



Go into all the world and
proclaim the good news!

Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 26

KANGAROO ISLAND

CATHOLIC PARISH

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CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

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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.

Due to current COVID-19

restrictions (1 person per 2 sqm) we are only permitted up to 78 people in our Church.



FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were

still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come.

(Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Michelle Glynn, Bill Roestenberg, Carmel Northcott

May anniversaries: Bill Berden, Mary Bradley, Peter Bradley, Baby Burden, Henry Carslake, Bob Clare, Charles Darcy, Timothy Hamm, Lorraine Holohan, Brian Kildea, Mildred Lashmar, Anthony Lonzar, Peter Lonzar, Dorothy McMahon, John Reynolds, Vikki Reynolds, Fiona Smith, Ann Wallace, Sr Pauline Wallace, John Williams, Heather Willmott, Ross Wohling

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
16/5	A Clark	C Pahl	A Clark
23/5	M Glynn	N Clark	A Clark
30/5	C Pahl	K Hammatt	C Berden

COVID Marshal

16/5	W Bennett
23/5	J Fernandez
30/5	M Slagter

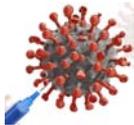
PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

16/5	Fr Dev
23/5	Fr Josy
30/5	Fr Dev

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically



questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

COVID RESTRICTIONS PLEASE NOTE

The Archdiocesan restrictions haven't been changed or been updated recently. Those listed on the back page still apply. Thank you for your patience.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Please remember to wear a mask if you would like to join in singing at Mass.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

On Pentecost Sunday (23rd May) at 10.30am, an Ecumenical Service will be held at the KI Community Education Music Centre.



All Are Welcome!

Facilitated by KI Combined Churches

INDIA STRUGGLES WITH MASSIVE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19

India is struggling to control a massive surge in COVID-19 cases, with a death toll nearing 200,000. Yet the real death rate is likely much higher, as most deaths in the country are unregistered. Cities across India are struggling to manage a chronic shortage of hospital beds. Several major cities have nearly run out of hospital beds altogether, especially in ICU departments. Places of worship, sports complexes and even railway coaches have been converted into makeshift hospitals in order to keep up with the demand. Your donation today can support communities across Asia impacted by disasters.

Visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/asia-regional-appeal/>

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

May 17th – 23rd

Many of our parishioners work as volunteers in the local community and we thank them for their commitment. We also give thanks to the volunteers who help with the running of our Parish. Without your generosity our Parish could not function.



LAUDATO SI' WEEK

16 - 24 May is a global celebration of the culmination of the Special Laudato Si' 5th Anniversary Year, and a celebration of the great progress the whole Church is making on its journey to ecological conversion. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Office of Social Justice and Caritas Australia's Catholic Earthcare program are co-hosting a prayer and reflection event entitled Laudato Si' – Sowers of Hope

on Friday May 21 at 5.30pm via Zoom – register [here](https://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au For further information and support contact (impe@internode.on.net or 0488 062 112). *Peter Laffan*

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

“Time to go”. We all know what that means. If you come from a family like mine, it means we're now entering into a period of goodbyes that make us loiter in the doorway for another half hour. Sooner or later, we're going to finish that final conversation, give that last hug, say the last I-love-you, and wish the travellers a safe journey home. And then they're gone. For a moment, there's an almost visible space in the room shaped just like Aunt Ida and the kids.

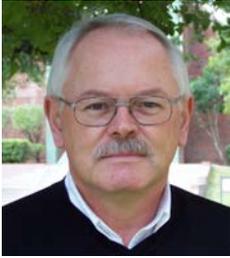
That same shaped emptiness is curiously echoed in the heart.

Even the silence sounds curiously like the folks who just left.

The disciples standing around after the Ascension must have experienced something like that. A Jesus-shaped space where he stood, a Jesus-sounding silence where he'd spoken. There was a space in their hearts, too, that would always long for him to fill it. And yet the same must have been true for them as it is for us when we take leave of loved ones. Their presence remains brilliantly in their absence. They're not there but are hardly gone for good. You can't kill love off that easily. Love never leaves the room. *GPBS eNews*

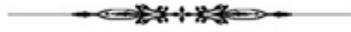
- *If you love something, set it free, it if comes back, it's yours. If it doesn't, it never was. If it just sits there on the sofa, watching television, unaware that it's been set free, you probably married it or gave birth to it!*
- *I have a pencil that used to be owned by William Shakespeare, but he chewed it and now I can't tell if it's 2B or not 2B.*





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.



A SAINT FOR OUR TIME

It is not enough today to be merely a saint; we must have a saintliness demanded by the present moment.

Simone Weil wrote that, and she is right. We need saints demanded by the present moment and I would like to propose someone whom, I believe, fits that description, Henri Nouwen, the priest and popular spiritual writer who died in 1996. What was his saintliness and why is it particularly apropos in terms of the present moment?

Henri Nouwen is arguably the most influential spirituality writer of our generation. However, his spirituality was not born out of an easy temperament nor an untested faith. As Michael Higgins writes in his biography of Nouwen, his was a “genius born of anguish”. Nouwen was a saint wracked with anxiety, an ideal patron for a generation awash with it.

He was a complex, anguished, anxious person with a hypersensitive personality. He was prone to obsessiveness in his intimate relationships, occasionally manifested a neediness that was more childish than childlike and was forever haunted by the sense that (despite all the love, acceptance, and success he experienced) he was not really loved, and no place was home for him. As well, he nursed a wound inside that he could never explain to others nor make peace with himself. Coupled with all this, he had an artistic temperament (with both its gifts and its burdens) and, like many artists, had to struggle to remain robust, normal, and balanced in the creative process, enjoy a down-to-earth sanity, and keep his sexuality within the bounds of his vows. Thus, he could go out on a stage, radiate a powerful energy, and then step off the stage and within minutes break

down in tears and beg someone to console him. In terms of his sexuality, though he was a vowed celibate who remained faithful to his vows, occasionally he would fall in love so obsessively with someone that he was able to keep his vows and his sanity only by checking himself into a clinic for professional help.

This isn't the stuff you normally read in the lives of saints, at least of those who are officially canonized and held up as models of sanctity; but that is in fact the stuff of saintliness. Soren Kierkegaard, whom Henri idealized, defined a saint this way: *a saint is someone who can will the one thing*. Not an easy task. Not because the right thing is hard to will, but because we also will many other things. Thomas Aquinas affirmed that every choice is a renunciation. That's an understatement. Every choice is a series of renunciations, and that makes both choosing and saintliness difficult.

Writing his diaries, Nouwen describes his struggle in this way: *I want to be a great saint, but I also want to experience all the sensations that sinners experience. I want to withdraw into the silence of prayer, but I don't want to miss anything happening in the world. I want to bury myself in anonymity among the poor, but I also want to write books, be known by others, see places, meet people, and do interesting things*. That's what he wrestled with, just as we all do, but he managed, in the end, to will the one thing.

How did he do it, how did he become a saint despite it all? He did it through a humble honesty that never denied his struggles. He did it by accepting his own complexity, by falling to his knees in prayers of helplessness when his own strength

wasn't enough, and by letting the poor love him. And he did it by sharing his wounds with the world, by seeking professional help whenever he broke down, and by learning from all the pain, obsessiveness, and heartache that, in the end, our hearts are stronger than our wounds; because of that we can keep our commitments and ultimately find peace inside of complexity, temptation, and struggle.

The saints of old, no doubt, had their own struggles in trying to will the one thing, to healthily channel their wild energies and give themselves over to God. However, the stories we hear of their lives tend to highlight more their virtue than their struggle. For example, Mother Teresa is also a saint from our generation, and a very inspirational one at that. For many of us, her life and her virtue seem so far removed from our own earthy and messy struggles that *we look at her as a saint we can admire but not quite imitate*. That's unfair of course. She also had her struggles, mammoth ones. Still, it is not her struggles that are generally highlighted when her story is told.

Henri Nouwen's story and his writings highlight his struggles, not just his virtue and wisdom. Knowing the earthiness of his struggles can give the impression that there is less in him to admire than in someone like Mother Teresa. Perhaps. But, in Nouwen we see someone we can more easily imitate.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(May, 2021)

Different rules apply for Churches with fixed or non-fixed seating. Please check with your Church for details on how seating is handled.

- For fixed seating 100% of available seats may be used, provided 100% of attendees wear masks. If 75% of seats are used, masks are not necessary.
- The non-fixed seating capacity is worked on 3:4sqm. No masks are required for this density. Masks are essential for anything more than the capped density.
- Singing as a congregation may recommence, provided masks are worn.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Social distancing is still recommended.
- 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 taken 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.

(Continued from page 1)

He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

SHARING THE TRADITION

The Ascension is not the celebration of a physical journey into the skies or the clouds, even though religious art often portrays this event in that way. The celebration of the Ascension of the Lord developed in the early Church to mark the fact that there was a period when Jesus of Nazareth was physically present and a subsequent period when he was no longer present in the same way. Heaven is often portrayed as a 'place' in the skies, but this can diminish the Christian understanding of heaven.

Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness ... This mystery of blessed communion with God and all who are in Christ is beyond all understanding and description.

Heaven is fully participating in the life of God. It is our ultimate destiny. St Augustine said, 'Our lives are restless until they find rest in God.'

DID YOU KNOW

- These final verses of Mark's Gospel were a later addition to the original ending of the women at the empty tomb. They show that from the earliest of times, the disciples realised that although Jesus was no longer physically present, 'the Lord was working with them.'
- The word *apostle* comes from the Greek for 'one who is sent out'.
- Mark uses the dramatic figures of speech about serpents and poisons to illustrate that those who believe in the Good News and preach it can overcome all that threatens or destroys life.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(17 - 23 May)

- **Monday, 17:** Monday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33)
- **Tuesday, 18:** Tuesday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11)
- **Wednesday, 19:** Wednesday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19)
- **Thursday, 20:** Thursday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26)
- **Friday, 21:** Friday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19)
- **Saturday, 22:** Saturday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25)
- **Sunday 19:** PENTECOST SUNDAY (Acts 2:1-11; Gal 5:16-25; Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15)

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).