



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

Vol 12 : No 40

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

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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

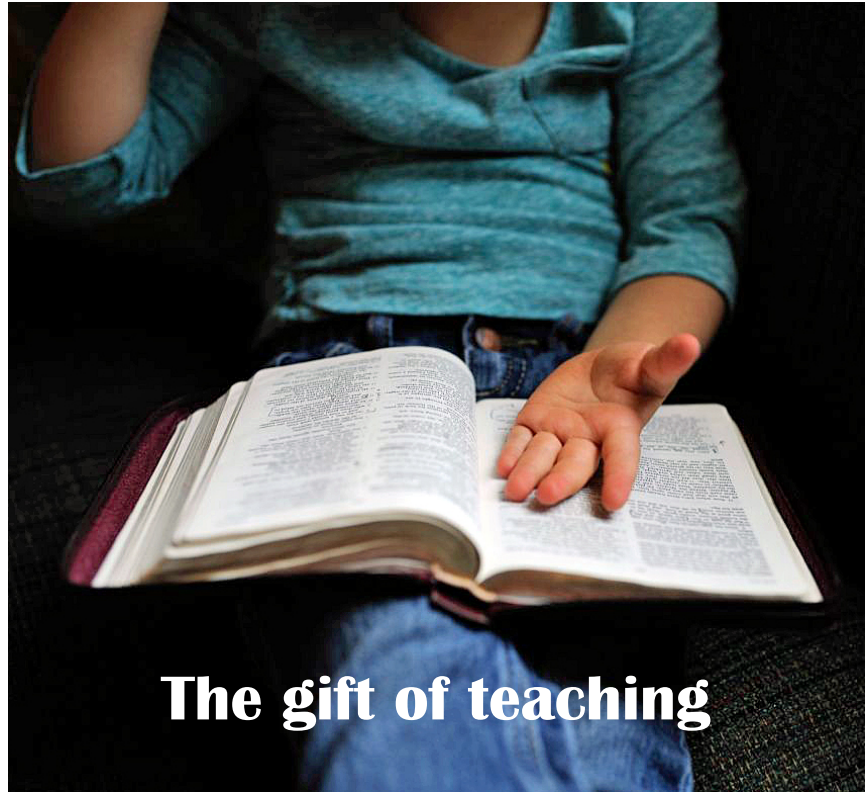
Kingscote at 9.30am

CONFESSION

Kingscote at 9.00am
(prior to Mass)

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Prayers for Healing and Renewal in
the Church - Thursdays at 9.00am



The gift of teaching

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the people through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 33:2-3, 16-23

*Taste and see the goodness
of the Lord.*

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. *For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will*

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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.

August anniversaries: Mary Banner, Joyce Bowbridge, Jimmy Browne, Steven Browne, Terence Browne, David Buick, Irene Darcy, Don Christie, John Commerford, David Cooper, Allan Forst, Paul Glynn Jr, Henry Hughes, Annemie Huys, Mary Kildea, Hazel Keitel, Daniel Lydon, Dot May, John Mertens, Rebecca Murch, Lorna Murphy, Winifred O'Daly, Margaret Rich, Joseph Ryan, Simon Slagter, Chris Slattery, Kathy Slotegraaf, Florence Tabor, Bracken Walker, Bill Willson, Owen Willson, Bill Roestenberg.

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
25/8	A Clark	K Hammat	C Brinkley

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)
25/8 Fr Lancy D'Silva

CATHOLIC LADIES GUILD

The next meeting will be held at the Parish House at 9.30am tomorrow (Monday, August 26).

HELP WANTED!

Volunteers are requested to operate a Sausage Sizzle at Mitre 10 on Friday, 6 September, between 9.30am and 1.30pm. We need volunteers to help cook the barbeque, serve customers and take money. Purchases will be made by cash or by EFTPOS through a "square."

The Inter-Church Committee are holding the sausage sizzle to help fund the religious education of our children in local schools.

Please write your name, phone number and email address on the form at the back of the Church.

BLESSING OF MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrations for milestone wedding anniversaries in the Archdiocese will again be held in local parish communities to recognise couples in their life-long commitment.

If you, or someone you know, is celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year (10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 and 60 years), we invite you to let Chris Weatherstone know of the details, know of the details, before 30 August.

The Anniversaries Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 15 September.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Place an order for your 2025 Columban Calendar soon. Next year's calendar includes the following features:

- New design with more space to fit your notes on the date pad.
- Bible verses for hope and healing each month.
- Free online Art Guide resource - *Visio Divina* available by scanning the QR codes in the calendar or at: www.columban.org.au/artguide

This year they are \$11each. Please contact Cathy Berden if you would like to place an order.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY



Social justice Sunday is observed every year on the final Sunday of August. This year's commemoration is on the Sunday (August 25). The 2024 theme is "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World".

The Catholic Church in Australia has a long tradition of commemorating Social Justice Sunday. The Catholic Bishops have issued an annual Social Justice Statement practically every year since 1940. The social justice remarks are made on behalf of the entire bishops' conference in time for Social Justice Sunday.

These declarations are issued with the

hopes of provoking thought and action throughout the year. This year's declaration will be available online soon.

LONG TERM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AUSTRALIA-PACIFIC REGION

The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We are seeking long term (6 -12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2025 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia.

Applications close October 31. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliari.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

PASTORAL PLANNING AND HOW TO DO IT - REPEAT

Due to numerous requests the PPC training session on Pastoral Planning will be repeated as an online only event on Wednesday September 18. Registrations are essential via <https://www.trybooking.com/CUHUT> or by scanning the QR code. Suitable for Parish Priests, Pastoral Council chairs and Pastoral Council members. Any enquiries contact Orla on 8210 8166 or owright@adelaide.catholic.org.au

DATES

31 Aug - Sep 8	Adelaide Show
Sep	Catholic Charities month
27 Sep	Last day School term 3
28 Sep	AFL Grand Final
29 Sep	Migrant and Refugee Sunday
05/06	Supporting Clergy Appeal
07 Oct	Labour Day holiday
14 Oct	First day School term 4
20 Oct	World Mission Day Appeal
05 Nov	Melbourne Cup
10 Nov	St Vincent de Paul Appeal
17 Nov	KI Catholic Parish 70 th Anniversary Mass 9.30am





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

CELIBACY – WHAT'S TO BE SAID?

Some years ago, an op-ed piece appeared in the New York Times by Frank Bruni, entitled *The Wages of Celibacy*. The column, while provocative, was fair. Mostly he asked a lot of hard, necessary questions. Looking at the various sexual scandals that have plagued the Roman Catholic priesthood in the past years, Bruni suggested that it was time to re-examine celibacy with an honest and courageous eye and ask whether its downside outweighs its potential benefits. Bruni, himself, didn't weigh-in definitively on the question; he only pointed out that celibacy, as a vowed lifestyle, runs more risks than are normally admitted. Near the end of his column, he wrote: "Celibate culture runs the risk of stunting [sexual] development and turning sexual impulses into furtive, tortured gestures. It downplays a fundamental and maybe irresistible human connection. Is it any wonder that some priests try to make that connection nonetheless, in surreptitious, imprudent and occasionally destructive ways?"

That's not an irreverent question. It's a necessary one. We need the courage to face the question: is celibacy, in fact, abnormal to the human condition? Does it run the risk of stunting sexual development?

Thomas Merton was once asked by a journalist what celibacy was like. I suspect his answer will come as a surprise to pious ears because he virtually endorses Bruni's position. His response: "Celibacy is hell! You live in a loneliness that God himself condemned when he said: 'It is not good to be alone!'" However, that being admitted, Merton immediately went on to say that just because celibacy is not the normal human condition doesn't mean it cannot be wonderfully generative and fruitful, and that perhaps its unique

fruitfulness is tied to how extraordinary and abnormal it is.

What Merton is saying, in essence, is that celibacy is abnormal and dooms you to live in a state not willed by the Creator; but, despite and perhaps because of that abnormality, it can be particularly generative, both for the one living it and for those around him or her.

I know this to be true, as do countless others, because I have been deeply nurtured, as a Christian and as a human being, by the lives of vowed celibates, by numerous priests, sisters, and brothers whose lives have touched my own and whose "abnormality" served precisely to make them wonderfully fruitful.

Moreover, this particular abnormality can have its own attraction. I once served as a spiritual director to a young man who was discerning whether to join our order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate or to propose marriage to a young woman. It was an agonizing decision for him; he wanted both. And his discernment, while perhaps somewhat overly romantic in terms of his fantasy of both options, was at the same time uncommonly mature. Here (in words to this effect) is how he described his dilemma:

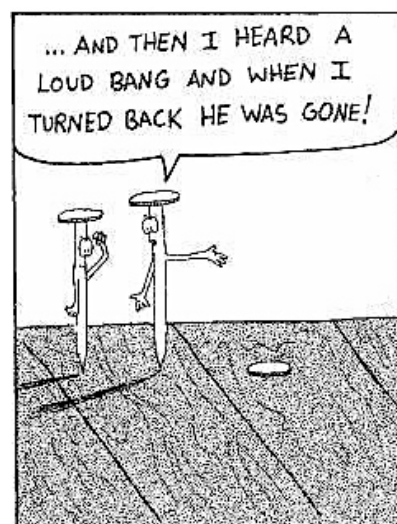
I grew up in a rural area and was the oldest in my family. When I was fifteen years old, one evening just before supper, my dad, still a young man, had a heart attack. There were no ambulances to call. We bundled him up in the car and my mother sat in the back seat with him and held him, while I, a scared teenager, drove the car on route to the hospital some 15 miles away. My dad died before we reached the hospital. As tragic as this was, there was an element of beauty in it. My dad died in my mother's arms. That tragic beauty branded my soul. In my mind, in my fantasy, that's how I want to die – in the arms of my wife. Given the grip of that fantasy, my major hesitation

about entering the Oblates and moving towards priesthood is celibacy. If I become a priest, I won't die in human arms. I'll die as celibates do – held in faith but not held in human arms.

But one day in trying to discern all of this, I saw another picture: Jesus didn't die in the arms of a spouse; he died lonely and alone. I've always had a thing about the loneliness of celibates and have always been drawn to people like Soren Kierkegaard, Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day, Thomas Merton, and Daniel Berrigan, who didn't die in the arms of a spouse. There's a real beauty in their way of dying too!

Bruni is right in warning that celibacy is abnormal and fraught with dangers. It does run the risk of stunting sexual development and especially of downplaying a biblically mandated fundamental human connection, namely, the fundamental anthropological dogma contained in the story of God creating our first parents and his pronouncement that *it is not good (and dangerous) to be alone!*

Celibacy does consign one to live in a loneliness that God himself condemned, but it is also the loneliness within which Jesus gave himself over to us in a death that is perhaps the most generative expression of love in human history.



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

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

EXPLORING THE WORD

For several weeks we have been following the story of Jesus' revelation of himself as the one sent from God and how his followers may draw life from him by eating his flesh and drinking his blood. In this text we find that it is not only 'the Jews' who find it difficult to accept his revelation and his teaching. Even his followers struggle with this truth. Jesus knows of their struggle but will not be drawn into offering supernatural proof of his revelation: the Son of Man ascending to heaven! But still some do not understand his words and cease to follow him. Jesus then turns to his closest companions and offers them a choice. They may go or they may stay. Peter voices the response on behalf of them all. It is a wonderful affirmation of faith.

*'Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life
and we believe. We know that
you are the Holy one of God.'*

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become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6:63, 38

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

John 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

TOUGH CALL

In the first frame of a comic strip by Tom Toles, a man slouched in an armchair watches TV and hears, "Worldwatch Institute says we need to stop consuming the planet immediately or we lose it. It's as simple as that." In the next two frames there is silence until, at last, the fellow - dare we call him "Everyman"? - responds: "Decisions, decisions," and we laugh at his self-delusion.

When Joshua asks, bare-faced, "Who are you going to serve?" the people answer as if it's obvious: "Far be it

from us to serve any other God!" In the gospel, Jesus asks the wrenching question: "Do you also want to leave?" and we can shake our heads at those who do walk away because Jesus' demands are so hard.

If only we humans were not so complicated. In daily life, most choices do not present themselves as "Am I going to serve the one God or not?" or "Am I going to stick with Jesus or walk away from him?" We just read them as ordinary choices, unrelated to our spiritual life. So in case we've missed the point that we often frame life's questions a self-referential way, there is a footnote in the cartoon's last frame where the question is restated in painful honesty: "How much longer am I going to need (the planet)?"

To be part of this believing community of faith implies that your answers are, "Far be it from me to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." You are answering Jesus in your heart: "Lord, to whom shall I go but you?" The problem is that when you cross the church's threshold, life instantly becomes so much more complicated and it's easy to complain, "Decisions, decisions."

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(August 26 - September 01)

- **Monday, 26:** Weekday, Ord Time 21 (2 Thess 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22)
- **Tuesday, 27:** St Monica (2 Thess 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22)
- **Wednesday, 28** St Augustine (2 Thess 3:6-10, 16-18; Mt 23:27-32)
- **Thursday 29:** The Passion of St John the Baptist (Jer 1:17-19; Mk 6:17-29)
- **Friday, 30:** Weekday, Ord Time 21 (1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13)
- **Saturday, 31:** Weekday, Ord Time 21 (1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30)
- **Sunday 01:** 22nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Deut 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

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