



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

Vol 14 : No 04

KANGAROO ISLAND

CATHOLIC PARISH

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ADELAIDE CATHEDRAL

PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Lancy D'Silva
Phone: (08) 8210 8155

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

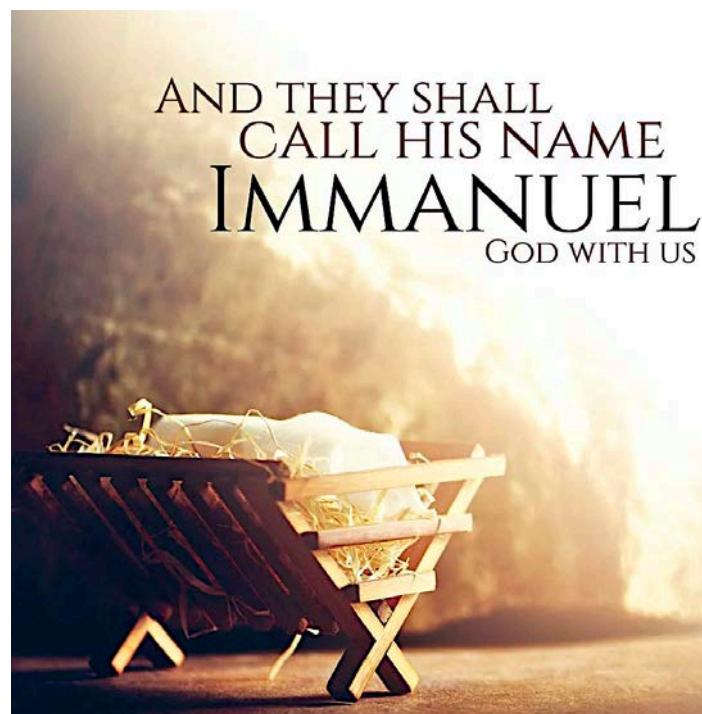
Kingscote at 9.30am

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

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.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. <R>
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. <R>

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. <R>

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.

(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 Chapman, 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
21/12	A Clark	M Glynn	A Clark
28/12	W Bennett	M Slagter	A Clark

PRIEST ROSTER

21/12	Fr Lancy D'Silva
24,25/12	Fr Iain Radvan
28/12	Fr Iain Radvan

“THE SOUTHERN CROSS”

The December edition will be inserted in “The Advertiser” on Saturday December 20. Free copies will be delivered to parishes during the week commencing December 15. The online version will be available on Monday December 22. A very happy and safe Christmas to you all from the team at The Southern Cross.

CATHOLIC CHARITES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

A Leaving Collection at Christmas Masses will be taken up for Catholic Charities, which provides much-needed funds to Hutt St Centre, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick’s special schools. These agencies play a significant role in bringing hope to people in need here in South Australia. Your contribution will

make a profound difference in the lives of those who rely on the support of Catholic Charities.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS 2026

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a worldwide synodal Movement dedicated to the renewal of our Catholic Church through empowering couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships. Our Church today has the belief that Marriage and Holy Orders are Sacraments of relationship and that we are called as couples and priests to be a living sign of God's love to the world, and to love one another as Jesus loves us all. This takes hard work, and a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend gives married couples and priests the tools and support they need to live this sign in today's busy life.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has three weekends planned for 2026 – February 20-22, Lyndoch Motel; July 3-5 Royal Coach Motel; and a live-out weekend at Antonio School, November 7-8. More details are available on the website at <https://www.wwme.org.au/>. Please consider booking into a weekend to nurture and grow your relationship with your spouse.

THE UNEXPECTED CALL

Tom sat in the quiet of his kitchen, ready for a relaxing afternoon. But then his phone buzzed. It was a message from Sarah: "I need to talk to you about something. It's important."

His stomach dropped. Sarah was pregnant. But then came the kicker: "I'm not sure who the father is."

Tom's world felt like it was crumbling. He couldn't believe what he was reading. How could this happen? He stared at the screen, his mind racing. He felt lost. Was this the end of everything?

His phone buzzed again – it was his mother. "Tom, love, I know this feels impossible, but sometimes, the road we expect isn't the road we're meant to walk. You need to trust. You're being asked to love her. Stand by her. Even when it's messy."

Tom sat still, taking in her words. Was this God's way of asking him to step

up? He didn't have all the answers, but maybe the right choice wasn't about perfection. It was about faith.

Later that evening, when Sarah came home, Tom simply hugged her. No questions, no anger – just love. "We'll figure this out," he whispered. "Together."

The Commissioning

God goes with us as we go with God.

- In times of trial, God is there.
- In times of apathy, God is there.
- In times of discouragement, God is there,
- and in times when we do not know what to do
- or where to turn, God is there.

But God is with us in the good times as well.

- In times of family celebration, God is there.
- In deep friendship, God is there.
- In times of recovery and peace, God is there.
- In times when the way ahead is clear, God is there.

Go confidently from this place, knowing that God, who has loved you from the beginning, will never let you go, in time or beyond time.

GPBS eNews

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



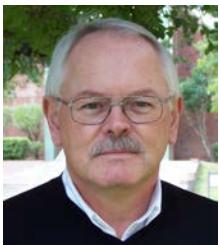
• CHRISTMAS EVE •

Wednesday, 24 December - 7.30pm

• CHRISTMAS DAY •

Thursday, 25 December - 8.30am





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

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT IT?

I once had the privilege of visiting the Holy Land. It's a strangely different place. Soaked in history, in struggle, in religion, in blood. Virtually every inch of its soil has been soaked in blood, including the blood of Jesus. History leaps out at you from every stone.

Ancient things come to the surface there and mix with the things of today. When you stand in its sacred spots, you begin to understand why Moses was told to take his shoes off and why, through the centuries, so many wars have been fought over this small strip of desert. Aptly named the Holy Land, I walked its ground, barefoot in soul.

Of all the things I saw there, including the tomb of Jesus, few touched me as deeply as did the Church of the Visitation. It stands in sharp contrast to most of the other churches there that mark the key events in Jesus' life.

Unlike most of the other churches, the Church of the Visitation is a very modest building. You don't see any gold or marble. Its wooden walls and oak ceiling are plain and mostly bare. However, on the front wall, behind the altar, there is a painting that depicts the scene of the Visitation, and it was this painting that struck me deeply.

It's a picture of two peasant women, Mary and Elizabeth, both pregnant, greeting each other. Everything about it suggests smallness, littleness, obscurity, dust, small town, insignificance.

You see two plain looking women, standing in the dust of an unknown village. Nothing suggests that either of them, or anything they are doing or carrying, is out of the ordinary or of any significance. Yet, and this is the genius of the painting, all that littleness, obscurity, seeming barrenness, and small-town insignificance makes you automatically ask the question: Who

would have thought it? Who would ever have imagined that these two women, in this obscure town, in this obscure place, in this obscure time, were carrying inside of them something that would radically and forever change the whole world?

Who would have thought it? Yes. Who would have thought that what these obscure peasant women were gestating and carrying inside of them would one day change history more than any army, philosopher, artist, emperor, king, queen, or superstar ever would?

Inside them, they were gestating Jesus and John the Baptist, the Christ and the prophet who would announce him. These two births changed the world so radically that today we even measure time by the event of those births. We live in the year 2025 after that event.

There's a lesson here: Never underrate, in terms of world impact, someone living in obscurity who is pregnant with promise. Never underestimate the impact in history of silent, hidden gestation. How can any of us have any real significance in our world when we live in obscurity, unknown, hidden away, unable to do big acts that shape history?

We can take a lesson from Mary and Elizabeth. We can become pregnant with promise, with hope, with the Holy Spirit and then, hidden from the world, gestate that into real flesh, our own. We too can reshape history.

If we can grasp this, there will be more peace in our lives because some of the restless fires inside us will torment us less. In brief, there's a perpetual dissatisfaction inside us that can only be stilled by accepting something we might term the martyrdom of obscurity, that is, the self-sacrifice of accepting a life in which we will never have adequate, satisfactory self-expression. That acceptance can help still that pressure inside us which pushes us to be known, to make a difference, to make our lives count in terms of the big picture.

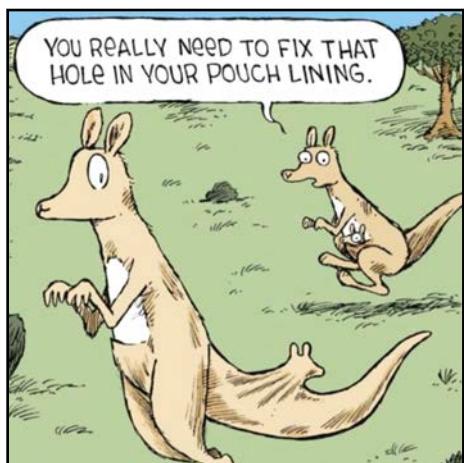
We all know the feeling of sitting inside of our own lives and feeling unknown, small time, undistinguished, and frustrated because our riches are unknown to others. We have so much to give to the world, but the world doesn't know us. We yearn to do great things, important things, things that affect the world beyond the boundaries of the small towns we live in (even when we are living in large cities).

What can help bring some peace is the image expressed in that painting in the Church of the Visitation, namely, that what ultimately changes the world is what we give birth to when, in the obscurity and dust of our small towns and in the frustration of lives that forever seem too small for us, we become pregnant with hope and, after a silent gestation process, one not advertised or known to the world, we bring that hope to full term.

When I was teaching at Newman College in Edmonton, our president then was a Holy Cross priest who brought us some Maritime color. When surprised by something, he would exclaim: "Who would have thunk it?"

Yes, two pregnant women, two thousand years ago, of no status, isolated, standing in the dust, forever changing the world? Who would have thunk it?

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 1000027201

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)

KID'S CORNER

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. (Matthew 1: 19)

There aren't many sentences in the Bible about Saint Joseph, but they tell us a lot. We know that Joseph loved Mary. But when he thought that Mary had let him down, he didn't want revenge. We also know that Joseph trusted God, even when things were difficult. In a dream, God's angel told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife because she would have a baby they were to name Jesus. Joseph did as God's angel told him. It probably wasn't easy for Joseph, but God asks different things from different people. What might God be asking of you?

Loving God, give me courage to do what you ask of me.

(Continued from page 1)

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, 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!

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

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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(22 - 28 December)

- **Monday, 22:** Mon 4th week, Advent (1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56)
- **Tuesday, 23:** Tue 4th week, Advent (Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66)
- **Wednesday, 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)
- **Thursday, 25:** The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas Day - Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18)
- **Friday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Saturday, 27:** St John (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8)
- **Sunday 28:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23)