



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

Vol 11 : No 26

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mrs Wendy Bennett (0475 894 755
wendygbenett@icloud.com)
(All items for the newsletter must be
received no later than Tuesday
evening.)

CHILD PROTECTION

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

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

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

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.

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Bulletin Board

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Stephanie Langridge, Carmen Northcott, Joella Davidson

May anniversaries: Bill Berden, Mary Bradley, Peter Bradley, Baby Burden, Henry Carslake, Bob Clare, Jaunito Cruz, 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 the faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ.

PARISH ROSTERS

| | Comm | Reader | Cleaning |
|------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| 21/5 | S Semler | P Bennett | A Bevan |
| 28/5 | L Grant | Peter Clark | K Brinkley |
| 4/6 | K Hammat | M Slagter | K Brinkley |
| 11/6 | M Glynn | W Bennett | A Clark |
| 18/6 | A Gibbs | M Slagter | A Clark |
| 25/6 | P Bennett | A Clark | C Berden |

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes

if something unforeseen crops up)

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 21/5 | Fr Ian Johnson |
| 28/5 | Fr Mathew Newman |
| 4/6 | Communion Liturgy |
| 11/6 | Fr Martin Mounsell |
| 18/6 | Fr Paul Cashen |
| 25/6 | Fr My Tran |

THE VOICES OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC CHURCH

I wish to compile a book of the people from the Kangaroo Island Catholic Church.

I need your support by providing me a chance to capture your voice about you and your memories of the many memorable things that have occurred over the many years.

I also want to include the stories of the beloved members of our community who have died and how they helped shape our amazing church.

If you are interested in sharing your story, please let me know. You can either catch up with me at church, or ring me on 0408 367 009. I look forward to hearing from you.

Helen Mumford

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:
BSB 085 005
A/c No 585353994
Reference: K Island or 765

2nd Collection:
BSB 085 005
A/c No 918111484
Reference: Your name

MAY MASS COUNTS

This year, attendance counts are to be conducted over the four weekends of May, being the 6/7, 13/14, 20/21 and 27/28 in all Parish Mass Centres.

VOICE TO PARLIAMENT REFERENDUM WEBINARS

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) and Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) are pleased to invite you to join us for a series of webinars on Thursdays May 25, June 29 and July 27 from 4-5pm to discuss the upcoming referendum on Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the Voice to Parliament. This three-part webinar series will include:

- May 25: What is The Voice to Parliament all about? Hear from Professor Melissa Castan, Director of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, Monash University
- June 29: The Church, Catholic Social Teaching and engagement with First Nations Peoples – Hear from Fr Frank Brennan SJ, Australian Jesuit priest, human rights lawyer and academic
- July 27: First Nations Voices – Hear from a panel of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples about their views and experiences: Uncle Ron Briggs (Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand), Aunty Violet Sheriden (Ngunnawal Elder) and Esmail Manahan (MacKillop Family Services)

Costs: CSSA and CSSV Members: Free. Non-members: \$12 per session or \$30 for the full series.

[Register for selected session or the full series here.](#)

ECUMENICAL SERVICE ON PENTECOST SUNDAY

There will be an Ecumenical Service by the Combined Churches of Kangaroo Island at which our visiting priest, Fr Mathew Newman, will deliver the homily.

The organisers of the Combined Churches of Kangaroo Inter-church Committee invite you to join this celebration. For those of you who haven't attended one of these events before I recommend you to join us this year. They are a joyful way of sharing Pentecost with other Christians in our community.

The service will commence at 11.00am on Sunday, May 28. The venue is the Performing Arts Centre, KICE Campus, Centenary Avenue, Kingscote.

The service will be followed by a shared lunch. Please bring a plate of savoury or sweet finger food.

Paul Bennett (Chairperson)

DATES

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 11 Jun | Holy Father's Appeal |
| 12 Jun | King's birthday holiday |
| 25 Jun | Sea Sunday Appeal |
| 2 Jul | NATSICC Appeal |
| 7 Jul | Last day School term 2 |
| 24 Jul | First day School term 3 |
| 8 Aug | St Mary of the Cross feast |
| 13 Aug | Vocations Appeal |
| 15 Aug | Assumption |
| September | Catholic Charities Month |
| 3 Sep | Fathers' Day |
| 29 Sep | Last day School term 3 |
| 2 Oct | Labour Day |
| 16 Oct | First day School term 4 |
| 22 Oct | World Mission Day |
| 12 Nov | Vinnies Christmas Appeal |
| 15 Dec | Last day School term 4 |
| 25 Dec | Catholic Charities Appeal |





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

ON NOT BEING DEFENSIVE

In much of the secularized world, we live in a climate that is somewhat anti-ecclesial and anti-clerical. It's quite fashionable today to bash the churches, be they Roman Catholic, Protestant, or Evangelical. This is often done in the name of being open-minded and enlightened, and it's the one bias that's intellectually sanctioned. Say something derogatory about any other group in society, and you will be brought to account; say something disparaging about the church and there are no such consequences.

What's the proper response? While it's easy to take offense at this, we must be careful not to overreact because, as a church, we should not be fundamentally threatened by this. Why?

First, because a certain amount of this criticism is good and helpful. Truth be told, we have some very real faults. All atheism is a parasite feeding off bad religion. Our critics feed off our faults and we can be grateful that our faults are being pointed out to us – even if sometimes over-generously. Criticism of the church is healthily humbling us and pushing us toward a more courageous internal purification. Besides, for too long we have enjoyed a situation of privilege, never a good thing for the church. We generally live healthier as Christians in a time of dis-privilege than in a time of privilege, even if it isn't as pleasant. Moreover, there are some important things at stake here.

We must be careful not to overreact to the present anti-ecclesial climate because this can lead to an over-defensiveness and put us in an unhealthy adversarial position vis-à-vis the culture, and that's not where the gospel asks us to be. Rather our task is to absorb this criticism, painful though it is, gently point to its unfairness, and resist the

temptation to be defensive. Why? Why not aggressively defend ourselves?

Because we are strong enough not to, and that's reason enough. We can withstand this without having to become hard and defensive. Current criticism of the church notwithstanding, the church is not about to go under or away any time soon. We are two and a half billion Christians in the world, stand within a two-thousand-year-old tradition, have among ourselves a universally accepted scripture, have two thousand years of doctrinal entrenchment and refinement, have massive centuries-old institutions, are embedded in the very roots of Western culture and technology, constitute perhaps the biggest multinational group in the world, and are growing in numbers worldwide. We are hardly a reed shaking in the wind, reeling vulnerably, a ship about to go under. We are strong, stable, blessed by God, an Elder in the culture, and because of this we owe it to the culture to model maturity and understanding.

Beyond that, even more important, is the fact that we have Christ's promise to be with us, and the reality of the resurrection to sustain us. Given all this, I think it's fair to say that we can absorb a fair amount of criticism without fear of losing our identity. Moreover, we must not let this criticism make us lose sight of why we exist in the first place.

The church exists not for its own sake or to ensure its own survival, but for the sake of the world. We can easily forget this and lose sight of what the gospel asks of us. For example, compare these two responses: At a press conference, Cardinal Basil Hume was once asked what he considered the foremost task facing the church today. He replied simply: "To need to try to save this planet." Compare that response with that of

another cardinal who, in a recent radio interview, was asked the same question (What is the foremost task facing the church today?) and replied, "To defend the faith." Who's right?

Everything about Jesus suggests that Hume's view is closer to the gospel than the other. When Jesus says, "My flesh is food for the life of the world", he is affirming clearly that the primary task of the church is not to defend itself, or ensure its continuity, or protect itself from being crushed by the world. The church exists for the sake of the world, not for its own sake. That's why there is such a rich symbolism in the fact that immediately after Jesus was born, he was laid in a trough in a stable, a place where animals come to eat; and it's why he gives himself up on a table in the Eucharist, to be eaten. Being eaten up by the world is largely what Jesus is about, namely, risking vulnerability over safety and trust over defensiveness. At the very heart of the Gospel lies a call to risk beyond defensiveness and to absorb unjust criticism without fighting back: "Forgive them, they know not what they do!"

The church is meant to give itself over as food for the world. Like all living bodies it needs sometimes to protect itself – but never at the cost of losing its very reason for being here.

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



COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 19/05/23)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please stay home and do not attend church services until you have fully recovered.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home.
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands.
- Procession of gifts has resumed.
- Collection plates are to be passed around with minimum contact

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Ascension of Jesus is described only in the Book of Acts (1:2-11), although there is a shorter version in Luke's Gospel. There are also allusions to the event elsewhere in the New Testament, eg Jn 6:62; Eph 4:8-10.
- In Matthew's Gospel, many of the important moments of Jesus' life are located on mountaintops – his temptation, his transfiguration, the great teaching of the 'sermon on the mount', and now this final instruction to his disciples. In this way, Matthew draws parallels with Moses the great leader and lawgiver who encountered God on the mountaintop.
- Matthew shows Jesus as fulfilling and extending the teaching of Moses. Whereas the Law had been for the people of Israel, Jesus sends his disciples to all nations; whereas the Jewish people had faith in the name of God, YHWH, Jesus sends his disciples to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit.
- The celebration of the Ascension as a particular feast day developed in the vicinity of Antioch around 380 AD.

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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

Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

DON'T JUST STAND THERE: DO SOMETHING

(Mark 16: 15 - 20)

The Ascension of Jesus is an event recorded three times in the New Testament: at the end of Luke, the beginning of Acts, and here, in what's called the longer ending of Mark. (Early manuscripts record several different endings to his gospel.) In each version of the Ascension story, Jesus has different final instructions for the disciples – the ones in "longer Mark" being the most colourful. But in every account we have, Jesus tells the disciples to go and be witnesses of the gospel they have received. On this point, all three speak in one voice. It would seem this mission is non-negotiable.

How we do that is up to us. If we want to knock on doors or preach in the park, suit yourself. If you feel drawn to foreign missions, the

prayer of the church will support you. Maybe the least missionized corner of the world is right where you are. Do you have good news to share?

When you show up, is it "good news" for those around you? How do you demonstrate the gift of faith that's been given to you?

GPBS eNews

KIDS' CORNER

The disciples thought they had Jesus figured out, and sometimes we think that way too. We figure if we pray hard enough, God will do whatever we have in mind. But God often has something better in mind for us.

When his followers asked him if he would bring the kingdom back, Jesus told them about the better future in store: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1: 8).

What kind of future does God have in mind for you? Pray about it and let God lead you.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(22 - 28 May)

- **Monday, 22:** Monday 7th week Easter (Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33)
- **Tuesday, 23:** Tuesday 7th week Easter (Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11)
- **Wednesday, 24:** Our Lady Help of Christians (Sirach 4:11-18; Jn 19:25-27)
- **Thursday, 25:** Thursday 7th week Easter (Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26)
- **Friday, 26:** St Philip Neri (Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19)
- **Saturday, 27:** Saturday 7th week Easter (Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25)
- **Sunday 28:** PENTECOST SUNDAY (Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23)

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