



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B**

**Vol 9 : No 04**

## **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**

**2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16**

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest

from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29**

*For ever I will sing the goodness  
of the Lord.*

### **SECOND READING**

**Romans 16:25-27**

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen. (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
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)*  
 20 December Fr Philip Marshall  
 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 Christmas Mass at Penneshaw this year.

Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm and Christmas Day at 8.30am - both at Kingscote.

**MASS THIS WEEKEND**

We are pleased to welcome Fr Philip Marshall to celebrate Mass with us this weekend.

With the return of 1:2 Covid restriction, we are allowed 78 attendees - plus staff.

**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 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>

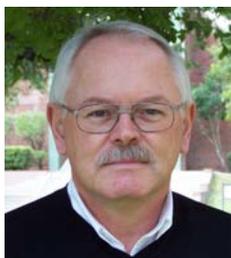
Advent Christmas Online Links and Advent Christmas Activities <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/schools/catholic-education-sa/family-and-parish-based-catechesis/resources>

**IT'S A MIRACLE!**

Each year on our birthdays my mother would tell my sisters and me the story of our births. My dad, a travelling salesman during those years, was always out of town when my mum would start labour. But then by some miracle, he would get there before or just after each of us was born.

Miracles and childbirth seem to go hand in hand. It is a miracle people are courageous enough to bear children given all that can go wrong. It is a miracle anyone conceives a child given the biological precision required. It is a miracle that the baby survives its time in the womb given all the possible genetic and healthcare threats. It is a miracle that the trauma of childbirth doesn't overwhelm the baby and its parents more than it usually does. It is a miracle that more often than not, even in remote areas, the mother doesn't die from infection. It is a miracle that despite even the most incredible odds, most babies thrive and grow. Conception and childbirth are miracles. Jesus' conception and birth are no exception. They point to a truth that anyone who watches a child come into the world knows as the truth: that love exists - as a separate, all-powerful being outside ourselves, and we are graced with its presence everyday of our lives. Praise Mary, for her role in bringing this truth to life. *GPBS eNews*





## 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.

### THE ILLUSION OF INVULNERABILITY

*Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger.* That's a pious axiom that doesn't always hold up. Sometimes the bad time comes and we don't learn anything. Hopefully this present bad time, Covid-19, will teach us something and make us stronger. My hope is that Covid-19 will teach us something that previous generations didn't need to be taught but already knew through their lived experience; namely, that we're not invulnerable, that we aren't exempt from the threat of sickness, debilitation, and death. In short, all that our contemporary world can offer us in terms of technology, medicine, nutrition, and insurance of every kind, doesn't exempt us from fragility and vulnerability. Covid-19 has taught us that. Just like everyone else who has ever walked this earth, we're vulnerable.

I'm old enough to have known a previous generation when most people lived with a lot of fear, not all of it healthy, but all of it real. Life was fragile. Giving birth to a child could mean your death. A flu or virus could kill you and you had little defense against it. You could die young from heart disease, cancer, diabetes, bad sanitation, and dozens of other things. And nature itself could pose a threat. Storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, drought, pestilence, lightening, these were all to be feared because we were mostly helpless against them. People lived with a sense that life and health were fragile, not to be taken for granted.

But then along came vaccinations, penicillin, better hospitals, better medicines, safer childbirth, better nutrition, better housing, better sanitation, better roads, better cars, and better insurance against everything from loss of work, to drought, to storms, to pestilence, to

disasters of any kind. And along with that came an ever-increasing sense that we're safe, protected, secure, different than previous generations, able to take care of ourselves, no longer as vulnerable as were the generations before us.

And to a large extent that's true, at least in terms of our physical health and safety. In many ways, we're far less vulnerable than previous generations. But, as Covid-19 has made evident, this is not a fully safe harbor. Despite much denial and protest, we've had to accept that we now live as did everyone before us, that is, as unable to guarantee own health and safety. For all the dreadful things Covid-19 has done to us, it has helped dispel an illusion, the illusion of our own invulnerability. We're fragile, vulnerable, mortal.

At first glance, this seems like a bad thing; it's not. Disillusionment is the dispelling of an illusion and we have for too long (and too glibly) been living an illusion, that is, living under a pall of false enchantment which has us believing that the threats of old no longer have power to touch us. And how wrong we are! As of the time of this writing there are 70.1 million Covid-19 cases reported worldwide and there have been more than 1.6 million reported deaths from this virus. Moreover the highest rates of infection and death have been in those countries we would think most invulnerable, countries that have the best hospitals and highest standards of medicine to protect us. That should be a wake-up call. For all the good things our modern and post-modern world can give us, in the end it can't protect us from everything, even as it gives us the sense that it can.

Covid-19 has been a game-changer; it has dispelled an illusion, that of our own invulnerability. What's to be

learned? In short, that our generation must take its place with all other generations, recognizing that we cannot take life, health, family, work, community, travel, recreation, freedom to gather, and freedom to go to church, for granted. Covid-19 has taught us that we're not the Lord of life and that fragility is still the lot of everyone, even in a modern and post-modern world.

Classical Christian theology and philosophy have always taught that as humans we are not self-sufficient. Only God is. Only God is "Self-sufficient Being" (*Ipsum Esse Subsistens*, in classical philosophy). The rest of us are contingent, dependent, interdependent ... and mortal enough to fear the next appointment with our doctor. Former generations, because they lacked our medical knowledge, our doctors, our hospitals, our standards of hygiene, our medicines, our vaccines, and our antibiotics, existentially felt their contingency. They knew they weren't self-sufficient and that life and health could not be taken for granted. I don't envy them some of the false fear that came with that, but I do envy them not living under a pall of false security. Our contemporary world, for all the good things it gives us, has lulled us asleep in terms of our fragility, vulnerability, and mortality. Covid-19 is a wake-up call, not just to the fact that we're vulnerable, but especially to the fact that we may not take for granted the precious gifts of health, family, work, community, travel, recreation, freedom to gather, and (yes) even of going to church.

*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.

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### 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)

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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

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### DID YOU KNOW?

- This scene from the Gospel of Luke, where such a momentous exchange takes place, is known as the Annunciation, meaning the announcement of the conception of Jesus.
- From the time of the Exile in Babylon, Israel had longed for the Messiah to come. He was to be the anointed one of God and the prophets foretold that he would come from the House of David and be born in David's home town of Bethlehem.

- According to Luke's Gospel, Mary and Joseph live in Nazareth in the north and travel to Bethlehem to be counted in the census because Joseph is of David's line and must return to his 'home' country.

## EXPLORING THE WORD

Annunciation stories are a regular literary form. There are a number of such stories in the Hebrew Scriptures; for example, the births of Isaac, Samson and Samuel and, of course, Luke has already recorded the annunciation of John the Baptist. The purpose of the annunciation story is to let the reader know what role the person whose birth is announced will play in salvation history. In this sense they are a device rather than a strictly historical narration, although clearly based on ancient memory.

In the annunciation of the birth of Jesus, however, there are elements which surpass all other annunciation stories. The emphasis is on the creative action of the Holy Spirit, Mary's cooperation with God's will, and it establishes Jesus' transcendental origins. The role that the child to be born is to play in salvation history is defined in terms of Davidic Messiahship and in this last Sunday of Advent we stand on the brink of the fulfillment of the promise made to Mary of messianic hope for the world. The tension of the waiting of Advent is almost over.

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## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(21 - 27 December)

- **Monday, 21:** Mon 4<sup>th</sup> week Advent (Song 2:8-14, Lk 1:39-45)
- **Tuesday, 22:** Tues 4<sup>th</sup> week Advent (1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56)
- **Wednesday, 23:** Wed 4<sup>th</sup> week Advent (Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Thursday, 24:** Evening Mass of Christmas (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79)
- **Friday, 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas Masses)
- **Saturday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Sunday 27:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40)

## 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).