



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

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

**Vol 13 : No 06**

## KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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](mailto: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

*Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28*

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

There she left him, for the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10*

*How happy they who dwell in  
your house, O Lord.*

1. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts. My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. <R>
2. They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. <R>
3. Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, took on the face of your anointed. <R>

## SECOND READING

*1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

(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
29/12	M Slagter	W Bennett	C Brinkley

## PRIEST ROSTER

29/12 Fr Paul Ghanem

## CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

Pope Francis proclaimed 2025 a Jubilee Year for the whole Church, with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. The Vatican Dicastery (Department) for Religious or Consecrated Life added 'on the path of peace'.

## NEW YEAR QUOTES

*May the New Year bring you courage to break your resolutions early!*  
*Aleister Crowley*

*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.*  
*Bill Vaughan*

*New Year is a harmless annual institution, of no particular use to anybody save as a scapegoat for promiscuous drunks, and friendly calls and humbug resolutions.*  
*Mark Twain*

## REFLECTION FOR THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honour the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honouring them, we also honour all families, big or small. And in honouring all families, we honour 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 fulfil 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.

[catholic-daily-reflections.com](http://catholic-daily-reflections.com)

## 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





## 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

### CHRIST'S BIRTH IN BETHLEHEM – SOOTHING OR DISTURBING?

I've never been fully comfortable with some of my friends who send out Christmas cards with messages like: *May the Peace of Christ Disturb You!* Can't we have one day a year to be happy and celebrate without having our already unhappy selves shaken with more guilt? Isn't Christmas a time when we can enjoy being children again? Moreover, as Karl Rahner once said, isn't Christmas a time when God gives us permission to be happy? So why not?

Well, it's complex. Christmas is a time when God gives us permission to be happy, when the voice of God says: *Comfort my people. Be comforted! Speak words of comfort!*

But Christmas is also a time that highlights the sad truth that when God was born in our world two thousand years ago, there wasn't room for that birth in all the normal homes and places of the day. *There was no room for him at the inn.* Peoples' busy lives and practical concerns kept them from offering him a place to be born. That hasn't changed. So, there are also good reasons to be disturbed.

But first, the comfort: A number of years ago, I participated in a large diocesan synod. At one point the animator in charge had us divide into small groups and each group was asked the question: What's the single most-important message the church needs to say to the world right now?

The groups reported back and each group named some important spiritual or moral challenge: "*We need to challenge our society toward more justice!*" "*We need to challenge the world to have real faith and not confuse God's word with its own wishes.*" "*We need to challenge our world toward a more responsible sexual ethos.*" Wonderful, needed challenges, all of them. But no group came back and said: "*We need to speak to the world of God's consolation!*"

Granted, there is injustice, violence, racism, sexism, greed, selfishness, sexual irresponsibility, and self-serving faith around; but most adults in our world are also living in pain, anxiety, disappointment, loss, depression, and unresolved guilt.

Everywhere you look, you see heavy hearts. Moreover, many people living with hurt and disappointment do not see God and the church as an answer to their pain but rather as somehow part of its cause.

So, in preaching God's word, our churches need to assure the world of God's love, God's concern, and God's forgiveness. Perhaps before doing anything else, God's word is meant to comfort us; indeed, to be the ultimate source of all comfort. Only when the world knows God's consolation will it be more open to accept the concomitant challenge.

And prominent in that challenge is to make room for Christ at the inn, namely, to open our hearts, our homes, and our world as places where Christ can come and live, no matter how inconvenient that may be. From the safe distance of two thousand years, we too easily make a scathing judgment on the people at the time of Jesus' birth for not knowing what Mary and Joseph were carrying and for not making a place for Jesus to be born. How could they be so blind?

But that same judgment can still be made of us. We aren't exactly making room in our own inns.

When a new person is born into this world, he or she takes a space where before there was no one. Sometimes that new person is warmly welcomed and a loving space is created and everyone around is happy for this new invasion. But that isn't always the case; sometimes, as was the case with Jesus, there is no space created for the new person and his or her presence is not welcomed.

We see this today (and this will constitute a judgment on our generation) in the reluctance, almost all over the world, to welcome new immigrants, to make room for them at the inn. If Christ is in the poor, in the

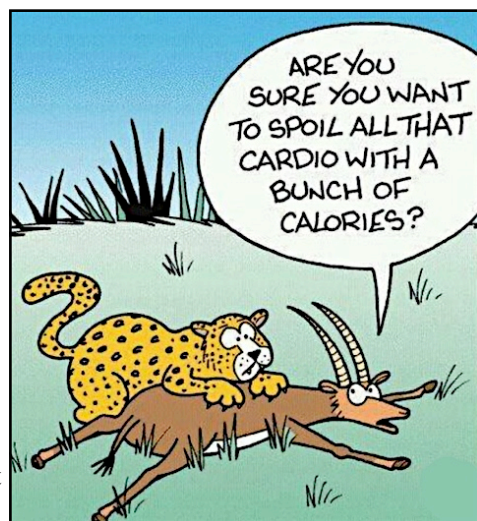
stranger, and the Gospels assure us that he is, then Christ is surely in the immigrant. Today there are over fifty million refugees in the world, people whom no one will welcome. Why not?

We are not bad people and are capable most times of being wonderfully generous. But letting this flood of immigrants enter our lives would disturb us. Our lives would have to change. We would lose some of our present comforts, some of our old familiarities, and some of our securities.

We are not bad people, neither were those innkeepers two thousand years ago who, not knowing what they were dealing with, in inculpable ignorance, turned Mary and Joseph away. I've always nursed a secret sympathy for them. Maybe because I am still, also in ignorance, doing exactly what they did. My comfort and security often have me say, *No room at the inn.*

The skewed circumstances of Christ's birth, if understood, cannot but disturb. May they also bring deep consolation.

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

## GOSPEL BACKGROUND

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in today's Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

In Luke's Gospel, Mary's importance is even greater than her role as Jesus' mother. Mary is the first disciple and will be present with Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection at Pentecost. to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.  
*Loyola Press*

*(Continued from page 1)*

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed, all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Acts 16:14*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Open our heart, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*Luke 2:41-52*

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They

were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.'

'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

*(December 30 - January 5)*

- **Monday, 30:** 6<sup>th</sup> day, Octave of the Nativity (1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40)
- **Tuesday, 31:** 7<sup>th</sup> day, Octave of the Nativity (1 Jn 2:18-21; Gal 4:4-7; Jn 1:1-18)
- **Wednesday, 01:** MARY, the Holy MOTHER of GOD (Num 6:22-27; Lk 2:16-21)
- **Thursday, 02:** Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (1Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28)
- **Friday, 03:** Friday before the Epiphany (1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34)
- **Saturday, 04:** Saturday before the Epiphany (1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42)
- **Sunday 05:** 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 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