



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

Vol 14 : No 02

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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 9.30am.
All welcome.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of
Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit
of counsel and power, a spirit of
knowledge and of the fear of the
Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his
breath.) He does not judge by
appearances, he gives no verdict on
hearsay, but judges the wretched with
integrity, and with equity gives a
verdict for the poor of the land. His
word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the
wicked. Integrity is the loincloth
round his waist, faithfulness the belt
about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the
panther lies down with the kid, calf
and lion cub feed together, with a
little boy to lead them. The cow and
the bear make friends, their young lie
down together. The lion eats straw
like the ox. The infant plays over the
cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the
young child puts his hand. They do no
hurt, no harm, on all my holy
mountain, for the country is filled
with the knowledge of the Lord as the
waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand
as signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

*Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.*

1. O God, give your judgement to
the king, to a king's son your
justice, that he may judge your
people in justice and your poor in
right judgement. <R>
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails. He
shall rule from sea to sea, from
the Great River to earth's bounds.
<R>
3. For he shall save the poor when
they cry and the needy who are
helpless. He will have pity on the
weak and save the lives of the
poor. <R>
4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun. Every
tribe shall be blessed in him, all
nations bless his name. <R>

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in
the scriptures was meant to teach us
something about hope from the
examples scripture gives of how people
who did not give up were helped by
God. And may he who helps us when
we refuse to give up, help you all to be
tolerant with each other, following the
example of Christ Jesus.

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing list: Brianna Chudlee, Peter Weatherstone, Annette Roestenburg, Michelle Glynn, Rebecca Semler, Chris Heath, Simon Laundy, Josh Semler, MaryAnne

November 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 |
|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 07/12 | K Hammat | S Semler | A Clark |
| 14/12 | M Slagter | P Bennett | A Clark |
| 21/12 | A Clark | M Glynn | A Clark |
| 28/12 | W Bennett | M Slagter | A Clark |

PRIEST ROSTER

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| 07/12 | Fr Rajashekhar Gundiga |
| 14/12 | Fr Francis Showri |
| 21/12 | Fr Lancy D'Silva |
| 24,25/12 | Fr Iain Radvan |
| 28/12 | Fr Iain Radvan |

NEXT GUILD MEETING

The next Guild meeting will be held on December 8 at 10.30am, followed by Christmas lunch at the Queenie.

KINGSCOTE COMMUNITY CAROLS

Kingscote Community Carols will be sung at The Pavilion on Friday 12 December. If you wish to join the Community Choir please attend the rehearsals to be held at St Alban's Hall, Cnr Drew and Osmond Streets at 4.45pm on Fridays from Nov 9.

WHAT'S ON

| | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| 12 Dec | Last day School term 4 |
| 25 Dec | Catholic Charities Appeal |

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION BLESSING OF THE NEW PARISH HOUSE

Last weekend was a very special time for Ben McCardle and Winston Clark, with the celebration of their Confirmation and First Holy Communion. It was also an important time for the Parish with the Blessing of the new Parish House. Presiding Priests were Fr Dean Marin and Fr Lancy D'Silva.



Winston with Fr Dean and Fr Lancy



Sacramental Coordinator Helen Mumford with Winston and Ben



Ben and his family with Fr Dean Marin and Fr Lancy D'Silva



Blessing of the new Parish House



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

HOW DO WE KNOW GOD EXISTS?

Recently I was listening to a religious talk show on the radio when a caller asked: How do we know that God exists? A good question.

The radio host answered by saying that we know it through faith. That's not a bad answer, except what needs to be teased out is how we know this through faith.

First, what does it mean to know something? If we believe that to know something means to be able to somehow picture it, understand it, and imagine its existence, then this side of eternity, we can never know God. Why?

Because God is ineffable. That's the first and non-negotiable truth we need to accept about God and it means that God, by definition, is beyond our imagination. God is infinite and the infinite can never be circumscribed or captured in a concept. Try imagining the highest number to which it is possible to count. God's nature and existence can never be conceptualized or imagined. But it can be known.

Knowing isn't always in the head, something we can explicate, own in a picture, and give words to. Sometimes, particularly with things touching the deepest mysteries in life, we know beyond our head and our heart. This knowing is in our gut, something felt as a moral imperative, a nudge, a call, an obligation, a voice which tells us what we must do to stay true. It's there we know God, beyond any imaginative, intellectual, or even affective grasp.

The revealed truths about God in scripture, in Christian tradition, and in the witness of the lives of martyrs and saints, simply give expression to something we already know, as the mystics put it, in a dark way.

So, how might we prove the existence of God?

I wrote my doctoral thesis on exactly that question. In that thesis, I take up the classical proofs for the existence of God as we see these articulated in

Western philosophy. For example, Thomas Aquinas tried to prove God's existence in five separate arguments.

Here's one of those arguments: Imagine walking down a road and seeing a stone and asking yourself, how did it get there? Given the brute reality of a stone, you can simply answer, it's always been there. However, imagine walking down a road and seeing a clock still keeping time. Can you still say, it's always been there? No, it can't always have been there because it has an intelligent design that someone must have built into it and it is ticking away the hours, which means it cannot have been there forever.

Aquinas then asks us to apply this to our own existence and to the universe. Creation has an incredibly intelligent design and, as we know from contemporary physics, has not always existed. Something or someone with intelligence has given us and the universe a historical beginning and an intelligent design. Who?

How much weight does an argument like this carry? There was once a famous debate on BBC radio in England between Frederick Copleston, a renowned Christian philosopher, and Bertrand Russell, a brilliant agnostic thinker. After all the give and take in their debate, they agreed, as atheist and believer, on this one thing: If the world makes sense then God exists. As an atheist, Russell agreed to that, but then went on to say that ultimately the world doesn't make sense.

Most thinking atheists accept that the world doesn't make sense; but then, like Albert Camus, struggle with the question, how can it not make sense? If there isn't a God then how can we say that is better to help a child than to abuse a child? If there isn't a God, how can we ground rationality and morality?

At the end of my thesis, I concluded that existence of God cannot be proven through a rational argument, a logical syllogism, or a mathematical equation, albeit all of those can give some compelling hints regarding God's existence.

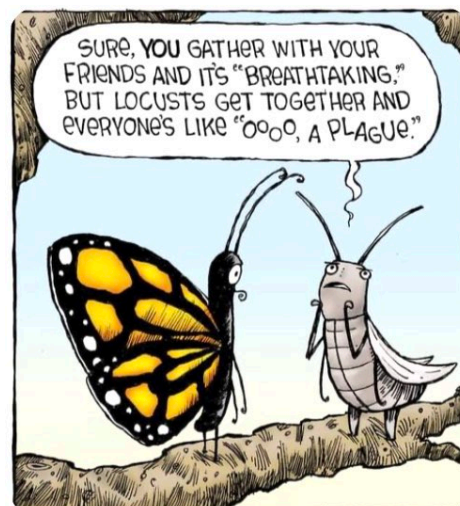
However, God is not found at the end of an argument, a syllogism, or an equation. God's existence, life, and love are known (they are experienced) inside a certain way of living.

Simply put, if we live in a certain way, in the way all religions worthy of the name (not least Christianity) invite us to live, namely, with compassion, selflessness, forgiveness, generosity, patience, long-suffering, fidelity, and gratitude, then we will know God's existence by participation in God's very life – and whether or not we have an imaginative sense of God's existence is of no importance.

Why do I believe in God? Not because I'm particularly persuaded by proofs from great philosophical minds like Aquinas, Anselm, Descartes, Leibnitz, or Hartshorne. I find their proofs intellectually intriguing but existentially less persuasive.

I believe in God because I sense God's presence at a gut level, as a silent voice, as a call, an invitation, a moral imperative which, whenever listened to and obeyed, brings community, love, peace, and purpose. That's the real proof for the existence of God.

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 Parish):
BSB 066-782

A/c No 100000067

Reference: Your name

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Priests and Parish Facilities.

INTEGRITY & SAFEGUARDING

We are a safeguarding Organisation which is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and adults at risk.

We believe that all God's children, young people and adults at risk 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)
- Integrity and Safeguarding Dept
(8210 8150 - select option 2)

SPECIAL THANKS

to Kerry Brinkley for the photos on page 2 of this Bulletin - very much appreciated.



(Continued from page 1)

so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All people shall see the salvation of God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

*A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.*

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you

in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

KIDS' CORNER

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you. (Romans 15:7)

No matter what happens, God will never stop loving you. That's true not only for you, but for everyone else too. God shares his love with each one of us, and it's a gift that will never be taken away. That's why God asks us to love one another. It wouldn't make sense of exclude or hurt someone God loves.

We all belong to God's family. We all share the gift of God's presence that God has planted in our hearts. Imagine how much better things would be for everyone if we loved others as God loves us.

Loving God, please help me share your love with others.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(08 - 11 December)

- **Monday, 08:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Gen 3:9-15, 20; Lk 1:26-38)
- **Tuesday, 09:** Tuesday, 2nd week Advent (Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14)
- **Wednesday, 10:** Wednesday, 2nd week Advent (Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30)
- **Thursday, 11:** Thursday, 2nd week Advent (Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15)
- **Friday, 12:** Friday, 2nd week Advent (Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19)
- **Saturday, 13:** St Lucy (Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13)
- **Sunday 14:** Third Sunday, Advent (Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11)

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