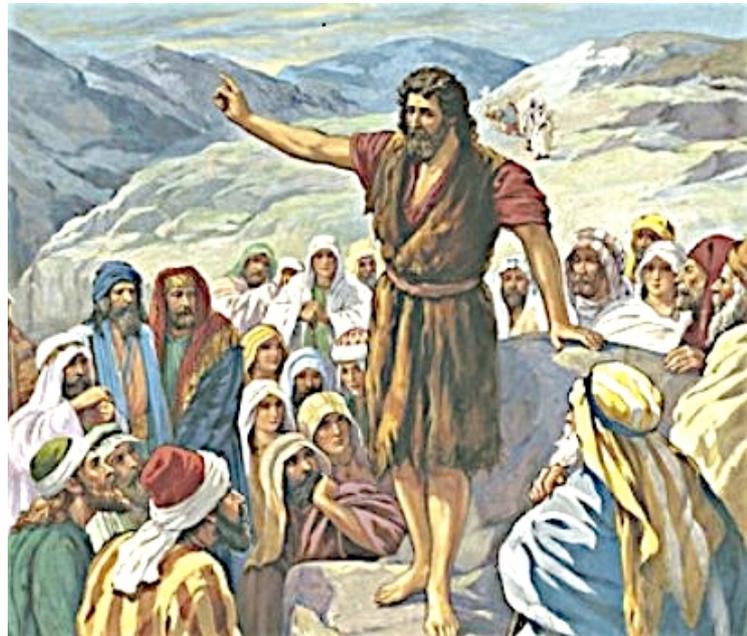
## **CHILD PROTECTION**

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 61:1-2,10-11*

The spirit of the Lord has been given  
to me, for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news  
to the poor, to bind up hearts that are  
broken; to proclaim liberty to  
captives, freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the  
Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul  
rejoices in my God, for he has  
clothed me in the garments of  
salvation, he has wrapped me in the  
cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom  
wearing his wreath, like a bride  
adorned in her jewels.

‘For as the earth makes fresh things  
grow, as a garden makes seeds  
spring up, so will the Lord make  
both integrity and praise spring up in  
the sight of the nations.’

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Lk 1:46-50, 53-54*

*My soul rejoices in my God.*

## **SECOND READING**

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Be happy at all times; pray  
constantly; and for all things give  
thanks to God, because this is what

God expects you to do in Christ  
Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or  
treat the gift of prophecy with  
contempt; think before you do  
anything – hold on to what is good  
and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you  
perfect and holy; and may you all be  
kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul  
and body, for the coming of our Lord  
Jesus Christ. God has called you and  
he will not fail you.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Isa 61:1 (Lk 4:18)*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to  
the poor.*

*Alleluia!*

## **GOSPEL**

*John 1:6-8, 19-28*

A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to  
speak for the light, so that everyone  
might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness  
to speak for the light.

(Continued page 4)

**PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**December anniversaries:** Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapman, Ann Commerford, Ernest Commerford, George Frauley, Annie Griffith, Graham Hammat, Franziska Hilz, Scott Imboden, Geraldine Kent, Nora Kerin RSJ, Eileen Johnson, John Kreffel, Anne Livingstone, Marcellina Mamogay, Frederick Moore, Valma Mumford, Sheila Norman, Denise Pettigrew, Ernie Reynolds, Joel Riley, Vernice Southern, Kevin Steinwedel, Eric Tabor, Mary Tully, John Wallace, Willard Wickham, Veronica Rue, and all the faithful departed.

*May all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.*

**Recently deceased: Roy Gatton**

**ROSTERS**

	Reader	Prayers	Cleaning
13/12	W Bennett	M Slagter	A Bevan
20/12	P Clark	J Fernandez	K Brinkley
Christmas	-----	Volunteers please	-----
27/12	A Gibbs	S Semler	K Brinkley

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PRIEST ROSTER**

*(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)*

13 December	Fr Josy
20 December	Communion Service
24 December	Fr Chris Horvat
25 December	Fr Chris Horvat
27 December	Fr Chris Horvat



**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Fr Chris Horvat will be on Kangaroo Island for Masses over Christmas. There won't be a Mass at Penneshaw. Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm and Christmas Day at 8.30am - both at Kingscote.

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

**CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR THE ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC MINISTRY**

Once again we will be conducting the annual Christmas Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) with a special collection at all Christmas Masses.

This Appeal is an important tradition in this archdiocese, and a vital source of support for our ministry to Aboriginal people through the Otherway Centre and its range of programs and services.

We ask that you continue to support this appeal generously, and that you remember the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in your prayers and celebrations this Christmas. Your support is essential for the continued outreach of the Otherway Centre to



*If people from 2020 were on the Titanic*

Aboriginal people in the Archdiocese of Adelaide.

*(Donations may also be made via the "Giving" tab on the Mass app.)*

**ADVENT CHRISTMAS FOR FAMILIES**

*Family Liturgies with Gospel Reflection and Activities for Advent Christmas can be found at the following links:*

*Family Liturgies* <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/our-works-and-community/family-and-parish-based-catechesis/prayer-services>

*Advent Christmas Online Links and Advent Christmas Activities* <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/schools/catholic-education-sa/family-and-parish-based-catechesis/resources>

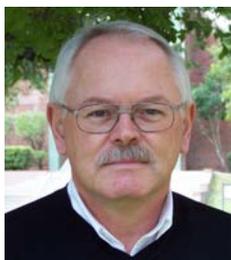
**REFLECTION FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

The Gospel according to St John is an invitation to be witnesses of Jesus before men, just as John the Baptist was. His mission from God was to witness with his life and with his word, that Jesus Christ is the Messiah and the Son of God.

The great modesty and discretion of John is striking. He did not allow himself to be trapped by the desire for notoriety or prominence. Although deeply rooted among the people of Israel, the Baptist remained level-headed and recognised his true stature. He was the spokesman of the true light. He knew very well that he was not the Messiah, because behind him came the one "whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

Today, we are called to be witnesses of the Lord, to be true witnesses of the light in the darkness of our times. Let us become witnesses of the Gospel to the entire world and make His message credible. Let us be humble witnesses in the style of John, followers who do not impersonate or overshadow Jesus. Let us be Christians supported and encouraged by him, so that in our words and deeds we will make visible the unmistakable presence of Jesus alive in our midst.

*Office of Worship  
2020 Advent Booklet*



## Ron Rolheiser column

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, is president of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. 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.



### FROM SAINT TARCISIUS TO PEOPLE MAGAZINE: OUR EVOLUTION IN ADMIRATION AND IMITATION

When I was a young boy growing up in a Catholic community, the catechesis of the time tried to inspire the hearts of the young with stories of martyrs, saints, and other people who lived out high ideals in terms of virtue and faith. I remember one story in particular that caught my imagination and inspired me, the story of a third-century Christian martyr, St. Tarcisius.

As legend (or truth) has it, Tarcisius was a twelve-year-old acolyte during the time of the early Christian persecutions. At that time, Christians in Rome were celebrating the Eucharist in secret in the catacombs. After those secret masses someone, a deacon or an acolyte, would carry the Eucharistic species, the Blessed Sacrament, to the sick and to prisoners. One day, after one of those secret masses, young Tarcisius was carrying the Blessed Sacrament on route to a prison when he was accosted by a mob. He refused to hand over the Blessed Sacrament, protected it with his own body, and was beaten to death as a result.

As a twelve-year-old boy that story enflamed my romantic imagination. I wanted to have that kind of high ideal in my life. In my young imagination, Tarcisius was the ultimate hero whom I wanted to be like.

We've come a long way from there, both in our culture and in our churches. We're no longer moved romantically much by either the saints of old or the saints of today. Yes, we still make an official place for them in our churches and in our highest ideals, but now we're moved romantically much more by the lives of the rich, the famous, the beautiful,

the pop stars, the professional athletes, the physically gifted, and the intellectually gifted. It's they who now enflame our imaginations, draw our admiration, and who we most like to imitate.

In the early nineteenth century, Alban Butler, an English convert, collected stories of the lives of the saints and eventually set them together in twelve-volume set, famously known as *Butler's Lives of the Saints*. For nearly two hundred years, these books inspired Christians, young and old. No longer. Today, *Butler's Lives of the Saints* has effectively been replaced by *People* magazine, *Sports Illustrated*, *Rolling Stone*, *Time* magazine, and the multiple other magazines which chronicle the lives of the rich and famous and stare out at us from every newsstand and grocery-store check-out line.

In effect, we have moved: from St. Tarcisius to Justin Bieber; from Therese of Lisieux to Taylor Swift; from Thomas Aquinas to Tom Brady; from St. Monica to Meryl Streep; from St. Augustine to Mark Zuckerberg; from Julian of Norwich to Marianne Williamson; and from the first African American saint, St. Martin de Porres, to LeBron James. It's these people who are now enflaming our romantic imagination and inviting our imitation.

Don't get me wrong, it's not that these people are bad or that there's anything wrong with admiring them. Indeed, we owe them some admiration because all beauty and talent take their origin in God who is the author of all good things. From a saint's virtue, to a movie star's physical beauty, to an athlete's grace, there's only one author at the origin of all that grace, God. Thomas Aquinas once rightly pointed out that to withhold a compliment from

someone who deserves it is a sin because we are withholding food from someone who needs it to live on. Beauty, talent, and grace need to be recognized and acknowledged. Admiration is not the issue. The issue rather is that while we need to admire and acknowledge the gifts of the talented and the beautiful, these are not always the lives we should be imitating, unless they also radiate virtue and saintliness. We shouldn't too easily identify human grace with moral virtue. But that's a problem.

As well, one of the weaknesses in our churches today is that while we have vastly upgraded and refined our intellectual imagination and now have better and healthier theological and biblical studies, we struggle to touch hearts. We struggle to get people to fall in love with their faith and especially with their church. We struggle to enflame their romantic imagination as we once did by invoking the lives of the saints.

Where might we go with all of this? Can we find again saints to enflame our ideals? Can the fine work done today by Robert Ellsberg on hagiography (on the lives of the saints and other moral giants who have passed before us) become the new *Butler's Lives of the Saints*? Can secular biographies of some moral giants in our own age draw our imitation? Is there a St. Tarcisius out there who can inspire the young?

Today, more than ever, we need inspiring stories about women and men, young and old, who have lived out heroic virtue. Without such ideals to emulate, we too quickly identify moral virtue with human grace and deprive ourselves of higher spiritual ideals.

You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser's weekly columns from his website at: [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com)

## COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Current as at 1 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.

---

### KANGAROO ISLAND PARISH

Phone 8553 2132  
(www.kicatholic.org.au)

### NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD PARISH

Phone 8382 1717  
(www.noarlunga-seafordparish.org.au)

### WILLUNGA PARISH

Phone 8556 2132  
(www.willungaparish.org.au)

(Continued from page 1)

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:  
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

---

### DID YOU KNOW?

- In the early years, there was rivalry between the disciples of John the Baptist and of Jesus. This gospel makes it clear that John does not see himself as a rival to Jesus but as a witness to him. It is Jesus who is the one sent from God.
- The quote from Isaiah comes from a section of his Book which is addressed to the people in Exile in Babylon in the sixth century BC. It is designed to bring comfort and promises that, when the paths are made straight, the Lord will be revealed.
- Bethany, as mentioned in this gospel text, is not the same town which was home to Mary, Martha and Lazarus. They lived close to

Jerusalem but the Bethany mentioned here lies on the east bank of the Jordan River.

### EXPLORING THE WORD

In contrast to last week's text on John the Baptist, this one comes from the last of the written gospels. The Gospel of John was penned at the very end of the first century. One common characteristic, however, is clear: the Baptist is again presented as the forerunner. John the Baptist rejects all messianic or quasi-messianic titles. He throws human expectation into chaos. He claims for himself only the role of the 'voice' of Isaiah 40, but the evangelist presents him as the most reliable of witnesses, 'Sent by God ... to speak for the light'. The only other person in John's Gospel to come from God is Jesus himself. Before an audience of the leaders of the religion of Israel, John witnesses with an authority and a truthfulness that has its source in God.

---

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(14 - 20 December)

- **Monday, 14:** St John of the Cross (Is 61L:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)
- **Tuesday, 15:** Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> week Advent (Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32)
- **Wednesday, 16:** Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> week Advent (Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Lk 7:19-23)
- **Thursday, 17:** Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> week Advent (Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17)
- **Friday, 18:** Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> week Advent (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24)
- **Saturday, 19:** Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> week Advent (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25)
- **Sunday 20:** Fourth Sunday of Advent (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38)

---

### 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).