



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Vol 8 : No 43

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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)

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.

With the introduction of Level 3
restrictions (1 person per 2sq.m) we
are permitted up to 78 people in our
Church, so there will be no need to
book in ahead.



FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 -28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul
things, and both are found with the
sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will
experience the vengeance of the
Lord, who keeps strict account of
sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he
does you, and when you pray, your
sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against
another, can he then demand
compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like
himself, can he then plead for his
own sins?

Remember the last things, and stop
hating, remember dissolution and
death, and live by the
commandments.

Remember the commandments, and
do not bear your neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most
High, and overlook the offence.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 102:1-4, 9-12

*The Lord is kind and merciful; slow
to anger and rich in compassion.*

SECOND READING

Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has
its influence on others; if we live, we
live for the Lord; and if we die, we
die for the Lord, so that alive or dead

we belong to the Lord. This explains
why Christ both died and came to
life: it was so that he might be Lord
both of the dead and of the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I give you a new commandment: love
one another as I have loved you.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said,
‘Lord, how often must I forgive my
brother if he wrongs me? As often as
seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not
seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven
times.

‘And so the kingdom of heaven may
be compared to a king who decided
to settle his accounts with his
servants. When the reckoning began,
they brought him a man who owed
ten thousand talents; but he had no
means of paying, so his master gave
orders that he should be sold,
together with his wife and children
and all his possessions, to meet the
debt. At this, the servant threw
himself down at his master’s feet.
“Give me time” he said “and I will
pay the whole sum.” And the
servant’s master felt so sorry for him
that he let him go and cancelled the
debt.

(Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Greg Turner, Roy Gatton, Josh Semler.

September anniversaries: Frank Berden, Mary Bowery, Gwen Caldicott, Audrey Carslake, Peg Dow, Thomas Drane, Bernadette Florance, Christopher Glynn, Loretta Hartley, Catherine Hughes, Patrick Hughes, Pearl Malycha, Elvie Meaney, Dean Larcombe, Julia Martienses, Eeileen Morris, Reginald Pahl, Maise Rooney, Vera Shannon, James Smith 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.

ROSTERS

Reader	Prayers	Cleaning
13/9 A Clark	P Wales	K Williams
20/9 K Hammat	L Grant	K Williams

SEPTEMBER PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

13 September Fr Josy

**COLLECTIONS
DIRECT PAYMENTS**

If you would like to organise your Church donations via scheduled bank or Archdiocesan transfers and need some help, please contact Helen Mumford or Peter Clark.

PARISH MASSES

With the introduction of Level 3 restrictions (1 person per 2sq.m) we are permitted up to 78 people in our Church, so there will be no need to book in ahead.

However, we are still required to:

- Sign-in on entering the Church
- Continue using hand sanitiser
- Continue regularly wiping surfaces and cleaning our Church
- Encourage those who are unwell or vulnerable to stay home
Avoid physical greetings: hugs, kisses and handshakes.

COVID MARSHALS

From 21 August all Mass centres must have an appropriately-trained COVID Marshal in attendance during services, ceremonies and events. The COVID Marshal counts the number of people on site to ensure the Church capacity limit is not exceeded, ensures that

parishioners sign on as they enter the Church and that hand sanitiser is readily available. They will also be reminding people to maintain 1.5 metres physical distance.

Making a difference to the lives of South Australians since 1941. Please support the Catholic Charities 2020 Appeal – pick up a brochure from parishes in September or make a

September is Catholic Charities month



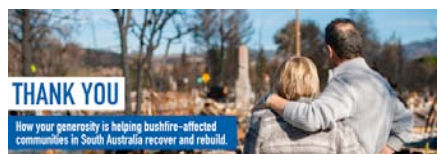
donation online at www.adelaide.catholic.org.au or via Catholic Charities Appeal, Reply Paid 912, Adelaide SA 5001.

For more information please call Annie O'Neill, Manager Catholic Charities on 08 8210 8157 or visit Catholic Charities pages on the website: www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/charity-and-giving/catholic-charities/about-catholic-charities- Donations of more than \$2 are tax deductible.



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday. We pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Find out more at: www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday and www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding

VINNIES SA BUSHFIRE APPEAL REPORT



We are delighted to present a report detailing how funds were raised and

distributed to those impacted by bushfires last summer. 100% of the \$2.05million raised via the appeal, plus interest, was distributed by 30 June 2020 - it would have been sooner had we not continued to receive generous donations right up until this time.

The report is available to read online at www.vinnies.org.au/BushfireReportSA

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special leaving collection for the Holy Places Appeal (the Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land) at all Mass Centres this weekend.

This collection is usually taken up on Good Friday, but all our Churches were in lock-down at that time and the Archdiocese decided to postpone it until now.

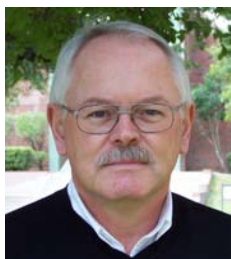
STOP MODERN SLAVERY SA PETITION

To generate interest and support for the "Stop modern slavery SA" campaign, an online petition has been started. It is another way for people to add their support for the campaign. Click on link to view petition <https://www.megaphone.org.au/p/stopmodernslaverySA>.

After you've signed the petition, please also take a moment to share it with others.



- Rabbits jump and they live for 8 years.
- Dogs run and they live for 15 years.
- Turtles do nothing and live for 150 years. Lesson learned!



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



MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE AND EVERYDAY PEOPLE

What kinds of things help induce mysticism in our lives? I was asked that question recently and this was my immediate, non-reflected, answer: whatever brings tears to your eyes in either genuine sorrow or genuine joy; but that response was predicated on a lot of things.

What is mysticism? What makes for mystical experience?

In the popular mind mysticism is misunderstood badly. We tend to identify mysticism with what's extraordinary and paranormal, and see it as something for the spiritual elite. For most people, mysticism means spiritual visions and ecstatic experiences which take you outside of normal consciousness.

Mysticism can be that sometimes, though normally it has nothing to do with visions, altered states of consciousness, or states of ecstasy. Rather it has to do with a searing clarity of mind and heart. Mystical experiences are experiences that cut through all the things that normally block us from touching our deepest selves, and they are rare because normally our consciousness is cut off from our deep, true, virginal self by the influence of ego, wound, history, social pressure, ideology, false fear, and all the various affectations we don and shed like clothing. Rarely are we ever in touch with our deepest center, without filters, purely; but when we are, that's what makes for a mystical experience.

Mysticism, as Ruth Burrows defines it, is being touched by God in a way that's beyond words, imagination, and feeling. God, as we know, is Oneness, Truth, Goodness, and Beauty. So any time we are genuinely touched by oneness, truth, goodness, or beauty, without

anything distorting that, we're having a mystical experience. What might that look like?

Ruth Burrows describes a mystical experience which radically changed her life when she was eighteen years old, a senior at a private high school for young women operated by an order of nuns, on a retreat preparing for graduation, and not very mature. She and one of her friends were not taking this retreat very seriously, passing notes to each other and pulling pranks during the conferences. At a point, their antics were disturbing enough that the nuns pulled them out of the group and had them sit in silence in a chapel, chaperoned by a teacher, whenever the rest of the class was at a conference. At first, Burrows confesses, they continued their joking around, but the hours were long and the silence eventually wore her down. Sitting alone, bored and irritated, a mystical experience graced her, uninvited and unexpected. And it came upon her not as a vision or an ecstasy, but as a moment of searing clarity. At a certain moment, sitting alone, she saw herself with absolute clarity for who she really was, in all her immaturity and in all her goodness. It changed her life. From then on she knew who she was – beyond ego, wound, immaturity, peer pressure, ideology, and all affectation. In that moment she knew her deepest self purely (and the only thing that was extraordinary was its extraordinary clarity).

So, what kinds of things might induce mystical experiences in our lives? The short answer: anything that takes you beyond your ego, your wounds, your affectations, and the powerful social pressures within which you breathe, that is, anything that helps put you in touch with who you really are and makes you want

to be a better person. And this can be many things. It might be a book you read; it might be the beauty of nature; it might be the sight of a newborn baby, a crying child, a wounded animal, or the face of someone suffering; or it might be what you feel deep down when you receive an expression of love, bless someone, express genuine contrition, or share helplessness. It can be many things.

Several years ago while teaching a course, I assigned the students a number of books to read, among them Christopher de Vinck's, *Only the Heart Knows How to Find them – Precious Memories for Faithless Time*. This is a series of autobiographical essays within which de Vinck simply shares very warmly about his marriage, his children, and his home life. At the end of the semester a young woman, with de Vinck's book in her hand, said to me: "Father, this is the best book I've ever read. I've always fancied myself a very free, liberated person and I've slept my way through several cities, but now I realize that what I want is what this man has. I want sex to take me home. I want a home. I want the marriage bed. I know now what I need!"

Reading Christopher de Vinck's book had triggered a mystical experience inside her, not unlike the one described by Ruth Burrows. Reading the *Story of a Soul* by Therese of Lisieux generally does that for me.

So, here's my counsel: seek out what does that for you. It doesn't have to bring tears to your eyes, it just has to point you with searing clarity towards home!

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

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(The following conditions apply for the time being)

- Attendance for mass is dependent on the 1 in 2 sq.m rule restriction.
- This number also applies for funerals and weddings.
- 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. Logs are located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrances.
- Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- No collection plates or hymn books are to be passed around.
- Communion is given only in hands.
- 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.
- Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Offertory procession will be omitted.
- 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)

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA PARISH

Phone 8552 1084
(www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au)

WILLUNGA PARISH

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

(Continued from page 1)

Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt.

His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt.

And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

DID YOU KNOW?

- The sum of ten thousand talents would have been an impossibly huge debt. A Jewish talent was made of silver weighing 43,620 grams!
- A debt of one hundred denarii was still a hefty sum. The denarius was a commonly used Roman coin made of silver weighing 3.64 grams. A denarius was the wage paid for one day's casual labour.
- The use of the word 'torturers' in this text is problematic. The Greek term is linked to the notion of 'tormentors'. It may be that the debtor's friends and relations would more vigorously try to raise the necessary funds if the culprit is undergoing torment but it may also be an eschatological reference given what follows in the next verse.

SHARING THE TRADITION

In the life of the Church the sacrament which celebrates forgiveness is the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Penance. Baptism into the community of Christ included an element of forgiveness of sin, but what happened when one of the faithful sinned again after baptism? In the early Church they grappled with the problem of people who denounced their faith in the face of persecution or committed a grave offence like murder or adultery. How often were they to be forgiven and reinstated to the community? In those early centuries, forgiveness required a public confession and public penance like the wearing of sack-cloth and ashes. Gradually the Celtic monastic practice of having a spiritual guide became more popular. This was a person with whom one had regular contact and with whom one shared failings and concerns. From this practice, the sacrament of confession and administration of forgiveness and penance became more private and auricular (heard). This is now the norm of the Church except in exceptional circumstances.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(14 - 20 September)

- **Monday, 14:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Num 21:4-9; Jn 3:13-17)
- **Tuesday, 15:** Our Lady of Sorrows (Heb 5:7-9; Jn 19:25-27)
- **Wednesday, 16:** Sts Cornelius and Cyprian (1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35)
- **Thursday, 17:** Weekday, Ord Time 24 (1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50)
- **Friday, 18:** Weekday, Ord Time 24 (1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3)
- **Saturday, 19:** Weekday, Ord Time 24 (1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Lk 8:4-15)
- **Sunday 20:** 25th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20-24, 27; Mt 20:1-16)

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).