



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - YEAR B**

**Vol 9 : No 06**

## **KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH**

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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**

*Genesis 15:1-6;  
21:1-3*

The word of the Lord  
was spoken to Abram  
in a vision, 'Have no  
fear, Abram, I am your  
shield; your reward  
will be very great'.

'My Lord,' Abram  
replied 'what do you  
intend to give me? I go  
childless ...' Then  
Abram said, 'See, you  
have given me no  
descendants; some  
man of my household  
will be my heir'. And  
then this word of the  
Lord was spoken to  
him, 'He shall not be your heir; your  
heir shall be of your own flesh and  
blood'. Then taking him outside he  
said, 'Look up to heaven and count  
the stars if you can. Such will be  
your descendants' he told him.  
Abram put his faith in the Lord, who  
counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as  
he had said, and did what he had  
promised her. So Sarah conceived  
and bore a son to Abraham in his old  
age, at the time God had promised.  
Abraham named the son born to him  
Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had  
given birth.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Ps 104:1-6, 8-9*

*The Lord remembers his covenant  
for ever.*

## **SECOND READING**

*Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed  
the call to set out for a country that  
was the inheritance given to him and  
his descendants, and that he set out  
without knowing where he was  
going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in



spite of being past the age, was made  
able to conceive, because she  
believed that he who had made the  
promise would be faithful to it.  
Because of this, there came from one  
man, and one who was already as  
good as dead himself, more  
descendants than could be counted,  
as many as the stars of heaven or the  
grains of sand on the seashore.  
It was by faith that Abraham, when  
put to the test, offered up Isaac. He  
offered to sacrifice his only son even  
though the promises had been made  
to him and he had been told: It is  
through Isaac that your name will be  
carried on. He was confident that  
God had the power even to raise the  
dead; and so, figuratively speaking,  
he was given back Isaac from the  
dead.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Heb 1:1-2*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*In the past God spoke to our fathers  
through the prophets; now he speaks  
to us through his Son.*

*Alleluia!*

## **GOSPEL**

*Luke 2:22-40*

*"When the day came for them to be  
(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.*

### ROSTERS

Reader	Prayers	Cleaning
Christmas 27/12	----- A Gibbs	----- S Semler
		----- K Brinkley

### DECEMBER/JANUARY PRIEST ROSTER

*(Often this roster changes*

*if something unforeseen crops up)*

27 December	Fr Chris Horvat
3 January	Fr Dev
10 January	Fr Josy
17 January	Communion Service
24 January	Fr Dev
31 January	Fr Prathap

### 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.)*

### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all families, big or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. But most especially, we focus in on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of St. Joseph?

What was it like to have Jesus for a son, Mary as a wife and mother, and Joseph as a father and husband? Their home would have certainly been a sacred place and a dwelling of true peace and unity. But it would have also been so much more.

The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly "just man." Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones, St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus' public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was found with child out of wedlock. This would have been a topic of discussion among many acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would have lived normal family life in every way.

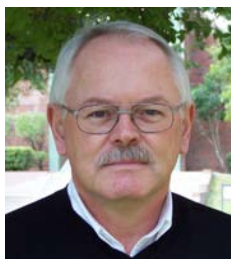
This is significant because it reveals God's love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God's divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue.

Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.

*Lord, I do offer myself to You this day and in doing so I offer You my family. I offer every relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Please come and sanctify my family, making it holy in imitation of your family in Nazareth. Jesus, I trust in You.*



*Finally, I understand why some cars have these things.*



## 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.*



### CHRISTMAS AS SHATTERING THE CONTAINERS OF OUR EXPECTATION

Funny how God invariably shatters the containers of our expectations. We have a notion of how God should act and God ends up acting in a way that shatters all of those expectations and yet fulfills our expectations in a deeper way. That's certainly true of what happened in Bethlehem at the first Christmas.

For centuries, men and women of faith, aware of their helplessness to rectify everything that's wrong in life, had been praying for God to come to earth as a Messiah, a Savior, to clean up the earth and right all that's wrong with it. Exactly how this was to happen was perhaps more of an inchoate longing for justice, a hungry hope, than any kind of clear vision, at least until the great Jewish prophets came along. Eventually prophets like Isaiah began to articulate a vision of what would happen when the Messiah came. In these visions, the Messiah would usher in a "Messianic Age", a new time, when everything would be made right. There would be prosperity for the poor, healing for the sick, freedom from every type of enslavement, and justice for all (including punishment for the wicked). The poor and the meek would inherit the earth because the long-sought Messiah would simply overpower all evil, drive the wicked off the face of the earth, and make all things right.

And after all those centuries of waiting, of longing, what did we get? What did we get? A helpless, naked baby, unable to feed himself. That wasn't the way anyone expected this to happen. They had expected a Superhuman, a Superstar, someone whose muscle, intellect, physical stature, invulnerability, and invincibility would simply dwarf all

the powers on the planet in a way that there could be no argument, no resistance, no standing against its presence.

That's still the way, mostly, we fantasize how God's power should work in our world. But, as we know from the first Christmas, that's not normally the way God works. What was revealed in Bethlehem is that normally we meet the presence and power of God in our world as a helpless infant lying in the straw, vulnerable, seemingly powerless, touching us subliminally.

Why? Why doesn't the all-powerful Creator of the universe flex more muscle? Why is God normally revealed more in the body of an infant than in that of Superstar? Why? Because the power of God works to melt hearts rather than break them, and that's what vulnerability and helplessness can do. That's what infants can do. God's power, at least God's power to draw us into intimacy with each other, doesn't normally work through might, muscles, and cool (invulnerability). It works through a lot of things, but it works with a special power through vulnerability and helplessness. Intimacy is predicated on vulnerability. You cannot overpower another person so as to make him or her love you, unless you overpower his or her heart the way an infant does. We can seduce each other through attractiveness, draw admiration through our talents, and intimidate each other through superior strength, but none of these will ultimately provide the basis for a shared community of life for long ... but the powerlessness and innocence of a baby can provide that.

God's power, like a baby sleeping in its crib, lies in our world as a quiet invitation, not as a threat or

coercion. When Christ took on flesh in our world in Bethlehem two thousand years ago and then died seemingly helpless on a cross in Jerusalem some thirty years later, this is what was revealed: the God who is incarnated in Jesus Christ enters into human suffering rather than stands clear of it, is in solidarity with us rather than standing apart from us, manifests that the route to glory is downward rather than upward, stands with the poor and powerless rather than with the rich and powerful, invites rather than coerces, and is more manifest in a baby than in a superstar.

But that isn't always easy to grasp, nor accept. We are often frustrated and impatient with God who, as scripture tells, can seem slow to act. Jesus promised that the poor and the meek would inherit the earth and this seems forever belied by what's actually happening in the world. The rich are getting richer and the poor don't seem to be inheriting much. What good does a helpless infant do apropos to this? Where do we see messianic power acting?

Well, again the containers of our expectations need to be shattered. What does it mean "to inherit the earth"? To be a superstar? To be rich and famous? To have power over others? To walk into a room and be instantly recognized and admired as being significant and important? Is that the way we "inherit the earth"? Or, do we "inherit the earth" when a coldness is melted in our hearts and we are brought back to our primal goodness by the smile of a baby?

*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 - updated 14 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](http://www.kicatholic.org.au))

### NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD PARISH

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### WILLUNGA PARISH

Phone 8556 2132  
([www.willungaparish.org.au](http://www.willungaparish.org.au))

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purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

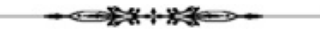
'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of

Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



### EXPLORING THE WORD

All four characters in today's gospel are devout and observant Jews, faithfully waiting for the fulfilment of the promises made to Israel. But the time of waiting has come to an end. In many ways, Simeon's words are universal, representing the whole of Israel's wait: 'Now Lord, you can let your servant go in peace ... because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all nations.' Likewise, Anna proclaims to all Jerusalem the identity of this child. Both point to Jesus as the visitation of God, not only to those traditionally seen as the people of God but to all the nations. The salvation brought is universal. Mary's 'yes' to God's plan has brought fulfilment of the promise, but still she is left wondering what that will mean in the future.



### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(28 December - 3 January)

- **Monday, 28:** The Holy Innocents ( 1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Tuesday, 29:** 5<sup>th</sup> day in the Octave of the Nativity ( 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35)
- **Wednesday, 30:** 6<sup>th</sup> day in the Octave of the Nativity ( 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40)
- **Thursday, 31:** 7<sup>th</sup> day in the Octave of the Nativity ( 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18)
- **Friday, 01:** MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD (1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51) Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- **Saturday, 02:** Sts Basil the Great and Gregory ( 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28)
- **Sunday 03:** The EPIPHANY of the LORD ( Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12)

### 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).