



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

Vol 11 : No 04

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
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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.)

CHILD PROTECTION

We are a Child Safe Organisation
which is committed to the care, well-
being and protection of children and
young people.

Mrs Helen Mumford

(KI contact - 0408 367 009)

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES

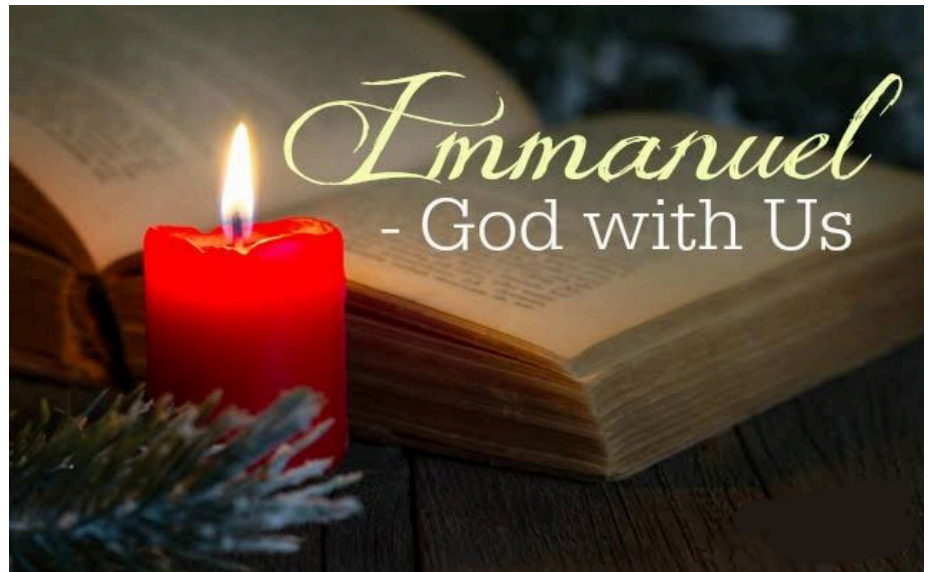
Kingscote at 9.30am

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

Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said,
'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for
yourself coming either from the
depths of Sheol or from the heights
above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will
not put the Lord to the test.'
Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the
patience of men without trying the
patience of God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-
us."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23:1-6

*Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.*

SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus
who has been called to be an apostle,
and specially chosen to preach the
Good News that God promised long
ago through his prophets in the
scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God
who, according to the human nature
he took was a descendant of David: it

is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in
the order of the spirit, the spirit of
holiness that was in him, was
proclaimed Son of God in all his
power through his resurrection from
the dead. Through him we received
grace and our apostolic mission to
preach the obedience of faith to all
pagan nations in honour of his name.
You are one of these nations, and by
his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you
all, then, who are God's beloved in
Rome, called to be saints, may God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
send grace and peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The virgin will give birth to a son; his
name will be Emmanuel"
God-is-with-us. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be
born. His mother Mary was betrothed
to Joseph; but before they came to live
together she was found to be with
child through the Holy Spirit. Her
husband Joseph; being a man of
honour and wanting to spare her
publicity, decided to divorce her
informally. He had made up his mind
to do this when the angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream and said,
'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid
to take Mary home as your wife,

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Bulletin Board

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Stephanie Langridge, Carmen Northcott and Joella Davidson.

December anniversaries: Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapman, Ann Comerford, Ernest Comerford, George Frauley, Annie Griffith, Graham Hammat, Franziska Hiltz, 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 all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

PARISH ROSTERS

	Comm	Reader	Cleaning
18/12	P Bennett	A Gibbs	C Berden

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)
11/12 TBA

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve 7.30pm
Christmas Day 8.30am
Please put your name on the roster on the back table if you want to volunteer for one of the ministries at either of the Masses.

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:
BSB 085 005
A/c No 585353994
Reference: K Island or 765

2nd Collection:
BSB 085 005
A/c No 918111484
Reference: Your name

CHURCH 'SPRING CLEAN'

We are having a "Spring-clean" of the Church on Wednesday 21 December in readiness for Christmas.

Please bring your cleaning gear for a start at 9.00am. Many hands make the light work and the work light!

APPEAL FOR ABORIGINAL CATHOLIC MINISTRY

Once again, we will be conducting the annual Christmas Day Appeal for the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry with special collections to be taken up at all Christmas Masses.

The Otherway Centre is the home of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) and the cultural hub of Centacare. Money raised from this collection helps fund activities that bring the community together and provide vital healing and yarning opportunities to strengthen cultural and spiritual connections. Located at Stepney, the Centre has been supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider community for more than 30 years.

CATHOLIC MISSION,

on behalf of our missionaries around the world, would like to thank you for your support this year. Your generosity has made a difference in the lives of many by giving them tangible support, but more importantly by giving them hope. To conclude this year, Catholic Mission would like to wish you and your family a blessed and joyful Christmas.

*Tony Johnston (Diocesan Director)
Archdiocese of Adelaide*

"THE SOUTHERN CROSS"

As usual, there will be no edition of "The Southern Cross" published in January. Our first issue for 2023 will be available in parishes on the weekend of February 4/5 and online from February 6. The FREE December edition will be available over the Christmas period. If you have any story ideas, please contact Jenny Brinkworth (8210 8147 or jbrinkworth@adelaide.catholic.org.au)

Thank you for your support in 2022 and a happy Christmas and New Year from the Catholic Communications team.

SYNODALITY AND MISSION

Sr Nathalie Becquart in Adelaide
February 1, 2023
Grange Golf Course
5.30pm Dinner
6:30 - 8.30pm Program

Sr Nathalie Becquart is the Under-secretary for the General Synod in the Vatican, which is responsible for the organisation of the 2023-24 Global Synod on Synodality.

Sr Nathalie will be in Adelaide on February 1, 2023, as part of a visit to Australia/Oceania. All are invited to the Sr Nathalie's presentation on synodality and mission at the Grange Golf Course.

RSVP essential, register online at www.trybooking.com/CEUOA by January 27, 2023. Visit www.adelaidediocesanassembly.org for more information.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality.

Groups around the country are praying with and responding to the Document for the Continental Stage, which was published recently. Read the document and access the submission portal at: www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch.

FEAST OF HOLY INNOCENTS

Wednesday, December 28

We pray for the precious lives of the unborn. We pray for more supportive alternatives for mothers facing the dilemma. We pray for the comfort of mothers (and fathers) before and after birth. We pray for changes in the proposed new law, which will allow abortion to birth.



This Christmas impress her with something expensive.



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

STARING INTO THE LIGHT

In her book, *Kitchen Table Wisdom, Stories That Heal*, medical doctor and writer, Rachel Naomi Remen shares this story.

When she was fourteen years old, she took a summer job working as a volunteer in a nursing home for the aged. This wasn't easy for her. She was young, shy, and mostly afraid of elderly persons. One day she was assigned to spend an hour visiting a ninety-six-year-old woman who had not spoken for over a year and suffered from severe dementia. Rachel carried a basket of glass beads with her, hoping that she could engage the elderly woman into stringing beads with her. It was not to be.

She knocked on the door, received no answer, and entered to see the woman sitting in a chair, staring out of a window. She sat in a chair next to the old woman and, off and on, for the next hour attempted to draw her attention. She never succeeded. In her words, "the silence in the room was absolute". The woman never once acknowledged her presence, never even looked at her, and simply continued to stare out of the window.

When a bell rang to signify that her hour with this woman was over, Rachel got up to leave, turned to the old woman, and asked, "What were you looking at?" The woman turned to her and said, "Why, child, I was looking at the light." Rachel was momentarily stunned, not by anything extraordinary in those words, but by an extraordinary expression a sort of rapture, in the old woman's face. As a fourteen-year-old, Rachel had no idea what lay behind that extraordinary facial expression. It would take her years to find out.

She went on to become a medical doctor, a pediatrician, who helps deliver babies. When she helped deliver her first baby and the

newborn opened its eyes, she saw in the face of that baby that same expression she had seen all those years before in the face of the old woman. That baby too was looking at the light – uncomprehending, mute, in a kind of rapture, fixated on a light it had never seen before.

What's the parallel between the expression of a newborn opening its eyes for the first time and the expression of an elderly person staring into the light? Rachel Remen's image captures it.

In essence, if you live long enough, there will come a time when your old ways of knowing will no longer serve you, your heart will be forced to look beyond its wounds, your old securities will all fall away, and you will be left staring into a very different light. This will radically shift your gaze, strip you of most everything that used to make sense, render you infantile again, and leave you mute, staring silently into the unknown, into its beckoning light. Why? What's happening here?

When a baby is born, it leaves a place that is small, confining, and dark, but protective, nurturing, and secure. It also leaves the only place it has ever known, and it can have no idea of what awaits it after birth. Indeed, could it think consciously, it would no doubt find it difficult to believe that anything, including its mother (whom it has never seen), exists outside the womb. Hence, a baby's facial expression when it first opens its eyes and looks into the light – awe, bewilderment, rapture.

We are born out of one womb into yet another. We live in a second womb, our world, which is somewhat bigger, somewhat less confining, and somewhat less dark, and which like our mother's womb offers protection, nurturing, and security. For most of our lives, this second womb serves us well, giving us what we need. When

we are young, healthy, and strong, there seems little reason to shift our gaze towards any other light. The womb in which we are living is providing enough light. As well, it's the only place we know. Indeed, left to nature and ourselves, we have no assurance that there is any place beyond it.

Moreover, we share this too with a baby in the womb. From the moment of its conception, a baby already has the imperative for its impending birth encoded in its body and soul. There comes a time when it must be born into a wider world. So too for us. We also have the imperative for an impending birth from our present womb encoded in our body and our soul. Hence, along with an unborn baby in the womb, we too share a certain "insanity" for a wider light.

In a poem entitled, *The Holy Longing*, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe expressed this poetically.

*Now you are no longer caught
In the obsession with darkness,
and a desire for higher lovemaking
sweeps you upward.
Distance does not make you falter,
now, arriving in magic, flying,
and finally, insane for the light,
you are a butterfly and you are gone.*



COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 15/12/22)



- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 please follow the instructions as per SA Health in terms of contact tracing and isolating yourself as per government health protocols. Please stay home and do not attend church services until you have fully recovered.
- Wearing of face-masks in Church is strongly recommended.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people are requested to stay home and not attend services.
- Hand sanitiser is available at church entrances.
- Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- Procession of gifts has resumed.
- Collection plates are to be passed around with minimum contact

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Matthew's Gospel, Joseph is the main protagonist in the infancy narrative, while Luke's story of the birth of Jesus centres on Mary and her response.
- There are significant differences between the two accounts, which can be understood as reflecting the particular theological perspective of each author and the way each seeks to point to the identity of Jesus and address the concerns of his own community.
- Did you notice that there is no stable or manger in Matthew's account of Jesus' birth? Jesus is born at the home of Joseph and Mary, who live in Bethlehem.

FOURTH CANDLE

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath — the candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY.

Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of LOVE.

(Continued from page 1)

because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

GOD IS WITH US

All four candles on the Advent wreath are brightly shining. The anticipation for Christmas is growing more intense. As the shopping centres get busier, the parties become more frequent, and the carols are sung louder and louder, how do we stay grounded in the quiet waiting of this season?

One way to stay centred in the spirit of Advent is to reflect on a single word: Emmanuel, which literally means "God with us". In one night, in one small child, in a humble stable, God came among all people in the most intimate way possible – as one of us. God, right here in our midst!

Emmanuel in our joy.
Emmanuel in our suffering.
Emmanuel in our celebration.
Emmanuel in our loneliness.
Emmanuel in our song.
Emmanuel in our silence.
Emmanuel in our work and school.
Emmanuel in our home.

God is with us in everything and through everything!

In these final days of Advent, it can be very difficult to keep a sense of quiet and prayer with so much seasonal activity going on. Think about all the ways God is truly with you this week. Think about the ways you can make God's presence known to those around you. Think about the ways you can keep the spirit of Advent alive even as everything around you speaks of Christmas.

What puts me at arm's length from

God? What keeps me from seeing and touching the goodness of God each day? What final preparations do I need to make within myself for the coming of Christmas? What can I do this week to let others know that God is with them?

GPBS eNews

SHARING THE TRADITION

- One of the common ways for God to communicate with human beings, as related in the Hebrew Scriptures, is through dreams— Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Hannah are famous examples. In this text, God communicates the importance of this child and the integrity of his mother to Joseph using this favoured method. Being intuitive to the voice of God is an important aspect of faith.
- In the two stories that have come down to us of the birth of Jesus, one of the common aspects is the faith response of the two protagonists. Both Mary and Joseph face risking their personal security in the world of their time by choosing to cooperate in God's plan. The price, especially for Mary, is high. If she is found to have committed adultery, the penalty, under Jewish law, is death (see John 8:1–11).

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(19 - 25 December)

- **Monday, 19:** Mon 4th week, Advent (Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25)
- **Tuesday, 20:** Tue 4th week, Advent (Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)
- **Wednesday, 21:** Wed 4th week, Advent (Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45)
- **Thursday, 22:** Thu 4th week, Advent (1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56)
- **Friday, 23:** Fri 4th week, Advent (Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Saturday, 24:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (**Christmas Eve** - Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25); (**Midnight** - Isaiah 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14)
- **Sunday 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas Day - Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18)

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