



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C

Vol 13 : No 43

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE
Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
or kimumford@bigpond.com)

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

CONFESION
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

Numbers 21:4-9

On the way through the wilderness the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 77:1 - 2, 34 - 38

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; turn your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable and reveal hidden lessons of the past. <R>
2. When he slew them then they would seek him, return and seek him in earnest. They would remember that God was their rock, God the Most High their redeemer. <R>

3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery; they lied to him with their lips. For their hearts were not truly with him; they were not faithful to his covenant. <R>

4. Yet he who is full of compassion forgave their sin and spared them. So often he held back his anger when he might have stirred up his rage. <R>

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

The state of Jesus Christ was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other name so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from

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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

August anniversaries: Frank Berden, Mary Bowery, Jimmy Browne, Terrence Browne, Gwen Caldicott, Audrey Carslake, Peg Dow, Thomas Drane, Bernadette Florance, Christopher Glynn, Loretta Hartley, Catherine Hughes, Patrick Hughes, Pearl Malycha, Elvie Meaney, Dean Larcombe, Julia Martienses, Eileen Morris, Reginald Pahl, Maise Rooney, Breton Semler, Vera Shannon, James Smith.

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
14/09 M Slagter	P Bennett	C Berden
21/09 A Clark	M Glynn	C Berden
28/09 W Bennett	M Slagter	C Berden

PRIEST ROSTER

14/09	Fr Vincent Wijesuriya
21/09	Fr Leon Czechowcz
	Fr George Nader

SEPTEMBER IS CATHOLIC CHARITIES MONTH

Help make a difference to the lives of South Australians.

In the month of September, we are promoting the Catholic Charities Appeal which supports the following agencies in South Australia: Hutt St Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's Special Schools. Please take a leaflet with you to find out more about the September Appeal.

Donations can be made via the reply-paid slip on the leaflet or online at <https://adelaide.goodgiving.com.au/qr/cc> or click the QR code.



invites us to reflect on the central importance of Jesus' crucifixion in Christian faith. It reminds us that Jesus loved us enough to die a painful and dehumanising death in being faithful to the mission that God had given him. He embodied God's love for human beings.

The cross celebrates Jesus' triumph of life over death in rising from the dead. It also marks the promise that we shall share in his life with God. The feast of the Cross is really a feast of God's love for us shown in Jesus' life. The Cross itself is a symbol of the life that is more powerful than pain and death.

Last century, Pope St John XXIII brought together the feasts in the liturgy of the Western Catholic Church into a single celebration of the Exaltation of the Cross on September 14 each year.

Fr Andrew Hamilto



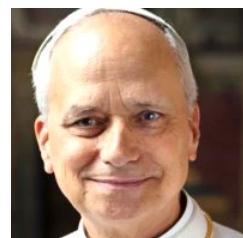
Next Sunday (21 September) we will have a working bee to remove / trim trees in the yard of the existing Parish House. It will start around 11.00am.

Bring any equipment that you have that may help in removing the tree, eg saws, gloves. We also need a couple of utes to take the green waste to the dump.

A bbq lunch will be provided around 12.30pm. Bring a salad or sweet to share, own drinks, and a chair please.

Any questions, please contact Helen Mumford (0408 367 009).

HOLY FATHER'S 2025 PRAYER INTENTIONS: FOR SEPTEMBER



For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that inspired by St Francis, we might experience our inter-dependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.



DISCOVER PALMS VOLUNTEERING

Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!

Discover Palms

International

Volunteering [online](#)

in this special session

where you'll chat

with past Palms

volunteers and hear

how skill-exchange makes a lasting

impact in communities. Explore our

[unique opportunities](#)

and match your life experience to the experience of a

lifetime!



Venue: Online - Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 30 October

Time: 7.00pm – 8.30pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)

For more information please contact: 02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au

WHAT'S ON

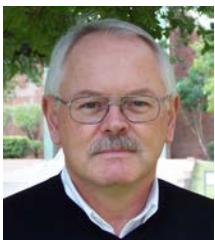
Sep	Catholic Charities Month
Oct	World Mission Month
19 Oct	Mission Day Appeal
26 Sep	Last day School term 3
6 Oct	Labour day holiday
13 Oct	First day School term 4
9 Nov	Supporting our Clergy Campaign
16 Nov	St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal
12 Dec	Last day School term 4
25 Dec	Catholic Charities Appeal

ONE LINERS

- *A clear conscience is usually a good sign of a bad memory.*
- *The worst thing about hackers finding your password is having to rename your dog.*



THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS
had its beginnings in Jerusalem. But what it celebrates is universal and takes us into the heart of God. It



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

ATHEISTS, DARK NIGHTS, GOOD FRIDAY, AND REVELATION

The classical atheistic thinkers of the Enlightenment, philosophers such as Frederick Nietzsche and Ludwig Feuerbach, taught that all religious experience is simply human projection. God does not exist. We create God, and we create him in our image and likeness, ultimately to serve our needs. We create the notion of God because we need a God for our own purposes. Moreover, what we believe to be God's word, divine revelation, (scriptures, creeds, and dogmas) is all ultimately human projection.

How true is this?

They are largely correct, not in that God doesn't exist, but that we are forever shaping and distorting the idea of God and God's word to serve our own needs. We have God's word in Christ and in our scriptures, but we are forever shaping it to fit our needs. That's why we have so many different religions and Christian denominations. That's also why (by happy coincidence) God always hates the same people we do and always loves the same people we love.

When atheists tell us that God is a human projection to serve our needs, they are doing us a favour because they are holding up a mirror in which we can see that, in fact, we do perennially shape and distort divine revelation so that it works for our advantage. Their critique keeps pressure on us to clean up our notion of God and divine revelation.

But, while they may be 90% correct, *they are 10% wrong, and that 10% makes all the difference*. In that 10%, we allow God to flow into our lives in a way that we cannot shape or distort the experience but only receive it purely.

This happens in what mystics call "dark nights of the soul", and that phrase refers to those times in our lives when our natural faculties of imagination, intellect, and affectivity

(as they pertain to God and faith) are at an impasse, paralysed, and unable to function. All our former ways of imagining and thinking about God now feel empty, counterfeit, useless. We can no longer imagine that God exists, feel like atheists, and are unable to think our way out of that helplessness.

That helpless condition, when we can no longer imagine God or affectively feel God's presence, is in fact a gift. Why? Because when our natural faculties are paralysed, we are also paralysed in our ability to imagine God. Now we can only receive God as God is, not as we imagine God to be. We no longer have the power to shape or distort our experience.

The ultimate example of this, of course, is Good Friday, that time in history when the Gospels tell us it grew dark at midday. Good Friday was the ultimate "dark night of the soul" for Jesus' followers.

They had been following him, listening to his word, his revelation; but, notwithstanding Jesus' repeated attempts to correct their view, they had shaped and distorted his person and his words to fit their own notion of what they wanted in a Messiah. What they wanted was a divine superman who would destroy all their enemies, be dazzling in glory, and bring glory to them.

Good Friday completely devastated them. Jesus died in a horrible manner, stripped naked, shamed, beaten, powerless, seen as a criminal. That shattered all their expectations of how they imagined a Messiah should be. There was no earthly glory, only shame, and no overt display of divine power. That completely shattered their religious understanding.

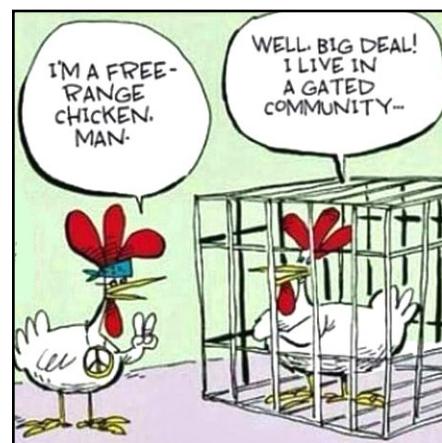
They were stunned, literally. Every notion they had of what a Messiah should be was turned upside down. They were mute imaginatively, unable to imagine how any of this could make sense. Their religious world had turned dark in the middle of the day. Indeed, it took some years (and the insights of St. Paul) for light to appear

again, before the meaning of Good Friday broke through to them, before it made sense.

But then it broke through cleanly, without distortion, because the religious dark night that paralyzed them on Good Friday had left them imaginatively, affectively, and intellectually disabled completely in terms of interpreting what was being spoken to them through Jesus' unexpected shameful death. Consequently, they couldn't distort their experience but only receive it.

In a remarkable book, *The Crucified God*, Jürgen Moltmann writes: "Our faith begins at the point where atheists suppose it must end. Our faith begins with the bleakness and power which is the night of the cross, abandonment, temptation, and doubt about everything that exists! Our faith must be born where it is abandoned by all tangible reality; it must be born of nothingness; it must taste this nothingness and be given it to taste in a way no philosophy of nihilism can imagine." That was the experience of Good Friday, and that is the experience of what mystics call a "dark night of the soul". And it is inside the frustrating darkness of that experience that God can flow into our lives without distortion.

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.

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)



With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses. (Num. 21:4-5)

God gave Moses a big task. Moses was to lead people through the desert for forty years. Deserts are hot and dry. It is hard to find food there. I would have been cranky and hard to get along with. I would probably have misunderstood what God wanted from me. But Moses reminded everyone that God is good. God had huge plans for God's people; they just had very little trust in God.

Trusting God can be hard for anybody. But we need to remember that God has huge plans for us too! Trust in Jesus and he will show you the way.

(Continued from page 1)

heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

THE LIGHT ON THE FOOTY FIELD

It was a Friday night, and the local footy oval was buzzing. Families sat on the sidelines with hot chips, kids ran around with their jumper half on, and the floodlights shone down bright. In the middle of the field, Kai, a Year 9 student, was having a rough game. He'd missed a kick, missed a pass, and by halftime, he was on the bench with his head in his hands.

He muttered to himself, "I'm useless. Everyone must think I'm a joke."

From the stands, his dad noticed. He walked down, crouched beside him, and said quietly, "Mate, no matter how many goals you kick or how many mistakes you make, you're my son. Nothing changes that. I love you. Just give it your best, that's all I ask."

Something in Kai shifted. He jogged back onto the field – not suddenly perfect, but lighter. He played with freedom, laughed with his teammates, and even managed a decent kick or two. He knew he was loved, no matter the scoreboard.

That moment is a glimpse of what Jesus is saying in John 3: 13 - 17. God doesn't love us because we're flawless, or because we "score goals" in life. God loves us because we are God's children. God sent Jesus not to condemn us for our dropped marks or mistakes, but to lift us up, to show us what eternal life looks like – a life where we know we're loved beyond measure.

For families, for schools, for parishes, this story is real. Kids, parents, teachers, parishioners – we all have days when we feel like we've failed,

like we don't measure up. But the heart of our faith is this: "God so loved the world that God sent us Jesus." That love is steady. That love heals. That love gives us the courage to get back out there, live fully, and share hope with others. *GPBS eNews*

SIGNS OF HOPE IN OUR HOMES

Jesus points us to a love that is greater than anything we can imagine – a love that heals, restores, and lifts us up. For the people of Israel in the desert, looking up to the bronze serpent became a moment of hope and survival. For us today, looking up to Christ on the cross reminds us that God meets us in our struggles and offers us a way forward.

In our families, in our parishes, and in our busy, sometimes messy lives, we are called to be signs of that same hope. Whether it's the way we forgive, the way we encounter one another, or the way we gather at Mass, we can help each other see Christ more clearly.

Faith isn't just about the next life – Jesus reminds us that eternal life begins now. Every time we choose kindness over resentment, patience over frustration, or generosity over self-interest, we lift up Christ in our homes and communities. And in doing so, we help our children, friends, and neighbours discover the God who brings life in abundance.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(15 - 21 September)

- **Monday, 15:** Our Lady of Sorrows (Heb 5:7-9; Jn 19:25-27)
- **Tuesday, 16:** Sts Cornelius and Cyprian (1 Tim 3:1-13; Lk 7:11-17)
- **Wednesday, 17:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35)
- **Thursday, 18:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 4:12-16; Lk 7:36-50)
- **Friday, 19:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Tim 6:2-12; Lk 8:1-3)
- **Saturday, 20:** Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chöng Ha-sang & companions (1 Tim 6:13-16; Lk 8:4-15)
- **Sunday 21:** 25th Sunday in Ord Time Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13)

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