



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

Vol 10 : No 04

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)
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.



FIRST READING

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.*

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or

sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-44

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy

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PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Bill Roestenburg, Peter Weatherstone and Melanie Howson

December anniversaries: Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapman, Ann Comerford, Ernest Comerford, 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.

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

ROSTERS

	Comm	Reader	Cleaning
19/12	S Semler	P Clark	A Clark
25/12	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
26/12	A Clark	M Slagter	C Berden

COVID Marshal

19/12 M Slagter
25/12 Volunteer
26/12 H Mumford

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

12/12 Fr Josue Moran
19/12 Fr Dev
25/12 Fr William Loh
26/12 Fr William Loh

Christmas

MASS TIMES

- 7.30pm Christmas Eve (Fri 24)
- 8.30am Christmas Day (Sat 25)
- 9.30am Holy Family (Sun 26)

PRAYER FOR HEALING

There will be a short break in the Prayers for Healing for Thursday 23 and Thursday 30 December. They will recommence on 6 January.

COVID VACCINATION

We have received a letter from the Archbishop regarding vaccination.

“I am writing to strongly recommend that all Clergy, Staff and Volunteers engaged with Parishes and Communities ensure they are vaccinated.

This is particularly important, and now legislated, for those who regularly enter Schools, Private Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and Nursing Homes to work, and for anyone who is a Member of a School College Board. It is likely this will soon extend to Public Hospitals. Anyone carrying out public ministry - Clergy, Chaplains, Holy Communion Ministers, those visiting the sick etc. - are expected to have the vaccine. It would be my preference to move to this by agreement rather than having to make it a mandated requirement.

The Church’s position is clear both on a global and national level that the common good must prevail.

We continue to welcome all in our premises for the celebration of Mass and I do not expect that we would move to mandatory vaccination for those entering our Churches. This would only occur in relation to a legislative requirement.

I ask for your continued cooperation on this important matter.

*In Domino,
+Patrick O’Regan
Archbishop of Adelaide”*

FRUITS OF FIRST PLENARY COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PUBLISHED

“I am delighted to communicate the Report for the first Plenary Council Assembly. [\(The Key Documents – Plenary Council \(catholic.org.au\)\)](http://The Key Documents – Plenary Council (catholic.org.au)) (proposals from small groups and individuals).

In 2022 the Diocesan Pastoral Council

as well as Parishes and Communities, and the Council of Priests in the Archdiocese will be encouraged to engage with the material. We will continue our shared discernment together as we further consider the recommendations from our own Diocesan Assembly and the first assembly of the Plenary Council and move towards the second Assembly and the Synod.

*In Domino,
+Patrick O’Regan
Archbishop of Adelaide”*

CHRISTMAS MASS

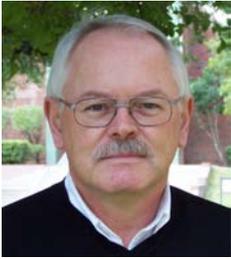
Christmas Day Mass will be available from St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral on Channel 44 on Saturday, December 25 at 5pm.

THE RICH MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is like a perfectly cut diamond twirling in the sun, giving off an array of sparkles. Here is just one of its meanings. *Ronald Rolheiser*

At Christmas, through his grace-filled birth, God says to the world: “I am there. I am with you. I am your life. ... Do not be afraid to be happy. For ever since I wept, joy is the standard of living that is really more suitable than the anxiety and grief of those who think they have no hope. ... This reality, this incomparable wonder of my almighty love, I have sheltered safely in the cold stable of your world. I am there. I no longer go away from this world. Even if you do not see me. I am there. It is Christmas. Light the candles! They have more right to exist than all the darkness. It is Christmas. Christmas lasts forever.” *Karl Rahner*





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

LISTENING TO OUR SOULS

During the Nazi occupation of France during the Second World War, a group of Jesuit theologians who were resisting the occupation published an underground newspaper, *Cahiers du Temoignage Chretien*, which had a famous opening line in its first issue: “France, take care not to lose your soul.” That brought to mind a comment I once heard from Peter Hans Kolvenbach, then the Superior General of the Jesuits. Speaking of globalization, he commented that one of the things he feared about globalization was *the globalization of triviality*. Fair warning!

Today we are witnessing a trivialization of soul within the culture. Few things are sublime anymore, meaning few things are soulful anymore. Things that used to have deep meaning are now related to more casually. Take sex, for instance. More and more (with a few churches being the sole holdouts) the culture believes that sex need not be soulful, unless you want it to be and personally invest it with such meaning. For example, I recently heard an argument in which someone downplayed the moral seriousness of a teacher sleeping with one his students with this logic: what’s the difference between this and a professor playing a game of tennis with his student? His point? Sex needn’t be special unless you want it to be special. What makes sex different from a game of tennis?

Only someone dangerously naïve does not see a huge *soulful* difference here. A game of tennis does not touch the soul with any depth. Sex does, and not just because some churches say so. We see this when it is violated. Freud once said that we understand things most clearly when we see

them broken. He’s right, and nowhere is this clearer than in how sexual violence and exploitive sex affect a person. When sex is wrong, there is violation of soul that dwarfs anything that ever results from a tennis game. Sex is not soulful because some churches say so. It’s soulful because it’s connected to the soul in ways that tennis isn’t. Ironically, just as the culture is trivializing society’s traditional view on sex as innately soulful, persons working with those suffering sexual trauma are seeing ever more clearly how exploitive sex is on a radically difference plane, in terms of soul, than playing tennis with someone.

However, it’s not just that we are trivializing the soulful; we are also struggling to hear our souls. It’s noteworthy that today this warning is coming not as much from the churches as from a wide range of voices from agnostic philosophers to Jungian analysts. For example, the leit motif in the writings of the agnostic philosopher of soul, James Hillman, is that the task of life is to live soulfully and we can do that only by truly listening to our souls. And, he submits there’s a lot at stake here. In a book entitled, *Suicide and the Soul*, he suggests that what sometimes happens in a suicide is that the soul, unable to make its cries heard, eventually kills the body.

Depth psychology offers similar insights and suggests that the presence in our lives of certain symptoms like depression, excess anxiety, guilt disorders, and the need to self-medicate are often the soul’s cries to be heard. James Hollis suggests that sometimes when we have bad dreams it’s because our soul is angry with us, and suggests that in the face of these symptoms (depression, anxiety, guilt, bad dreams) we need to ask ourselves: “What does my soul want from me?”

Indeed, what do our souls want from us? They want many things, though in essence, they want three things: to be *protected*, to be *honored*, and to be *listened to*.

First, our souls need to be protected from violation and trivialization. What lies deepest inside us, at the center of our souls, is something Thomas Merton once described as *le point vierge* (the “virgin point”). All that is most sacred, tender, true, and vulnerable in us is housed there, and while our souls send us constant cries wanting protection, they cannot protect themselves. They need us to protect their *point vierge*.

Second, our souls need to be honored, their sacredness fully respected, their depth properly recognized. Our soul is the “burning bush” before which we need to stand with our shoes off, reverent. To lose that reverence is to trivialize our own depth.

Finally, our souls need to be heard. Their cries, their beckonings, their resistances, and the dreams they give us while we sleep, need to be heard. Moreover, they need to be heard not only when they are buoyant, but also when they are heavy, sad, and angry. As well, we need to hear both their plea for protection and their challenge to us to take risks.

Soul is a precious thing worth protecting. It’s the deepest voice inside us, speaking for what’s most important and most soulful in our lives, and so we need ever to heed the warning: *take care not to lose your soul*.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 07 December, 2021)

- Places of Worship are restricted to 3 people per 4 square metres with social distancing of 1.5 metres. The number of people at a Private Activity has increased from 50 people to 150 people, provided density requirements are met. If more than 50 people are present, there must be an independent COVID Marshal. QR codes and/or handwritten logs are essential.
- Wearing of masks is mandatory. (A doctor's certificate must be produced on request, if claiming an exemption.)
- Attendees at indoor religious services may sing during worship and members of choirs or chorus groups may perform or rehearse indoors, if they wear masks while doing so.
- Social distancing is mandatory - DO NOT CONGREGATE at entry/exit and outside.
- 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 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.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- The Archdiocese recommends Covid vaccination for all (please check with your GP if you have concerns).
- Obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage. You may wish to access: [Mass for You at Home – The official website of Mass For You At Home, Australia](#) online and on Channel 10 every Sunday at 6 am.

COVIDSAFE
Let's continue to be a church

(Continued from page 1)

Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

2021 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR JOSY

My beloved Parishioners,

God loved us so much that he came to dwell among us, to tent among us in human flesh. The gift of the Incarnation says that God is willing to take on the human tent of flesh and be one with and among us. That frail tent of flesh proves capable of holding divinity, but also capable of yielding up its spirit. The gift of Incarnation was that God became human, that we might become divine. Hence, You and I are bearers of the image of God, and You and I share in Incarnation, for Jesus has walked this way before us. God is born in us as well.

The vulnerability of being born in obscurity, to a peasant refugee couple, in an out of the way place, says to us that God is with us in the smallest parts of life – perhaps a reminder that we, too, may discover God in those humble and unexpected places if we are willing to go in search. It is a reminder that God's love extends to all, that God comes among us in human form for all humanity. God continues to come among us in humility, God continues to be birthed in fragile opportunities that will need to be nourished and tended by us all.

Let the Son of God grow in you, for he is formed in you. Let him become a loved and cherished reality and may he become to you a great smile and exaltation and perfect joy which no one can take from you. "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me" (Gal 2:20). Paul's bold assertion is a truth each one of us must make our own as it works its way into the fabric of our lives through the ebb and flow of events, circumstances,

demands and decisions which constitute our existence and relationships. But also, to be reminded that it is those small ways that the Divine touches us, enters our lives and blesses us with joy for the world.

I wish you and your families the blessings of all that comes to us from celebrating again the birth of this baby, Jesus Christ in Bethlehem who enters our world in all its present uncertainty giving hope and meaning in our lives.

This Christmas, may your presents be many, your worries be few, and your joy endless.

Merry Christmas and a Bright New Year!

Josy Sebastian

THIS WEEK'S READINGS (December 20 - 26)

- **Monday, 20:** Monday, 4th week Advent (Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)
- **Tuesday, 21:** Tuesday, 4th week Advent (Song 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-45)
- **Wednesday, 22:** Wednesday, 4th week Advent (1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56)
- **Thursday, 23:** Thursday, 4th week Advent (Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Friday, 24:** Friday, 4th week Advent (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79)
- **Saturday, 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas) - Mass of Vigil/Midnight/Dawn/Day
- **Sunday 26:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52)



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).