23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



10th September 2017

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, welcome 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 Parish Hall. They are not permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church and the 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.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS FROM OUR PARISH: We currently have 2 Acolyte's who visit Parishioners and bring them Communion every Tuesday to those who are ill or elderly and unable to come to Mass. Please encourage them (or a family member) to contact either Fr Michael or the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

The Parishioners of our Parish would like to congratulate the 56 children who will be making the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this weekend.

Thank you to the many people (Teachers and Families) who have prepared the Children for this Sacrament.

Thank you on behalf of the First Holy Communion Candidates and their families: to the Sacristan's who have prepared the Church, to the Church Cleaners, to the Musicians who have played especially for the Holy Communion Masses this weekend, to the PowerPoint creator who created the Power Points for this weekend also to the many people behind the scenes. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated by all who attended the First Holy Communion Masses this weekend.

<u>PARISH PIETY STALL:</u> We have *ample new stock* available for sale eg: Baptism gifts, Rosary Beads etc. The Piety Stall is *open after the Sunday 9.00am Mass*.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr David Catterall, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Faleniko Tiatele, Maureen Wyer, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Elaine Hoffmann, Natalie Dwyer, Aimiti Seufatu, Robert Berthaly, John Hill, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Eric Hughes (R.D), Peter Giannetti (Anniv), Loreta & Dominico Gianetti, Gine & Emilia Dicesare, George Daley, Danny Harper, Bernard Hoffmann, Lena Pereira, Fr Tony Daly, Keith Gomes, Ladislav Feher, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris and Maria Cabonara. Eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Belated Parishioner's Birthday's:

5th: Anica Michelutti

Parishioner's Birthdays this coming week:

11th: Denise Goodall and Samuel McMurray

14th: Col Davis

Parishioner's Wedding Anniversary this coming week:

11th: John and Bertha Berbari (39 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.ora.au

2016 NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY RESULT FOR OUR PARISH:

How People relate to Each Other:

77% of people have a strong sense of belonging to this parish71% found it easy to make friends within this Parish

People of this parish are involved in various Parish Groups:

18% small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups

35% Clubs, social groups or other groups

14% Outreach or evangelisation activities

28% Community service, social justice or welfare activities These results are from the 140 forms (Adults) and 10 (Child forms) that were completed in November last year. Attenders could select up to 3 options so percentages may not add up to 100%.

PARISH LADIES GROUP: FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE: We thank you for your generous and continuous support of our Parish fundraising - all funds are going towards the "revamping" of our Parish Hall. Congratulations to our winners who are: Kerry Hennessy, Elwyn Spencer, Maureen Hennessy, Hardwick Family, Trish Newman, Martin, Mick Young, Sophie King and Kerry Christopher.

PARISH LADIES GROUP: SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 29th October: Parish Ladies Group High Tea (over 18) 12noon - 2.00pm. The cost is \$15.00 per head. RSVP is Sunday 15th October. An enjoyable afternoon will be had by all. There is a clipboard on the main table at the entrance to the Church (table is located the closest to the Church entrance ramp)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is held during the 9.00am Sunday morning Mass (during School Terms) and is for *school aged children - Kindergarten to Year 6 (inclusive)*. If you would like more information on this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on 0421 802 132.

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME: Is held on Tuesday's (during School Terms) from 9.30am - 11.30am in our Parish Hall. *Gold coin donation.* Parents/Guardians/Grandparents, if you have children including School aged and bubs, come for a chat and cuppa while the children enjoy playtime activities. If you have any enquiries please contact Catherine on 4627 1842.

THE RETIREES SOCIAL GROUP: Would like to invite senior parishioners (over 55) to join our group in the hall after 9.30am Mass (Thursday's). We meet twice a month. *Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.*

CHURCH CLEANING: Our Parish Church has been cleaned by a faithful number of Parishioners for many, many years. We need help from other Parishioners who have at least an hour either on a Saturday morning or Friday to assist with the cleaning. Many hands make lighter work. Please help out. The current roster is about to run out. Please put your name etc on the clipboard on the table at the entrance of the Church. The gift of your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

PARISH MAINTENANCE: A reminder regarding the Parish Maintenance book on the main table at the entrance of the Church. You can either write in the book or phone/email the Parish Office, if you are aware or notice anything that is in need of repair.

PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: We are always grateful to those who contribute through Planned Giving. It gives us a good basis of finance to plan Parish Apostolate. If anyone would like to join this method of contributions to Parish, please call Parish Office.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Save the date:

Saturday 7th October: St Thomas More School Shopping bus trip: leaving the Church grounds at 7.00am. Numbers and payment have to be in by Tuesday 19th September. Please take a flyer on the tables at the entrance of the Church, please take one or more. This is a most enjoyable fun day.

Please take home a School Newsletter to keep up to date with what is happening. They are located on all the tables at the entrance to the Church.

POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON "SAME-SEX MARRIAGE"

ANNOUNCED: The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include "same-sex marriage". Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. To keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man, vote NO.

BISHOPS' SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT ON THE

ECONOMY: We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 24 September. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2017 is titled: 'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'. For further details about the Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, please phone Bev on:

4625 0659. "When you prayer the Rosary, you have our Lady's hand in your hand. When you pray the Holy Rosary you have the power of God in your hand".

PARISH DIARY DATES:

Monday 11th September: *7.00pm* Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre

Tuesday 12th September: *7.30pm* St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre

Wednesday 20th September: *7.30pm* Parish Finance Council meeting in the Parish Centre

Thursday 21st September: Retiree's Social Group gathering is *after the 9.30am Mass.* (*Any Retirees over the age of 55 are warmly welcome to join this group*). Gathering is held in the Parish Hall. (see notice)

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

 16^{th} September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Winnie Cameron & Bertha Berbari

17th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Catherine Minogue

23rd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland & Bev McKenzie

24th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Julie Writer & Annette Read

READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

16th September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie & David Minogue

17th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman & Chelsea Gaut

23rd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: David Minogue & Pauline Menzies

24th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chelsea Gaut & Christine Foreman

USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

16th September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro 17th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman 23rd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: HELP REQUIRED 24th September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Saturday 16^{th} September: Syro-Malabar Indian Community Saturday 23^{rd} September: Tongan Community

REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY 9.00am MASS: Sunday

17th **September:** Group 3: Julie Writer, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy and Rosalie Vine

