

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
YEAR C



2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

*“St Thomas More Parish, Ruse, is a Christ-centred Catholic Community that is committed to living Gospel Values, united by faith as we bring God’s Kingdom to life. Our Mission is to welcome all, and respect and support each other in our spiritual journey. We encourage the gifts of people in building our community*

*Our Parish is wheelchair friendly. We have ramps going into the Church and into the Parish Hall. Please let your family and friends know. “Anymore who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”*  
**Matthew 10:40**

**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS:** If you require Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion please see Fr Michael *before* Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Can you please supervise your children in the Church courtyard and Chelsea House (Parish Hall). They are **not** permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church **and** Chelsea House (Parish Hall), the surrounding trees and the garden in the courtyard. Supervision is your responsibility. **We cannot accept liability for a child hurting themselves if they engage in these activities.**



**ADVENT 2018-2019:** This weekend we begin the Church’s New Year with the First Sunday of Advent Year C.

**ADVENT SEASON:** “Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This ‘vigilance’ means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living ‘wait’. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today’s reading to the Romans: ‘Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed”

**WE WELCOME INTO OUR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:**

**Nicolas and Adrian Pal, Corbyn John Williams** who were Baptised last weekend.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:** Pedro Manalili Santos.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr John Whitty, Richard Parisi, Roge Beshoy(baby), Maureen Hennessy, Jessica & Ella Channon, Maria Byron, Elaine Hoffmann Ellen Healy, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Maureen Wyer, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

**PARISHIONER’S BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR THIS COMING WEEK:**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Beryl Purcell, **6<sup>th</sup>** Joe Berbari

**5<sup>th</sup>:** Maureen & Kerry Hennessy (48 years)

**IF ANY PARISHIONER/S:** would like to have their Birthdays and/or Wedding Anniversaries included in the Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office: 4628 2967 or email: [ruse@dow.org.au](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au)

**PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** Tickets will go on sale for this Parish Fundraiser the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> December and will be drawn on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday)) at the morning tea after the 9.00am Mass. We have 6 fantastic prizes and tickets are \$1.00 each. **Please support this Parish Fundraiser.**



**ROSE SUNDAY,** the Third Sunday of Advent, is the midpoint Of our preparation for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus. It is a time to encourage each other in our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

**You are invited to attend the 9am Mass on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, and join in a special Morning Tea following Mass.** This will be in Chelsea House (Parish Hall). Please place your name and number attending on the clipboard at the back of the Church. Alternately, please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 or email to [ruse@dow.org.au](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au).

**It would be appreciated if you are able to bring a plate of food to share.**

**SAVIOUR: ADVENT PROGRAM 2018 BOOK:** *Is available for \$3.50 per copy from our Parish Piety Stall.* It begins the 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent and concludes the Baptism of the Lord. Advent is such a busy time of year and we so easily forget that—at its heart—it is meant to be a time of preparation, waiting and hope for the coming of Jesus into our world and lives. **Saviour** is a 76-page pocket-size book containing short spiritually rich, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (2 December 2018) through to the Baptism of the Lord (13 January 2019) primarily for personal use.

**PARISH IESSE TREE – THANK YOU:** To all who have taken Christmas Tags from the Tree. As Fr Michael said last week, each tag represents a Child whose family is assisted by our Vinnies Conference. If possible, could all gifts be returned next weekend, as the St Vincent de Paul Members will be distributing the gifts the following week. If you are unable to bring them to the Church next weekend, they may be dropped in to the Office during normal business hours.

**THANK YOU TO THE MANY PARISHIONERS IN THE VARIOUS PARISH MINISTRIES:** for the giving of their time and talents for our Parish. You are greatly appreciated. Acolyte’s, Sacristan’s (including the washing/ironing of the Church Linen), Church Cleaner’s, Flower arrangers, Musician’s (all Choir’s), Powerpoint Creator and operator’s, Extraordinary Ministers Of Communion, Usher’s, Parish Counter’s, Catechist’s, Sacramental Team, Children’s Liturgy Teacher’s, Baptism Preparation, Parish Ladies Group, St Vincent de Paul, Refreshments after Mass groups, and the many other Parish Ministry Groups. *Thank you*

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY 2018:** Is held at the beginning of the Sunday 9.00am Mass (during School Terms).

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME:** Is held every Tuesday (during School Terms) from 9.30am – 11.30am in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) and is a gold coin donation.

**PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:** The Catholic Bishops of Australia have asked us to respond to 3 questions about the future of the church. **1.** What do you think god is asking of us in Australia at this time? **2.** What questions do you have about the future of the church for the plenary council to consider in 2020? **3.** Do you have a story of your experience of faith, or the church you would like to share?

**You are invited to:**

Join a small group discussion, provide written feedback or make a submission on line. Our Parish local animator is: Mike Young

**PARISH COLLECTIONS IN THE CHURCH:** We depend on your generosity to make ends meet for the support of our Parish.

**The First Collection:** (at the Offertory) for our Parish Priest and the running of the Presbytery

**The Second Collection:** (after Communion) for Parish costs, insurance, bills (phone, gas, electricity, water etc) office operations etc.

**If you are not part of our Parish Planned Giving Program, then please consider joining.** If you are new to our Parish, please consider joining.

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Please take home a copy of our Parish Catholic Primary School Newsletter.

**ST LUKE – EVANGELIST OF THE HOSPITALITY OF GOD**

**WITH FR BRENDAN BYRNE SJ:** Tuesday 4 December, 7:30pm-9:30pm, St John the Evangelist Parish Hall, 35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown. The presentation will discuss the overall vision of St Luke — the great Story teller of the New Testament — and discuss scenes from the Gospel that illustrate Jesus’ quest to recall humanity to the Hospitable Home of the Father. This will be an engaging and informative presentation by one of Australia’s foremost scripture scholars and assist us in preparing to reflect upon Luke’s Gospel during the liturgical year of 2019. *Please RSVP by 3 December to Helen Bennett on 4222 2403 or [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au)*

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:** *The Parish has a Parish Rosary Statue that Parishioners are able to have in their homes and prayer the Rosary as a family.* If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry and have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home during 2018, **please phone Bev on: 4625 0659.**

**Parish Diary Dates:**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December:** Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 7.30pm in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) last meeting for 2018. Would like to see all members in attendance please  
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** *Retiree’s Social Group Gathering* after the 9.30am Mass in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) (all Retiree’s over 55 are most welcome), come for a chat, laugh and a cuppa

**PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

- EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Bev

McKenzie & Maureen Molland

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9.00am Mass: Loretta & Lafitaga Tuigamala

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Trish Newman & James Munro

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9,00am Mass: Faye Faamau & Julie Writer

- READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Julie McKenzie & Marisel King

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9.00am Mass: Cecile Marot & Marian Cross

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9.00am Mass: Feyise & Tess Writer

- USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Vicki Horn

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Saturday Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Sunday 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley

- CHURCH CLEANERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Group 4: Maureen Molland, Colleen Jablonskis, Rosa Herrera, Manual Herrera

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Group

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY 9.00am MASS:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday) Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December: All donations would be welcome to share with Parishioners and Visitors who attend this Mass

**Eric Genuis Concert at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Ruse, 8 March 2019, 7pm.**

**Looking for a Christmas gift for the person who has everything? Why not buy them tickets to an experience you can share as well as help your Parish community?**

A rare opportunity to listen to a pianist of exceptional talent who brings with him a world class violinist, cellist and soprano playing in our parish church. The ‘Opera House’ is coming to our parish! All original compositions together with powerful testimonies outlining the inspiration behind each piece with true stories of life transformations destined to make a deep impression upon all who hear them. A message of hope for all. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession; \$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at. [www.ericgenuistour.com](http://www.ericgenuistour.com)  
Next weekend of (8/9 Dec) Fr Mark De Battista will be here promoting the concert in our parish. A parish event not to be missed. Your support will support our parish.

*With kind regards,*

*Fr Michael.*

