



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

Vol 13 : No 03

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mrs Wendy Bennett (0475 894 755

wendygbennett@icloud.com)

(All items for the newsletter must be
received no later than Tuesday
evening.)

WEEKEND MASSES

Kingscote at 9.30am

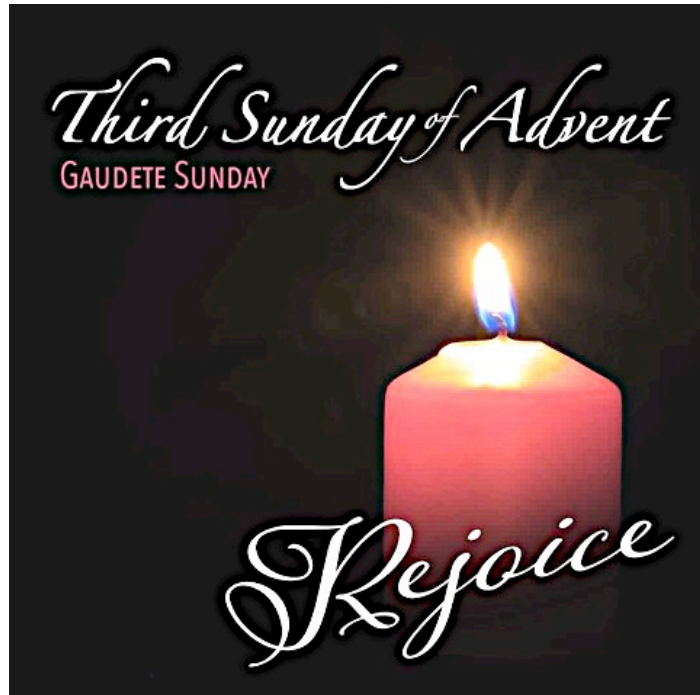
CONFESSION

Kingscote at 9.00am

(prior to Mass)

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Prayers for Healing and Renewal in
the Church - Thursdays at 9.00am



FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your
midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will
come to Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear, do not let your
hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he
will renew you by his love; he will
dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Isa 12:2-6

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for
among you is the great and Holy One
of Israel.*

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy
in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is
your happiness. Let your tolerance be
evident to everyone: the Lord is very
near.

There is no need to worry; but if there
is anything you need, pray for it,
asking God for it with prayer and
thanksgiving, and that peace of God,
which is so much greater than we can
understand, will guard your hearts and
your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Isa 61:1

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John,
'What must we do?' he answered, 'If
anyone has two tunics he must share
with the man who has none, and the
one with something to eat must do the
same.' There were tax collectors too
who came for baptism, and these said
to him, 'Master, what must we do?'
He said to them, 'Exact no more than
your rate.' Some soldiers asked him
in their turn, 'What must we do?' He
said to them, 'No intimidation! No
extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown
among the people, who were
beginning to think that John might be

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing list:

Sue Semler, Brianna Chudlee, Peter Weatherstone, John Slagter, Annette Roestenburg, Michelle Glynn, Elijah Laundry, Rebecca Semler, Simon Laundry, Chris Heath

December anniversaries:

Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapmann, 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.

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

PARISH ROSTERS

	Reader	Prayers	Cleaning
15/12	H Mumford	P Bennett	C Brinkley
22/12	A Clark	M Glynn	C Brinkley
29/12	M Slagter	W Bennett	C Brinkley

PRIEST ROSTER

15/12	Fr My Tran
22/12	Fr Lancy D'Silva
24,25/12	Fr Paul Ghanem
29/12	Fr Paul Ghanem

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, 24 December - 7.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, 25 December - 8.30am

SAFEGUARDING AT CHRISTMAS

While Christmas is often a time of joy and family togetherness, it can be a challenging period for vulnerable

individuals. The pressure to meet expectations of a "perfect" holiday can create anxiety, particularly for those experiencing domestic abuse, mental health struggles, or a lack of family support. Children and young people, who spend more time online during the holidays, are also at risk of cyber-bullying and exposure to inappropriate content.

As we celebrate, let's remember that safeguarding isn't just about protecting against harm; it's about creating safe, supportive spaces where everyone feels valued. Even small acts of kindness can make a big difference to those who are vulnerable within our communities.

*Archdiocesan Integrity and Safeguarding Department
8210 8150*



There will a barbecue lunch after Mass on Sunday 22nd December. Please bring something sallady, savoury or sweet to share, something to drink and a chair.



Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose! Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card.

View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

"The Southern Cross" December edition will be inserted in "The Advertiser" this weekend, Saturday December 14. Free copies will also be available for distribution in parishes.

70th ANNIVERSARY PHOTOS

Special thanks to Kerry Brinkley for the wonderful photographic record of our Anniversary weekend.

If you would like to view the photos, go to the home page of our website at www.kicatholic.org.au and click on the group photo.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection at Christmas Masses - Catholic Charities - Special Appeal. The Archbishop of Adelaide's charity supporting special projects for Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in SA, Hutt Street Centre, St Patrick's Special School, Our Lady of La Vang Special School and Centacare Family Services.

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

Pope Francis proclaimed 2025 a Jubilee Year for the whole Church, with the theme Pilgrims of Hope.

DATES 2024

25 Dec	Catholic Charities Appeal
2025	
1 Jan	New Year's Day holiday
26 Jan	Australia Day holiday
28 Jan	First day, School term 1
5 Mar	Ash Wednesday
11 Mar	Adelaide Cup Day
13 Apr	Palm Sunday
17 Apr	Thursday of Lord's Supper
18 Apr	Good Friday
19 Apr	Holy Saturday
20 Apr	Easter Sunday
25 Apr	ANZAC Day





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

FROM SAINTS TO CELEBRITIES: 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 which inspired me, the story of a third-century Christian martyr, St. Tarcisus.

As legend (or truth) has it, Tarcisus 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, 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 Tarcisus was carrying the Blessed Sacrament enroute 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 inflamed my romantic imagination. I yearned for that kind of ideal in my life. In my young imagination, Tarcisus was the kind of hero that I wanted to be.

We've come a long way since then, both in our culture and in our churches. We are no longer moved much romantically 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 abstract ideals, but we are now, in effect, moved much more by the lives of the rich, the famous, the beautiful, our pop stars, our professional athletes, the physically gifted, and the intellectually gifted. They now inflame our imaginations, draw our admiration, and it's them we want to be like.

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 multiple magazines, podcasts, and websites which chronicle the lives of the rich and famous and stare out at us from our phones, our laptops, and from every newsstand and grocery store checkout line.

In effect, we have moved: from St Tarcisus 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 Oprah; and from the first African American saint, St Martin de Porres, to LeBron James. It's these people who now inflame our romantic imagination and whom we would most want to be like.

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 it all, God.

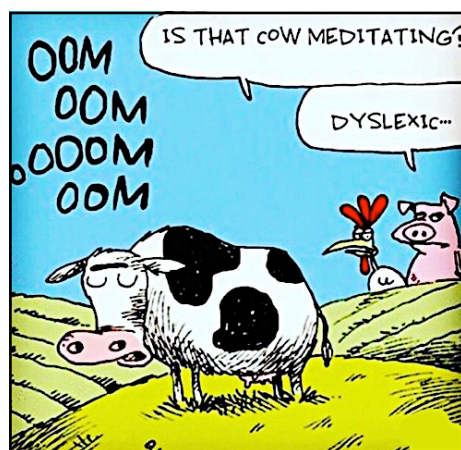
Thomas Aquinas once rightly pointed out that to withhold a compliment from someone who deserves it is a sin because we are withholding food that someone else needs to live on. Beauty, talent, and grace need to be recognized and acknowledged. Admiration is not the issue. Rather, the issue is that while we need to admire and acknowledge talent, grace, and beauty, these do not in themselves radiate virtue and saintliness. We shouldn't automatically identify human grace with moral virtue, though that's the temptation today.

As well, a weakness in our churches today is that while we have vastly

refined and upgraded our intellectual imagination and now have better and healthier theological and biblical studies, we struggle to touch hearts. While we have more power to satisfy the intellect, we struggle to touch the heart, that is, we struggle to get people to fall in love with their faith and especially with their churches. We struggle to inflame 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 saints again who inflame our ideals? Can the fine work on hagiography (on the lives of the saints and other moral giants) being done today by Robert Ellsberg become the new *Butler's Lives of the Saints*? Can secular biographies of some moral giants in our own age draw our imitation? Can the life of a Dag Hammarskjold become for us a moral and faith inspiration? Is there a new Therese of Lisieux out there? Today, more than ever, we need inspiring stories about women and men, young and old, who have lived out heroic virtue. We need moral exemplars, moral mentors. Otherwise, we cheat ourselves by simplistically identifying human grace with moral virtue.

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



WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

For those of you who wish to make your weekly contributions to the first and second collections by direct debit, these are the banking details for each.

1st Collection (Support for Priests):
BSB 066-782
A/c No 100027201
Reference: Your name

2nd Collection (Support for our Parish):
BSB 066-782
A/c No 100000067
Reference: Your name

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Priests and Parish Facilities.

CHILD PROTECTION

We are a Child Safe Organisation which is committed to the care, well-being and protection of children and young people.

We believe that all God's children and young people have the right to be healthy and safe, and to have their voice heard, respected, and valued. A safe environment for all.

Mrs Helen Mumford
(KI contact - 0408 367 009)
Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

KIDS' CORNER

"Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." (Luke 3: 11)

Do you have some good clothes that you can spare or that you no longer need? Go on a treasure hunt in your cupboard and drawers, and see what you might give away. Somewhere, there is a child you needs what you have. Somewhere, someone doesn't have a coat to keep them warm or shoes to protect their feet. Will you help by sharing what you have? Share your joy with someone this week.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Tax collectors at the time of Jesus were disliked immensely for two reasons. They collaborated with the Roman oppressors and they skimmed additional monies from the people for themselves.
- The Jewish people of this time were hopeful that a Messiah would come to overthrow the tyranny of the Roman Empire and set them free.

(Continued from page 1)

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. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

DESERT VOICES

The people around John are odd. What seems to attract them is who he is not: not the anointed Saviour of Israel, not Elijah come to announce the end of the world, not the great prophet the Samaritans were expecting. But the evangelist John also tells us who the Baptist is: the testimony to the great light to follow.

What is your life's testimony? Does it proclaim fidelity, honesty, generosity? If you had to name ten things you stand for, would any of them be holy? These are hard questions. If I pose them to myself, my answer is wishy-washy: depends on when you ask. Some days are less exemplary than others. Sometimes I'm a shining example of Christian virtue, and I wish my Mum were here to see me. Other times I'm grateful she isn't and wish no one was. John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus and the fruit of a miracle birth, may have had a head start on his testimony. Or maybe he had to work out all the bugs like the rest of us in the years before he turned up at the Jordan.

But the truth is: whatever our origins, they can't be an excuse for who we are or are not, "what we've done, or failed to do." John's desert voice summons me to train mine, to learn to present another clear testimony to the light. *GPBS eNews*

CHRISTMAS JOY

The Church calls this Gaudete Sunday, which means "rejoice." Gaudete Sunday always reminds me of Fezziwig. Fezziwig is a character in

Dickens' A Christmas Carol, a man from Scrooge's memory of Christmas Past. Fezziwig was a businessman who had hired the young Scrooge. He was a good man. A generous man. A man who hosted a wondrous Christmas feast at which family, friends, and employees alike shared in abundant food and wine and gifts and music and dancing. Fezziwig was a perfect counterpoint to what Scrooge had lately become: stingy, cramped, bitter, and small of heart.

Christmas puts the choice plainly before us: Will we choose to be like Fezziwig or Scrooge? Too many people have the idea that God is more likely to say, "Bah humbug!" than "welcome to the feast!" The prophet Zephaniah knows different. He predicts that "on that day ... the Lord your God will rejoice over you with gladness and renew you in God's love, God will sing joyfully because of you as one sings at festivals."

Can you imagine the Lord your God singing joyfully because of you? The almighty God belting out songs about you? Behold Fezziwig and he might just make a believer out of you.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(December 16 - 22)

- **Monday, 16:** Monday, 3rd week Advent (Num 24:2-7, 15-17; Mt 21:23-27)
- **Tuesday, 17:** Tuesday, 3rd week Advent (Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17)
- **Wednesday, 18:** Wednesday, 3rd week Advent (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24)
- **Thursday, 19:** Thursday, 3rd week Advent (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25)
- **Friday, 20:** Friday, 3rd week Advent (Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)
- **Saturday, 21:** Saturday, 3rd week Advent (Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45)
- **Sunday 22:** FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT (Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment, or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8210 8155 or in an emergency 0417 080 955