



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 13 : No 41

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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.)

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.



FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 67:4-7, 10-11

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God. They shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. <R>
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. <R>
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. <R>

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour.

He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, (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 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
31/08	P Clark	W Bennett	A Clark
07/09	K Hammat	S Semler	A Clark
14/09	M Slagter	P Bennett	C Berden
21/09	A Clark	M Glynn	C Berden
28/09	W Bennett	M Slagter	C Berden

PRIEST ROSTER

31/08	Fr Matthew Newman
07/09	Fr Francis Showri
14/09	TBA

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 (by 5 September) to receive a special acknowledgement from the Archbishop.

SEPTEMBER IS CATHOLIC CHARITIES MONTH

*Help make a difference to
the lives of South Australians.*

In the month of September, we are promoting the Catholic Charities Appeal which supports the following agencies in South Australia: Hutt St

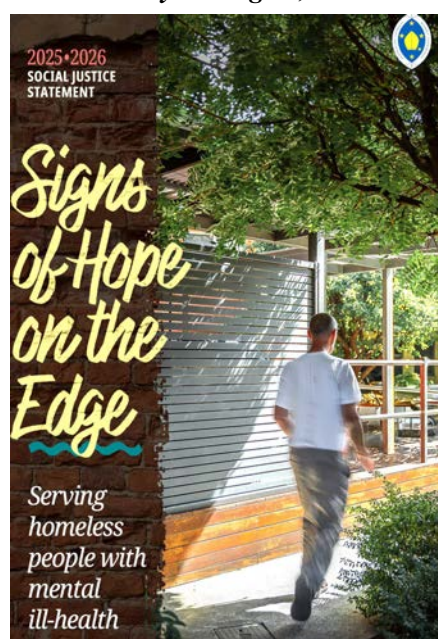
Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's Special Schools.

Please take a leaflet with you to find out more about the September Appeal.



Donations can be made via the reply-paid slip on the leaflet or online at <https://adelaide.goodgiving.com.au/qr/cc> or click the QR code.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY Sunday 31 August, 2025



The experience of people living with the challenges of homelessness and mental ill-health has been highlighted in the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2025 Social Justice Statement.

Each year since 1940, the Conference has released a statement for reflection and discussion ahead of Social Justice Sunday on a key issue in Australian society. This year's statement is "*Signs of Hope on the Edge: Serving People Living in Homelessness and Mental Ill-Health*".

Please click the following link to read this year's statement in full:
[Social Justice Statement 2025-2026](#)

An estimated 280,000 people access homelessness services each year, with one in three having a current mental health issue. The statement lists some of the ways that Catholic entities are engaging with the crisis. Australians

are encouraged to act, such as working with local government councils on ways to address homelessness and mental health, helping street van ministries and advocating to state and federal MPs about better policies. Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service chair, Bishop Tim Harris, said there was a clear message in the statement. "We want to encourage Australians to notice homeless people in their communities, to take every chance to listen to their stories and understand what their lives are like. To listen to their hopes and dreams, and to truly serve them with love and humility."

ACTION RESPONSE

This week, take up Jesus' challenge to make space at the table in a real and practical way. Perhaps it means inviting someone new into conversation or sharing a meal with a person who might otherwise be alone.

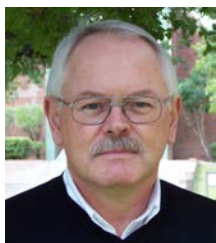
It could be as simple as reaching out to a neighbour or parishioner who has been feeling isolated, or as a family taking time to pray for and consider those who are struggling and unable to give anything in return.

However it looks, let today's Gospel shape the way we open our homes, our hearts, and our parishes – so that our welcome reflects God's own generous love.

WHAT'S ON

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

MOURNING OUR UNFINISHED SYMPHONY

There are parts of scripture that should come with a warning label, the kind they sometimes flash at the end of a movie which reads: *No animals were harmed.*

One such text is a story in the Book of Judges (11,29-39). It's the story of a king named Jephthah who is at war and makes a promise to God that if God lets him win the war, he will sacrifice as a burnt offering to God, the first person he meets when he gets back home. God lets him win the war and Jephthah returns home and the first person he meets is his own daughter, who is in the bloom of youth. On seeing her, he deeply regrets his vow. However, his daughter agrees to let herself be offered as a burnt offering, but she asks for one thing first, *to be given two months to go to the mountains "to mourn my virginity with my companions."* Her father grants her the favor and she goes off with her companions to mourn the fact that she will die a virgin. She returns and is sacrificed as a burnt offering to God.

Taken literally, this is simply an awful story – a foolish promise made to God, a God who accepts such a vow and grants a favor because of it, child sacrifice, an undertow of callous patriarchy.

But that's not what this story is about. *No one dies in this story.* It's not to be taken literally, but as a metaphor, and its message is not about God granting favors in exchange for human sacrifice. Its real message has to do with the young woman in the story, with her asking for the chance to mourn the fact that she will die a virgin, her life in some deep way incomplete.

What's she asking for? What does it mean to mourn one's virginity? How does one mourn this?

What lies inside this metaphor is the fact that every one of us, woman or man, married or celibate, long life or

short life, will ultimately die a virgin, without having had the full symphony.

In its more literal modality, we see this played out in someone who has never married, is single, has never had a partner with whom he or she became one flesh, and who will die in that state. Like Jephthah's daughter, he or she will die a virgin. Sometimes when leading a retreat for priests or nuns, I will ask them this question: Have you ever mourned your celibacy? Have you ever grieved the fact that you will go through life without sexual intimacy, without children, without being a grandparent?

But there are less literal modalities of this. The "virginity" that Jephthah's daughter needs to mourn is something we all need to mourn, even if we have sexual intimacy, children, and grandchildren.

I was once at a faculty gathering where a number of priests on faculty were discussing celibacy when a colleague, a happily married woman, challenged us with these words: You celibates feel too sorry for yourselves. Do you know what's worse than sleeping alone? Sleeping alone when you're not sleeping alone. Sexual intimacy, even at its best, doesn't take away your aloneness.

She's right. No one gets the full symphony. Karl Rahner once replied to a friend who had written to him lamenting that, while he was in a good marriage, he still felt deeply alone in many ways. Rahner advised him not to blame his wife nor his marriage for his loneliness, but rather to learn to accept that *"here in this life there is no finished symphony."* All of us will die with some unfulfilled dreams; none of us will find full, abiding, ecstatic embrace this side of eternity.

However, we can still live happy, full lives despite this absence. But there's a condition, the one Jephthah's daughter expresses, namely, we need to mourn our incompleteness so that we can die at peace with our partial symphony.

If we do not recognize that incompleteness and mourn it, our non-acceptance will work in stealth to

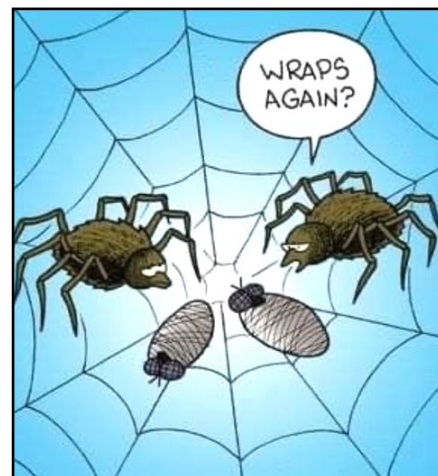
color our lives with disappointment, anger, and depression. Worse still, if we cannot make peace with the fact that life cannot give us the full symphony, we will have an unconscious propensity to be too hard on others (our marriage partners, our families, our friends, our churches, and life itself) because they cannot measure up and give us the full symphony.

And how might we mourn our incompleteness?

We mourn in our own way, but all mourning begins with recognizing what's lost, what's been taken from us. So, we begin mourning our "virginity" by recognizing and accepting what Rahner told his friend, *that here, in this life, there is no finished symphony.*

How do we mourn that? Some might take it to spiritual direction, psychological therapy, or some ritual practice, but all of us must consciously take it to prayer and then, like Jephthah's daughter, spend some months in the mountains giving free range to our tears.

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)



*"Rather, invite some people to dinner who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of town."
(Luke 14: 13)*

Why do we do good things? Is it so a teacher will praise us or maybe make our parents proud? Maybe we hope that someone will do a favour for us in return. But what if nobody notices the good things we do? What if the people we help can do nothing for us in return? Jesus said to do what is good because that makes our hearts more like God's own loving heart. God sees the good we do, even when nobody else does.

Jesus, help me do what is right and good.

(Continued from page 1)

do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

THE TABLE AT THE COMMUNITY BBQ

It was the parish community BBQ, and the oval was buzzing. Families spread picnic rugs, kids chased footies, the band was warming up, and the smell of sausages drifted through the air.

As people lined up for food, the long rows of trestle tables quickly filled. At one end, the "important" seats were taken fast – the parish council members, the school principal, a few well-known business owners in the community. Their table was loud with laughter, selfies, and chatter about upcoming projects.

At the other end, near the bins and a little further from the action, a small group sat quietly. A mum new to the country, still learning English. An older man who'd lost his wife last year and rarely left the house. A couple of teenagers on the edge of things, glued to their phones but clearly not part of any group.

People walked past them, maybe smiled politely, but kept heading towards the "better" seats.

One young family arrived late, plates in hand, and for a moment they hesitated. There were spots open at both ends. The kids wanted to sit near their friends in the noisy crowd, but the parents paused. They

glanced down the row, noticed the quiet group, and made a decision.

"Let's sit here."

At first, the conversation was stilted. But soon, something shifted. The mum from overseas shyly offered to share some homemade food she had brought. The older man's face lit up when the kids asked about his football days. The teenagers laughed when someone showed them how to win at the sausage sizzle raffle. By the end of the afternoon, that table – once ignored – was alive with energy, laughter, and real connection.

On the way home, the father said quietly, "You know, I think we found the best seats in the place today."

This is exactly what Jesus was getting at in today's Gospel. True blessing doesn't come from being seen in the "important" seats, from status or recognition. It comes when we choose to sit with those who are overlooked, when we make space for those who cannot repay us, when we give our attention and love where it's least expected.

The challenge for us today is simple but confronting: at school, at work, at parish events, even around our own dinner tables – where do we sit? Do we rush to be with the familiar and comfortable, or do we slow down, notice who is left out, and choose to sit there instead?

That choice can change everything. It might just be the place where God's Kingdom comes alive – around an ordinary table, with unlikely people, where everyone finally feels they belong.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(01 - 07 September)

- **Monday, 01:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (1 Thess 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30)
- **Tuesday, 02:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (1 Thess 5:1-6, 9-11; Lk 4:31-37)
- **Wednesday, 03:** St Gregory the Great (Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44)
- **Thursday, 04:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11)
- **Friday, 05:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:15-20; Lk 5:33-39)
- **Saturday, 06:** Weekday, Ord Time 22 (Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5)
- **Sunday 07:** 23rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Wis 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33)

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