



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 13 : No 38

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

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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.

*I have come to set the earth on
fire, and how I wish it were
already blazing!*

Luke 12:49-53

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well, where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 39:2-4, 18

Lord, come to my aid!

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. <R>
2. He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay. He set my feet

upon a rock and made my
footsteps firm. <R>

3. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord. <R>
4. As for me, wretched and poor, the Lord thinks of me. You are my rescuer, my help, O God, do not delay. <R>

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulfulness of it, and *from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne*. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing list: Sue Semler, Brianna Chudlee, Peter Weatherstone, Annette Roestenburg, Michelle Glynn, Rebecca Semler, Chris Heath, Simon Laundry, Josh Semler.

August anniversaries: Alma Adams, 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
17/08	K Hammat	M Glynn	C Brinkley
24/08	S Semler	L Grant	A Clark
31/08	P Clark	W Bennett	A Clark

PRIEST ROSTER

17/08 Liturgy
24/08 Fr Lancey D'Silva

BLESSING OF MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday September 21, 2025

Celebrations of significant wedding anniversaries will be held in local Parish communities again this year. All couples who are celebrating a



significant year of marriage in 2025 (1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40 or 50 years or more), are invited to leave their details with the Parish Office to receive a special acknowledgement from the Archbishop.

SPARK SOMETHING GOOD AT HOME

Jesus said, "I've come to start a fire on earth – how I wish it were blazing right now! I've come to change everything, turn everything right-side up – how I long for it to be finished! Do you think I came to smooth things over and make everything nice? Not so. I've come to disrupt and confront."

When Jesus talks about bringing "fire" to earth, he's speaking about the fire of God's love – a fire that warms, lights up, and transforms everything it touches. This isn't a small, cosy campfire that we keep to ourselves; it's a fire meant to spread, to set hearts alight with love, justice, and hope.

For families, this passage is a reminder that our homes are called to be little sparks of the Kingdom of God. Around our dinner tables, in our living rooms, at the school drop-off, on the sidelines of sports games – these are the places where God's fire can burn bright through our words, our choices, and the way we treat each other.

Jesus also speaks of his "baptism" – the cost and commitment of living out his mission. Family life has its own share of sacrifices. These are busy schedules, sleepless nights, disagreements, and challenges. But in those moments of self-giving love – when we choose patience over irritation, forgiveness over grudges, generosity over selfishness – we share in the same mission of bringing God's fire into the world. *GPBS eNews*

EXPLORING THE WORD

This is a difficult text because it challenges our notions of what Jesus was like. The imagery that Jesus uses has a long history in the Old Testament, where we frequently read of people passing through the fire of testing and judgment. John had prophesied about the one who would come bringing a baptism of fire and judgment, but it had never occurred to him that the one who was to come may be the first to undergo that baptism! This rare glimpse into the mind of Jesus reveals an agonising mixture of impatience and reluctance. Convinced that God's redemptive plan requires him to bring upon earth the fiery baptism of judgment—not by inflicting it upon others but by undergoing it himself—he feels handicapped and thwarted until this mission can be accomplished.

The reference to households being divided may well be directed at Luke's community itself. Faith in Jesus could well be the cause of division in families. While predominantly Gentile, Luke's community did have Jewish Christians. Some Jews failed to

recognise Jesus as the Messiah, and in the late first century, Jews expelled Christians from their synagogues. To persist in Christian belief would have caused great division.

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

On 18 August, we commemorate Vietnam Veterans' Day on the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966. We remember the sacrifices of those who died and say thank you to almost 60,000 Australians who served during the 10 years of our involvement in the Vietnam War.

On Vietnam Veterans' Day, we pause and reflect on the bravery, teamwork and endurance that Australians displayed throughout the war. It's a day when we recognise all who served in Vietnam. We honour those veterans who:

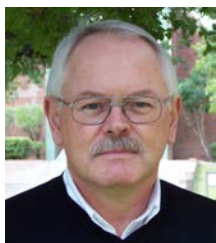
- lost their lives during battle
- returned home wounded, ill or injured
- lost their lives in the years since they returned
- still carry the physical and emotional scars of their service

We also pause to reflect on the impact of service on our veterans' families.

WHAT'S ON

10 Aug	Vocations Appeal
15 Aug	The Assumption of Mary
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





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

AN UNNATURAL WOUND

Few things in life are as difficult as the death of a young person, particularly one's own child. There are many mothers and fathers, with broken hearts, having lost a daughter, a son, or a grandchild. Despite time and even the consolation of faith, there often remains a wound that will not heal.

There's a reason why this wound is so unrelenting, and it lies not so much in a lack of faith, as in a certain lack within nature itself. Nature equips us for most situations, but it does not equip us to bury our young.

Death is always hard. There's a finality and an irrevocability that cauterises the heart. This is true even if the person who has died is elderly and has lived a full life. Ultimately nothing prepares us, fully, to accept the deaths of those whom we love.

But nature has equipped us better to handle the deaths of our elders. We are meant to bury our parents. That's the way nature is set up, the natural order of things. Parents are meant to die before their children, and generally that's the way it happens. This brings its own pain. It's not easy to lose one's parents or one's spouse, one's siblings, or one's friends. Death always exacts its toll. However, nature has equipped us to handle these deaths.

Metaphorically stated, when our elders die, there are circuits in our hardwiring that we can access and through which we can draw some understanding and acceptance. Ultimately, the death of a fellow adult washes clean, and normality returns because it's natural, nature's way, for adults to die. That's the proper order of things. One of life's tasks is to bury one's parents.

But it's unnatural for parents to bury their children. That's not the way nature intended things, and nature has not properly equipped us for the task. Again, to utilise the metaphor, when one of our children dies (be it through

natural disease, accident, or suicide) nature has not provided us with the internal circuits we need to open to deal with this.

The issue is not, as with the death of our elders, a matter of proper grieving, patience, and time. When one of our children dies, we can grieve, be patient, give it time and still find that the wound does not get better, that time does not heal, and that we cannot fully accept what's happened.

A hundred years ago Alfred Edward Housman wrote a famous poem entitled, *To An Athlete Dying Young*. At one point he says this to the young man who has died:

*Smart lad, to slip betimes away
From fields where glory does not stay.*

Sometimes a young death does freeze forever a young person's beauty that, given time, would eventually have slipped away. To die young is to die in full bloom, in the beauty of youth.

However, that addresses the issue of the young person who is dying, not the grief of those who are left behind. I'm not so sure they, the ones left behind, would say: "Smart lad, to slip betimes away." Their grief is not so quick to slip away because nature has not provided them with the internal circuits needed to process what they need to process. We are more likely to feel a darkness of soul that W.H. Auden once expressed in the face of the death of a loved one:

*The stars are not wanted now:
put out every one;
Pack up the moon and
dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean
and sweep up the wood;
For nothing now can ever come to
any good. (Twelve Songs)*

When one of our children dies, it's easier to feel what Auden expresses. Moreover, even understanding how much against nature it is to have to bury one of your own children does not bring that child back, nor put things back to normal, because it's abnormal for a parent to bury a child.

However, what that understanding can bring is an insight into why the pain is so deep and so unrelenting, why it is natural to feel intense sorrow, and why no easy consolation or challenge is very helpful. At the end of the day, the death of one's child has no answer.

It's also helpful to know that faith in God, albeit powerful and important, does not take away that wound. It's not meant to. When one of our children dies, something has been unnaturally cut off, like the amputation of a limb. Faith in God can help us live with the pain and the unnaturalness of being less than whole, but it does not bring back the limb or make things whole again. In effect, what faith can do is teach us how to live with the amputation, how to open that irreparable violation of nature to something and Someone beyond us, so that this larger perspective, God's heart, can give us the courage to live healthily again with an unnatural wound.

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 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)
Integrity and Safeguarding Dept
(8210 8159)



*I have waited, waited for the Lord,
and the Lord stooped toward
me ... (Psalm 40:2)*

Think of some good things you've enjoyed today. Did you wake up in a comfy bed? Did you get a pretty good breakfast? Did someone wash clothes for you to wear? You can't get these things by yourself. You rely on the help of those who love you. And every day, we rely on God's help too. When we're afraid, we ask God to comfort us. When life gets hard, we ask God to help us. We can't always get through hard times by ourselves. God is always there with us. We only need to ask for God's help.

(Continued from page 1)

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

THE COFFEE SHOP FIRE

Maria was the kind of teacher everyone liked. She never rocked the boat, kept her head down, and was known for her calm, polite Catholic faith – Mass on Sundays, the occasional rosary, and volunteering for the parish cake sale.

On Monday after school, she was marking papers in her favourite coffee shop when she overheard two young adults at the next table talking about religion.

"I don't know how anyone still believes that stuff," one said, scrolling on his phone. "Yeah," the other replied. "The Church just tells people what they want to hear so they'll give money."

Maria felt her cheeks get warm. She wasn't angry – she was burning. She thought of Jesus' words she had read in morning prayer: "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already blazing!"

She realised the "fire" wasn't about comfort – it was about truth that warms and purifies, even when it makes people uncomfortable. And suddenly she knew: she's been living like a pilot light, always on but never sparking anything.

She prayed a quick, silent Come, Holy Spirit and leaned over with a smile. "Sorry to interrupt, but I overheard you talking about the Church. I'm a

Catholic, and I get why you might feel that way. But I've also seen how the Church fed the hungry, taught generations of kids – including mine – about dignity and hope. If you ever want to hear about that side, I'd be happy to share."

They looked surprised. Not defensive just ... curious. One said, "Maybe some time." And that was it. No dramatic conversion, no heated debate. But Maria walked away lighter. She'd stepped into the baptism of courage Jesus had been asking of her.

That night, she told her husband: "I think I've been mistaking 'nice' for being 'on fire.' But Jesus didn't come to make me nice – he came to make me burn for the Kingdom."

GPBS eNews

Rejoice in your ability to serve

- In giving and not in hoarding, we will know God with us.
- In sharing and not in keeping, we will know God with us.
- In helping and not in counting hours, we will know God with us.
- In friendship and not in rejection, we will know God with us.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(18 - 21 August)

- **Monday, 18:** Weekday, Ord Time 20 (Judges 2:11-19; Mt 19:16-22)
- **Tuesday, 19:** Weekday, Ord Time 20 (Judges 6:11-24; Mt 19:23-30)
- **Wednesday, 20:** St Bernard (Judges 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16)
- **Thursday, 21:** St Pius X (Judges 11:29-39; Mt 22:1-14)
- **Friday, 22:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40)
- **Saturday, 23:** Weekday, Ord Time 20 (Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Mt 22:34-40)
- **Sunday 24:** 21st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30)

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