



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

Fr Lancy D'Silva
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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
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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

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.

(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
22/12	A Clark	M Glynn	C Brinkley
29/12	M Slagter	W Bennett	C Brinkley

PRIEST ROSTER

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 be a barbecue lunch after Mass on Sunday 22nd December. Please bring something sally, 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. View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au

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

CHRISTMAS KID JOKES

- *There's the story about the fella who got a new false leg for Christmas. It wasn't his main gift, though. It was just a stocking filler.*
- *What illness would you get if you ate all of the Christmas decorations? "Tinselitis".*
- *Who delivers snacks during the Christmas season in England? Crisps Kringle.*
- *What did one snowman say to the other snowman? Do you smell carrots?*





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

SEARCHING FOR A WOMB TO BIRTH A MESSIAH

“People are always impatient, but God is never in a hurry!” Nikos Kazantzakis wrote those words and they highlight an important truth. We need to be patient, infinitely patient, with God. We need to let things unfold in their proper time, God’s time.

Looking at religious history through the centuries, we cannot help but be struck by the fact that God seemingly takes his time in the face of our impatience. Our scriptures are often a record of frustrated desire, of non-fulfillment, and of human impatience. It is more the exception when God intervenes directly and decisively to resolve a particular human tension. We are always longing for a messiah to take away our pain and to avenge oppression, but mostly those prayers seem to fall on deaf ears.

Thus, we see in scripture the constant, painful cry: *Come, Lord, come! Save us! How much longer must we wait? When, Lord, when?*

We are forever impatient, but God refuses to be hurried. Why? Why is God, seemingly, so slow to act? Is God callous to our suffering? Why is God so patient, so slow-moving, when we are suffering so deeply? Why is God so excruciatingly slow to act in the face of human impatience?

There’s a line in Jewish apocrypha literature, which metaphorically helps answer this question: *Every tear brings the Messiah closer!* There is, it would seem, an intrinsic connection between frustration and the possibility of a messiah being born. Messiahs can only be born after a long period of human yearning. Why?

Human birth already sheds some light on that. Gestation cannot be hurried and there is an organic connection between the pain a mother experiences in childbirth and the delivery of a new life. That’s also true of Jesus’ birth. It presupposes a gestation process that cannot be

rushed. Tears, pain, and a long season of prayer are needed to create the conditions for the kind of pregnancy that births a messiah into our world. Why? Because a certain kind of love and life can be born only after a long-suffering patience has created the correct space, a virginal womb, within which the sublime can be born. The sublime is invariably predicated on a previous sublimation.

A couple of metaphors can help us understand this.

John of the Cross, in trying to explicate how a person can come to be inflamed with altruistic love, uses the image of a log bursting into flame in a fireplace. When a green log is placed in a fire, it doesn’t start to burn immediately. It first needs to be dried out. Thus, for a long time, it just sizzles in the fire, its greenness and dampness slowly drying out. Only when it reaches kindling temperature can it ignite and burst into flame.

Speaking metaphorically, before a log can burst into flame, it needs to pass through a certain advent, a certain drying out, a period of frustration and yearning. So too, the dynamics of how a special kind of love is born in our lives. We can ignite into this kind of love only when we, separate, green, damp logs, have sizzled sufficiently in the fire of unfulfilled desire.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin offers a second metaphor: He speaks of something he calls “the raising of our psychic temperature.” In a chemistry laboratory you can place two elements in the same test tube and not get fusion. The elements remain separate, refusing to unite. It is only after they are heated to a higher temperature that they unite. We’re no different. Often it’s only when our psychic temperature has been raised sufficiently that there’s fusion, that is, it’s only when unrequited longing has raised our soul’s temperature that we can move towards reconciliation and union.

In brief, sometimes we must be brought to a psychic fever through frustration and pain before we are

willing to let go of our selfishness and let ourselves be drawn into community.

Thomas Halik once suggested that an atheist is simply another word for someone who doesn’t have enough patience with God. He’s right. God is never in a hurry, and for good reason. Messiahs can only be gestated inside a particular kind of womb, namely, one within which there’s enough patience and willingness to wait, so as to let things happen on God’s terms, not ours.

Every tear brings the Messiah closer. This isn’t an unfathomable mystery. Ideally, every frustration should make us more ready to love. Ideally, every tear should make us more ready to forgive. Ideally, every heartache should make us more ready to let go of some of our separateness. Ideally, every unfulfilled longing should lead us into a deeper and more sincere prayer. And ideally, all of our pained impatience for a consummation that forever eludes us should make us feverish enough to burst into love’s flame. As another aphorism in Jewish apocrypha literature poetically states: *It is with much groaning of the flesh that the life of the spirit is brought forth!*

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

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1: 45)
God has a plan for each of us. It's up to us to respond. God's plan for Mary was for her to be the mother of God's Son. But God didn't make the decision for Mary. Mary could have said "no," but she didn't. Mary said "yes." In a few days, we will celebrate Jesus' birth. Jesus is the Son of God. He's also Mary's son. Being Mary's son, Jesus blessed Mary and made her special. When we pray the Hail Mary, we repeat the words of Elizabeth: "Blessed are you among women." Today, do a chore quietly and without being asked. Loving God, thank you for Mary! Amen.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The quote from Isaiah comes from a section of his Book which is addressed to the people in Exile in Babylon in the sixth century BC. It is designed to bring comfort and promises that, when the paths are made straight, the Lord will be revealed.

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Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy 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.'

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

(Luke 1: 39-45)

At our parish we call them L.O.L.s: Little Old Ladies. They're the backbone of the community. They come to meetings, bake cakes for functions, crochet for fundraising, pray for a storm, drop their money in the baskets, bringing communion to the sick, volunteer for everything. They go about their work almost invisibly, but what they accomplish is enormous. Without L.O.L.s, someone once observed, you could close the doors of most parishes.

Elizabeth was a Little Old Lady. To look at her, one might not expect much more to come from a person of her advanced years. Certainly, the contribution of new life was biologically behind her. Yet God's grace proved that assumption wrong, as often explodes our careful theories and plans. God's grace can overshadow us and bring new life from the "too old," the "too young," and every other place where we've closed a door in our minds. God may be opening a door for you right now, in the place you least expect.

GPBS eNews

BRING THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE HOME

This weekend usually is one of the busiest travel times of the year. Airports, bus terminals, train stations, and, of course, highways will be filled with people laden down with gifts, all trying to make it home for the holidays. Home with their loved ones is where people want to be, if at all possible. And so they are willing to withstand all sorts of incredible trials

and tribulations to get to where they want to go. If some breakdown and accidents are in the mix, it is guaranteed to snarl everything. But year after year people do it.

Scripture tells us little of Mary's journey to her cousin Elizabeth home. We are given only vague details telling us that it is somewhere in the hill country and that Mary hurries there because of Elizabeth's pregnancy. It probably was a gruelling trip for her to make. But Mary does it willingly to be where she is needed. And when her own pregnancy nears completion, she will take another difficult journey, this time to Bethlehem to fulfill the words of the prophets.

Mary, this "Christ-bearer," is bringing to Elizabeth the presence of the messiah for the first time. And it has a dramatic effect on her and on the baby John in her womb. Neither would ever be the same again.

With Christmas only days away, we are challenged to bring that very same presence to all whom we will touch this Christmas holiday season. Mary has become the embodiment of what we are called to be and do as Christians in our service to one another.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(December 23 - 29)

- **Monday, 23:** Monday, 4th week Advent (Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Tuesday, 24:** Tuesday, 4th week Advent (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79)
- **Wednesday, 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Specific Christmas readings for various times of day)
- **Thursday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Friday, 27:** St John, (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8:)
- **Saturday, 28:** The Holy Innocents (1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Sunday 29:** 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 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