



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Cluster of Catholic Parishes)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 11

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717;
in emergency - 0452 524 169)

Fr Prathap Katta (A/Priest -
8382 1717)

Fr Arul Dev (A/Priest - 8382 1717)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
or kimumford@bigpond.com)

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131,
paclark@muckra.com.au)

(All items for the newsletter must be
received no later than Tuesday
evening.)

SPONSORSHIP

**KANGAROO ISLAND
TRANSFERS** (0427 887 575)
generously donate transport for
our visiting Priests.

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES

This weekend Mass will be held at
Kingscote at 9.30am.

Due to current COVID-19
restrictions (1 person per 4 sqm) we
are only permitted up to 39 people in
our Church.



FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

*If today you hear his voice
harden not your hearts.*

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all

worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

*A people in darkness have seen a
great light: a radiant dawn shines
on those lost in death. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, (Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Lynne McArdle

February anniversaries: Heather Barrett, Joan Marie Berden, Mary Clark, Phillip Deakin, Alice Ellick, Alfred Gray, Bernadette Hehir, Kenneth Howard, Ron King, Jamie Larcombe, Frank May, Tom Meaney, Allan Moray, Pat Pawelski, Horace Riley, Christopher Riley, Bert Willson.

Please pray for all our faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.

ROSTERS

	Comm	Reader	Cleaning
31/1	K Hammat	L Grant	H Mumford
7/2	A Gibbs	M Glynn	A Bevan
14/2	W Bennett	M Slagter	A Bevan
21/2	P Clark	J Fernandez	K Brinkley
28/2	P Bennett	S Semler	K Brinkley

COVID Marshal

31/1	C Weatherstone
7/2	P Bennett
14/2	A Clark
21/2	W Bennett
28/2	J Fernandez

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)
 31 January Dcn Andrew Kirkbride
 7 February Fr Dev
 14 February Fr Josy
 21 February Fr Prathap
 28 February To be organised



DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS PHILIP WILSON

Archbishop Philip Wilson, who served as Bishop of Wollongong and Archbishop of Adelaide during 45 years of priestly ministry, died suddenly in Adelaide on Sunday, Jan 17, aged 70.

Archbishop Wilson's funeral will be held on 3 February at 11.00am at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. Because of Covid restrictions it is by invitation only, but will be live-streamed for those not able to attend - YouTube and the Archdiocesan web www.adelaide.catholic.org.au.

"THE SOUTHERN CROSS"

The February edition of "The Southern Cross" will be out February 6/7 and will include a tribute to Archbishop Philip Wilson.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This year Ash Wednesday is on 17 February.

Ash Wednesday is exactly 46 days before Easter Sunday (a moveable

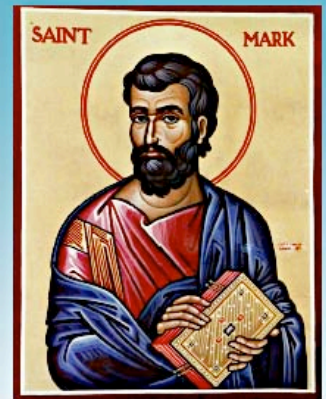
feast, based on the cycles of the moon). The earliest date Ash Wednesday can occur is 4 February, which is only possible during a common year with Easter on 22 March. This happened in 1598, 1693, 1761 and 1818 and will next occur in 2285.

The latest date Ash Wednesday can occur is 10 March when Easter Day falls on 25 April, which occurred in 1666, 1734, 1886 and 1943 and will next occur in 2038.

Since the introduction of the Gregorian calendar in 1582, Ash Wednesday has never occurred on Leap Year Day (29 February) but it will do so for the first time in 2096. The only other years of the third millennium that will have Ash Wednesday on 29 February are 2468, 2688, 2840 and 2992. Ash Wednesday falls on 29 February only if Easter is on 15 April in a leap year starting on a Sunday.

(With thanks to Wikipedia)

Three Lenten E-Retreats with Mark's Gospel



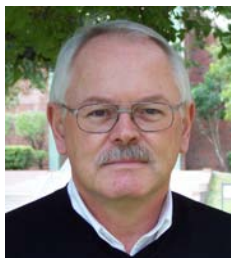
Lead by Rev Dr Michael Trainor

The story of Jesus' death and resurrection offers a profound narrative to retreat with Jesus in his suffering, death and resurrection and explore its meaning for ourselves during Lent 2021. It offers a wonderful spiritual preparation for Holy Week.

Join in via Zoom to these three e-retreats on Saturday mornings, 10-11am:

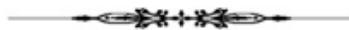
- **Saturday 6 March:** Jesus' last meal and his Gethsemane agony (Mk 14.1-52)
- **Saturday 13 March:** Jesus' religious and civic trials (Mk 14.53-15.20)
- **Saturday 20 March:** Jesus' death and resurrection (Mk 15.21-16.8)

If you would like to join me for these three one-hour sessions, send me your email address (to my email: michael.trainor@acu.edu.au), and I shall forward the ZOOM link for each of the three sessions. Log into Zoom at least 15 minutes before 10am, so that we are all ready to commence precisely on the hour.



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.



GOD CANNOT TELL A LIE

Lying is the most pernicious of evils, the most dangerous of sins, the worst of blasphemes, and the one sin that can be unforgivable. Perhaps we need to be reminded of that today, given our present culture where we are in danger of losing the very idea of reality and truth. Nothing is more dangerous.

There's a line buried deep in scripture that is too seldom quoted. The *Letter to the Hebrews* states simply: *It is impossible for God to lie.* (Hebrews 6, 18) It could not be otherwise. God is Truth, so how could God lie? For God to lie would be a denial of God's very nature. Consequently, for us to lie is to go directly against God. Lying is the definition of irreverence and blasphemy. It is an affront to the nature of God.

If we are aware of that, we haven't taken it seriously lately. Everywhere, from countless social media tweets, texts, and blogs to the highest offices of government, business, and even the church, we are seeing an ever-deteriorating relationship with reality and truth. Lying and creating one's own truth have become socially acceptable (to a frightening degree). What's changed? Haven't we always lied? Who among us can say that he or she has never told a lie or falsified information in one way or another? What's different today?

What's different today is that, until our generation, you could be caught in a lie, shamed for telling it, forced to accept your own dishonesty. No longer. Today our relationship with truth is fracturing to a degree that we no longer distinguish, morally or practically, between a lie and the truth. A lie, now, is simply another modality of truth.

What's the net effect of this? We are

living it. Its effects are everywhere. First, it has broken down a shared sense of reality where, as a community, we no longer have a common epistemology and a shared sense of right and wrong. People no longer relate to reality in the same way. One person's truth is the other person's lie. It is becoming impossible to define what constitutes a lie.

This doesn't just destroy trust among us; worse, it plays with our sanity and with some of the deeper moral and religious chromosomes inside us. As I wrote in this column several months ago, we believe that there are four transcendental properties to God. We teach that God is *One, True, Good, and Beautiful*. Because God is *One*, whole and consistent, there can never be any internal contradictions within God. This might sound abstract and academic, *but this is what anchors our sanity*. We are sane and remain sane only because we can always trust that two plus two equals four, ever and always. God's *Oneness* is what anchors that. If that should ever change, then the peg that moors our sanity would be removed. Once two plus two can equal something other than four, then nothing can be securely known or trusted ever again. That's the ultimate danger in what's happening today. We are unmooring our psyche.

The next danger in lying is what it does to those of us who lie. Fyodor Dostoevsky *sums it up succinctly*: "People who lie to themselves and listen to their own lie come to such a pass that they cannot distinguish the truth within them, or around them, and so lose all respect for themselves and for others. And having no respect, they cease to love." Jordan Peterson would add this: If we lie long enough "after that comes the arrogance and sense of superiority

that inevitably accompanies the production of successful lies (hypothetically successful lies – and that is one of the greatest dangers: apparently everyone is fooled, so everyone is stupid, except me. Everyone is stupid, and fooled, by me – so I can get away with whatever I want). Finally, there is the proposition: *'Being itself is susceptible to my manipulation.* Thus, it deserves no respect.'"

Jesus' warning in John's Gospel is the strongest of all. He tells us that if we lie long enough we will eventually believe our own lies and confuse falsehood for the truth and truth for falsehood, and that becomes an unforgivable sin (a "blasphemy against the Holy Spirit) because the person who's lying no longer wants to be forgiven.

Finally, lying breaks down trust among us. Trust is predicated on the belief that we all accept that two plus two equals four, that we all accept there is such a thing as reality, that we all accept that reality can be falsified by a lie, and that we all accept that a lie is falsehood and not just another modality of truth. Lying destroys that trust.

Living in a world that plays fast and easy with reality and truth also plays on our loneliness. George Eliot once asked: *"What loneliness is more lonely than distrust?"* So true. *The loneliest loneliness of all is the loneliness of distrust.* Welcome to our not-so-brave new world.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Current for 23/24 January)

- Attendance for Mass is capped at 100 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Funerals are capped at 200 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Weddings are capped at 200 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Singing as a congregation is to be avoided.
- Except for families and household groups, people should socially distance. There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group.
- There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details - either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log - both located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrances.
- Offertory procession will be omitted. Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed
- Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- Care should be taking at the dismissal and on leaving the church to minimise social contact.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.

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(Continued from page 1)

unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

EXPLORING THE WORD

This is the first of the miracles of Jesus recounted in Mark's Gospel and it is a significant introduction to the person of Jesus and the power he possesses. Only a few verses earlier, at his baptism, Jesus had been revealed as the beloved Son of God. In this short text, Mark contrasts Jesus and the authority of his teaching with that of the scribes. Jesus teaches in such a way that he makes a deep impression on his hearers. Clearly, this is because his authority and his wisdom come from God. Whilst his human audience may still be unclear as to the true identity of Jesus, this is not the case with his 'other-worldly' audience: the unclean spirits know exactly who Jesus is—the Holy One of God—and they recognise his authority and obey his command. They know that the power of the Almighty is greater than the power of the evil one.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In the ancient world many forms of mental illness were attributed to being possessed by 'evil spirits'.
- In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is often presented in confrontational

situations with evil spirits, with the Jewish authorities and even with his own disciples when they fail to understand who he is and what his mission entails.

- This text shows that where absolute good is, evil cannot remain.

SHARING THE TRADITION

In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the catechetical process is often begun or concluded with a 'Prayer of Exorcism'. Our understanding of what is meant by this term may be clouded by 'Hollywood' representations of casting out demonic possessors. The Rite itself suggests that the prayers of exorcism 'draw the attention of the catechumens to the real nature of Christian life, the struggle between flesh and spirit, the importance of self-denial for reaching the blessedness of God's Kingdom, and the unending need for God's help'. The question of how a good and gracious God can allow the existence of evil in the world is one which has been debated for centuries.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(29 January - 4 February)

- **Monday, 29:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (2 Sam 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20)
- **Tuesday, 30:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (2 Sam 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43)
- **Wednesday, 31:** St John Bosco (2 Sam 24:1, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6)
- **Thursday, 1:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (1 Kg 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13)
- **Friday, 2:** The Presentation of the Lord (Malachi 3:1-4; Lk 2:22-40)
- **Saturday, 3:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (1 Kg 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34)
- **Sunday 4:** FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).