



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 13 : No 36

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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

CONFESSON
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

Genesis 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' the Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again

Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. <R>
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. <R>

(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 Laundy, Josh Semler.

July anniversaries: Alma Adams, Eadie Adams, Sid Adams, Peg Anderson, Lill Buick, Phil Connell, John Connell, Henry Dravitzki, Leon Fahey, Paul Glynn, Joyce Grant, Mick Grant, Bill Higgins, Monica Hughes, Barry Jamieson, Judith Jeffs, Damian Howard, Leigh McDonald, Kym Moses, Cameron Muirhead, Ron Mumford, Alexander Nash, Alice O'Neill, Alice O'Driscoll, Jill Perkins, Charles Reynolds, Nora Ridge, Johnny Tully, John Walsh, Tony Walker, Robyn Williams.

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
27/07	P Bennett	K Hammat
03/08	H Mumford	A Clark
10/08	S Semler	L Grant
17/08	K Hammat	M Glynn
		C Brinkley

PRIEST ROSTER

27/07 Liturgy
Further dates- to be advised

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.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

2/3 August - 9/10 August

The theme of the first weekend is that every baptised Christian has a vocation and is called to holiness of life and to participate in the life and mission of the Church. We acknowledge the calling to Marriage and Family Life, the Single Life and Lay Ministry in the Church.

It's on the second weekend that we specify this baptismal call further and celebrate and pray for an increase in the vocations of the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Consecrated Life.



The first Message of Pope Leo XIV for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, whose fifth edition will be celebrated on Sunday, 27 July, was published recently. The theme of the Message is "Blessed are those who have not lost hope (Sir 14:2)" and fits into the context of the Jubilee of Hope 2025. In the Message, the Holy Father invites us to recognise the elderly not only as recipients of pastoral care, but as witnesses of hope who are active protagonists in the life of the Church.

Old age can be a time of blessedness in which hope, tested in the fire of a long life, becomes a source of joy and renewed trust in the Lord. God "teaches us that, in his eyes, old age is a time of blessing and grace, and that the elderly are, for him, the first witnesses of hope." states Pope Leo XIV in his [Message](#).



ASSUMPTION OF MARY

On 15 August we celebrate the Assumption of Mary.

The Assumption commemorates the belief that when Mary died, rather than going through the natural process of physical decay on Earth, both her soul and body were taken to Heaven, to be with her Son, Jesus.

It's speculated that this could have been possible because she didn't suffer from Original Sin, as stated in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This can be further confirmed as there is no relic of Mary's body in existence, and no one has ever claimed to have found one.

A PIONEERING JOURNEY IN SCIENCE AND FAITH - BOOK LAUNCH

ATF Press invites you to a launch of a book by Father Roderick O'Brien on Fr Julian Tenison Woods by Archbishop Patrick O'Regan at 2pm Saturday August 30 2025, Cathedral Hall, Wakefield Street, Adelaide.

To RSVP please email hdregan@atf.org.au by Monday August 25. See flyer for more details.



Diocesan Jubilee of Youth celebration

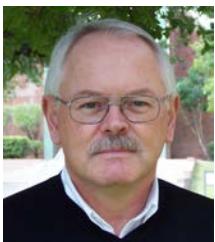
When: Saturday August 2, 2.00pm until 9.00pm
Where: Sacred Heart College, Somerton Park
Who: Young people aged 16-35
Cost: Free (including cost of all food and drinks), bookings are essential

 Hosted by the Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults (COYYA), Power Up 2025 will facilitate an afternoon of engaging workshops on a variety of topics with opportunities to experience reimagined prayer and spirituality. Scan code for more info.

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

SUICIDE AND JESUS' DESCENT INTO HELL

In a book entitled *Peculiar Treasures*, the renowned novelist and spiritual writer Frederick Buechner reflects on the character of Judas, the man who betrayed Jesus with a kiss and then died by suicide.

Buechner, who had lost his own father to suicide, speculates on the reasons why Judas dies by suicide. Referring to an ancient church tradition, he suggests that perhaps Judas chose suicide out of hope instead of despair, that is, he felt dammed and counted on Jesus' mercy after death, thinking that perhaps "hell might be his last chance of making it to heaven."

Then, imagining Jesus' descent into hell, Buechner writes: "It's a scene to conjure with. Once again they met in the shadows, the two old friends, both of them a little worse for wear after all that had happened, only this time it was Jesus who was the one to give the kiss, and this time it wasn't the kiss of death that was given." (Jeffery Munroe, *Reading Buechner*, InterVarsity Press)

As Christians, as very article of faith in our Creeds, we believe that after his death Jesus "descended into hell." What's meant by that?

The popular conception of this in the language of our catechesis, in our iconography, and in Christian piety, might be summarised this way. After the sin of Adam and Eve, 'original sin,' the gates of heaven were closed, so that from the time of Adam and Eve until the death of Jesus, no one could go to heaven. However, in his death, Jesus atoned for our sins and during the time between his death on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Sunday, he went to that place in the underworld, *Sheol*, where all the good people who had died throughout history were waiting and he led them into heaven. This was his "descent into hell."

But, whatever the literal truth in that popular conception, there's a powerful theological truth undergirding the doctrine. In essence it's this: The love and compassion that Jesus manifested in his death has the power to go into hell itself, that is, there is no "hell" (physical, psychological, or spiritual) we can create that Christ's love cannot penetrate so as to offer healing for the very wound which caused that hell itself.

God's love, healing, and forgiveness can penetrate any hell we can create and heal the wound that caused that hell.

This is perhaps the single most consoling doctrine not just in Christianity but in all religion. When we are powerless to help others or ourselves, God can still help us.

It's for this reason that Christians don't believe in reincarnation. It isn't needed. We don't need to get ourselves completely right to go to heaven. When we are powerless, God can still do for us what we can't do for ourselves.

That's a deep consolation because not everyone dies a happy death. Many of us die in anger, in bitterness, not fully reconciled with others, with unfinished business of soul. And some of us die by suicide, imprisoned in a private hell where, due to illness and wound rather than moral fault, we believe our death is our only way to life.

The doctrine of Jesus' descent into hell is particularly helpful regarding how we might understand how those who die by suicide are met by God after their deaths. For too long we have been falsely anxious about this, fearing that suicide is a grave human and moral failure, an act of despair, unforgivable (certainly on this side of eternity). However, in most cases, it is an illness, one not freely chosen. Like cancer, a heart attack, or an accident, it takes someone out of life against

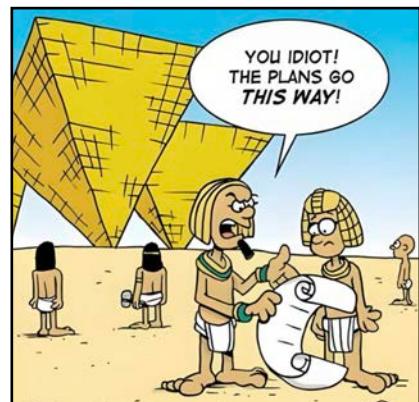
his or her committed choice. For this reason, we are encouraged to no longer use the phrase "committed suicide." Nobody "commits" cancer or "commits" a heart attack. He or she "succumbs" to it. So too for most suicides.

With this in mind, we can better appreciate the image Frederick Buechner uses in speculating about the suicide of Judas' and his meeting with Jesus in hell.

In essence, this is Buechner's image: After his betrayal of Jesus, Judas descends into a private hell wherein he senses that what he has done cannot be forgiven and he is doomed forever to live in that darkness. That falsity, that illness, that fatally misguided logic tells him that going to hell is his last chance of going to heaven. So, he takes his own life. After his death, Jesus meets him in the shadows of that misguided hell and kisses him, not in condemnation or damnation, but in unconditional love, understanding, and forgiveness.

This image, I believe, can help us understand what happens in suicide: the misguided logic of those taking their own lives, and God's loving, compassionate, forgiving, invitational descent into their private hell within which they believe their deaths are a favour to their loved ones and that "hell might be their last chance to go to heaven."

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)

KIDS' CORNER

"When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name ... (Luke 11:2)"

Sometimes we use words so often, we don't even think about what they mean. Take "hallowed," for example. It's a word we use every time we pray the Our Father.

Hallowed means "holy." And holy means "set apart." Jesus tells us that when we pray, we begin by stating our belief that God is holy, set apart from everyone and everything else. God is not just "one more thing" or "some nice idea." God is above all and in all. God has created everything, yet God is more than anything or anyone we can imagine.

When we say these words in the Our Father, we ask God for the grace to put God first in our hearts and in our lives.

Our Father, hallowed be your name. Amen.

(Continued from page 1)

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes. <R>
4. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:12-14

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Rm 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him

get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

THE COURAGE TO PRAY

Prayer requires courage. Imagine the flutter in Abraham's heart when he asked God to consider the innocent who would suffer with the guilty in the destruction of evil cities! Who is Abraham to tell God what is just? Yet our every prayer of petition is roughly the same. With hearts fluttering, we ask God to act according to our perception. It's a bold thing to do.

Jesus encourages his disciples to pray with daring. He tells us to ask for God to reveal divinity to us! That's a big request. Jesus also teaches us to ask for more immediate and practical concerns like food, forgiveness, and to be spared the tug of sin on our hearts. Jesus says we can ask for anything in prayer, big or small, trusting the One who loves us desires our welfare more than we do. With confidence, then, let us pray.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(28 - 31 July)

- **Monday, 28:** Weekday, Ord Time 17 (Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35)
- **Tuesday, 29:** Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus (1 Jn 4:7-16; Jn 11:19-27)
- **Wednesday, 30:** Weekday, Ord Time 17 (Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46)
- **Thursday, 31:** St Ignatius of Loyola (Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53)
- **Friday, 01:** St Alphonsus Liguori (Lev 23:1,4-11,15-16,27,34-37; Mt 13:54-58)
- **Saturday, 02:** Weekday, Ord Time 17 (Lev 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12)
- **Sunday 03:** 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21)

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