



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD - YEAR A

Vol 11 : No 05

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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
wendygbenett@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



(These readings are those for during
the morning on Christmas Day)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are
the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,
proclaims salvation, and tells Zion,
'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their
voices, they shout for joy together, for
they see the Lord face to face, as he
returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you
ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is
consoling his people, redeeming
Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm in the
sight of all the nations, and all the
ends of the earth shall see the
salvation of our God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 97:1-6

*All the ends of the earth have seen the
saving power of God.*

SECOND READING

Heb 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in
various different ways, God spoke to
our ancestors through the prophets;
but in our own time, the last days, he
has spoken to us through his

Son, the Son that he has appointed to
inherit everything and through whom
he made everything there is. He is the
radiant light of God's glory and the
perfect copy of his nature, sustaining
the universe by his powerful
command; and now that he has
destroyed the defilement of sin, he has
gone to take his place in heaven at the
right hand of divine Majesty. So he is
now as far above the angels as the title
which he has inherited is higher than
their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You
are my Son, today I have become your
father, or: I will be a father to him and
he a son to me. Again, when he brings
the First-born into the world, he says:
Let all the angels of God worship him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.

*Come you nations and adore the Lord.
Today a great light has come upon the
earth. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Jn 1 1-18

In the beginning was the Word: the
Word was with God and the Word was
God. He was with God in the
beginning. Through him all things
came to be, not one thing had its being
but through him.

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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
24/12	M Slagter	A Clark	
25/12	W Bennett	P Bennett	A Bevan
1/1	K Hammat	A Gibbs	A Bevan
8/1	M Slagter	A Clark	K Brinkley
15/1	S Semmler	P Bennett	K Brinkley
22/1	M Glynn	L Grant	H Mumford

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes

if something unforeseen crops up)

Christmas Fr Paul Barnum
1/1/23 Two priests and a deacon
8/1/23 Fr Anthoni Adimai

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

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.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

Christmas is here again! This is a wonderful time of year, but hard for many who are struggling in so many ways.

The Christian scriptures reflect on the fact that 'the word became flesh and the Presence of God dwelt amongst us'.

In this sacred story, the Magi or 'three wise men', after studying the stars, travel from a foreign and non-Jewish nation bearing gifts to pay homage to the infant Jesus. This symbolised the fact that Jesus was born for the good of all people across the planet. Jesus had been sent to manifest the Love of the eternal God, to bring healing and mercy to all people. Throughout his life he spent most of his time ministering to the poor, lonely, sick, and abandoned.

Let us reflect throughout this Christmas season, who is hurting and

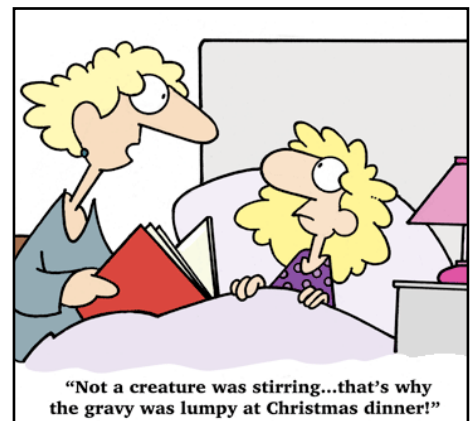
who is in need within our lives? Who is sad, broken in spirit, confused or perhaps just in need of companionship and support? We can bring Jesus the Healer to them in our own way and they, in turn, to us. If we do not share in the Christian faith, there is no reason why we can not fulfill this act in common, as we all are able to share compassion, hope and love with others.

God/Love is present in our world, but we so often fail to recognise this in our everyday life. Jesus was born in an environment of extreme poverty, with nowhere to go even to be born, and then needed to flee his own country with his parents to live in a foreign country for a long time, as many of our refugee folk know so well. Through these circumstances Jesus is telling us where God may be found – not in places of glamour so much, as in the sick and dying, those who are fleeing danger, those afflicted by poverty and abandonment. In short, among the masses.

So, as we enter this Christmas Season, let us just stop for a time to reflect on recognising that although Jesus was born two thousand years ago, the Love of our God is present amongst us through an eternal Spirit that connects us all. That Spirit is among us in every person and in every trial and tribulation we encounter in our lives.

We are so aware of war, sickness and political strife within the world. Let us recognise Jesus (Eternal Love) present in our reaching out to others to help alleviate their suffering, and the immense reciprocation of love and connection we experience in this encounter.

mercycommunity.org.au





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

DEFYING DARKNESS WITH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

In the days of apartheid in South Africa, one of the ways people expressed their opposition and their belief that someday it would be overcome, was to light a candle and put it in a window where it could be seen by anyone passing by. A lit candle, publicly displayed, made a prophetic statement. It didn't take long for the government to react. Placing a lit candle in your window became a criminal offense, equivalent to carrying an illegal firearm. The irony wasn't lost on children. They joked, "Our government is afraid of lit candles!"

And well they should be! To light a candle for a moral or religious reason (be it for protest, for Hanukkah, for Advent, or for Christmas) is to make a prophetic statement of faith and, in essence, make a public prayer.

Admittedly, this can be hard to read inside the glow of the millions of Christmas tree lights that we see everywhere. Why do we put up all these lights at Christmas? A cynical answer suggests that this is done for purely commercial purposes. As well, for many of us, these lights are simply a question of aesthetics, color, and celebration, mostly devoid of any religious meaning. However, even here, there is still something deeper going on. Why do we put up lights at Christmas? Why do we light our homes and our streets with colorful lights at this time of year?

No doubt, we do it for color, for celebration, and for commercial reasons; but we also do it because, more deeply, it expresses a faith, however inchoately this might still be felt, that in Christ a final victory has been won and light has forever conquered darkness. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it."

Our Christmas lights are, in the end, an expression of faith and in essence a public prayer. Nevertheless, we might still ask, to what end? What difference can this possibly make?

Putting up lights as a symbol of faith can seem like a very insignificant and naïve thing to do in the face of the seeming overwhelming darkness of our world. We look at our world and we see millions suffering from the war, millions of refugees on borders around the world, and hundreds of millions suffering from food shortages. As well, when we know that thousands of people every day are dying from domestic violence, drug violence, and gang violence, and when we see tension everywhere within our governments, our churches, our neighborhoods, and our families, we might ask ourselves, what difference do our little string of lights, or indeed all the Christmas lights in the world, make?

Well, in the words of the late Jesuit Michael Buckley, *prayer is most needed, just when it is deemed most useless*. These are words to hang onto. Given the magnitude of our world's problems, given the magnitude of the darkness that threatens us, now more than ever, it is imperative that we express our faith publicly, as a prayer. Now, more than ever, we need to show publicly that we still believe faith works, that we still believe in the power of prayer, and that we still believe that, in Christ, the power of darkness has been forever overcome.

This is expressed wonderfully in a poem John Shea inscribed inside his Christmas card this year.

Our Christmas trees want to talk to us

The greater darkness of December can take its toll and strengthen what afflicts us.

Our Christmas trees beg to differ. Their branches are full, leafy, strung with lights.

The brightness is defiant. We want a perfect world. But that is not always what we get.

We may experience catastrophic weather; a pandemic; threatened health; overstressed work, dipping finances, struggling relationships, and society and world either slightly

or wildly insane.

Our Christmas trees glow. Their lights whisper;

"Give all the things that afflict you their due, but do not give them your soul. You are more than the surrounding darkness.

While struggling to overcome apartheid in South Africa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu was sometimes confronted by military personnel who came into his church while he was preaching, flashing their guns to intimidate him. He would smile at them and say, "I'm glad you have come to join the winning side!" In saying this, he wasn't talking about the apartheid struggle; he was talking about the forever victory that Christ has won for us. The most important of all battles has already been won, and our faith puts us on the winning side. Our Christmas lights express this, however consciously unaware of it we may be.

Karl Rahner once wrote that, at Christmas, God gives us sacred permission to be happy. Christmas also assures us that we have more than sufficient grounds to be happy, regardless of what might still be happening in our lives and in our world. We can be defiant in the face of everything that demands we be downcast. Our Christmas lights express that defiance.

You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser's weekly columns from his website at: www.ronrolheiser.com



COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

(Current from 22/12/22)



- 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?

- Caesar Augustus ruled the Roman Empire from 27 bc to ad 14. He was the great nephew of Julius Caesar.
- A Roman census was usually undertaken for purposes of taxation but also at times for other ends, such as conscription or forced labour.
- A problem of timing exists within this text. Most scholars agree that Jesus was born about 6 bc in the reign of Herod the Great. However, Quirinius was not appointed as governor of Syria until about eleven years later. After his appointment, he did in fact supervise a census of the region.



(Continued from page 1)

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR ANTHONI

Silent night... holy night... All is calm, all is bright... "The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all" (Tit 2:11). The words of St Paul reveal the mystery of this holy night: the grace of God has appeared, his gift of love. The love of God is made visible in the Child who is born to us.

During these challenging years, whenever I had the opportunity to visit our parishioners, I come back with A lot of questions. Whenever I visited our sick brothers and sisters, I

came to realise the suffering which is so present in our human condition. It is not surprising that we become anxious and restless, and even when we do get some peace, our wounds and memories are a burden to us. Yet we sense that there must be something more to life. In the midst of this suffering and confusion the Lord comes to us again as a tiny baby. Pope Francis invites us this Christmas to be still and place ourselves at the Manger of Jesus and to ask ourselves, "Do I really allow God to love me? Do I really have the courage to welcome with tenderness the difficulties and problems of those who are near to me?"

If we spend some time in prayer then we will see the answer that God gives. He came to share our human nature, to make sure that we always had hope. Christmas is a time of joy because we know there is something more, that God will never desert us. The light shines, yes in darkness, but it will never be overpowered, because Jesus of Nazareth, the infant, has come once more to let us hold him in our frail arms and lives. He will teach us the way to true humanity, to see the beauty and dignity of each other, to give us his gift of peace.

May this be a time of deep happiness, of reconciliation and peace, and of joyful hope for the future for you, your families and all those who are dear to you. May 2023 bring you good health and happiness to all.

Fr Anthoni Adimai SdM

WEEKDAY READINGS

(26 December - 01 January)

- **Monday, 26:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Tuesday, 27:** St John (Is 7:10-14; Jn 20:2-8:)
- **Wednesday, 28:** The Holy Innocents, (1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Thursday, 29:** 5th day in Octave of the Nativity (1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35)
- **Friday, 30:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23)
- **Saturday, 31:** 7th day in Octave of the Nativity (1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18)
- **Sunday 01:** MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD (Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21)

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