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**CATHOLIC CHURCH - DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG**

**St. THOMAS MORE PARISH, RUSE**  
 WELCOMES YOU  
 Parish Priest: Fr Michael Healy

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN  
 ORDINARY TIME YEAR A  
 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

**FIRST READING -**

**Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31.**  
 A reading from the book of Proverbs.

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit.

Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle.

She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.  
**(R.) Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.**

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **(R.)**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING -**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-6.**  
 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians  
 You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as

suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord.

**(R.) Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL READING -**

**Matthew 25:14-30.**  
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you

with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**(R.) Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**REFLECTION - by Fr Michael Tate.**  
 God's plan for human happiness is mostly frustrated by a good person burying his or her personality traits, what one might call one's talents, which is really to bury oneself and to become invisible. In the old language of my schoolboy catechism, we should be concerned not just with sins of commission, but with sins of omission – failure of courage, failure to take risks, failure to put everything on the line with the personality and the moment in time given to you and to me. As Shakespeare says in Julius Caesar: "There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in stillness and in miseries." The Divine Tide is flowing through human history. We should trust ourselves to that tide which can carry us to the shores of Heaven. Failure to take risks leads to Hellish stillness and miseries. We could pause for a moment to pray that we might use our talents so as to hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant ... come and join in your Master's happiness.'



*"Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25:20-21.*



**MASS TIMES**

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 9.30am. - Mass.  
**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 9.30am. - Mass.  
**THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 9.30am. - Mass.  
**FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 9.30am. - Mass.

**RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 Saturday Vigil for  
**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR A**  
 6.00pm. - Mass.  
**SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR A**  
 9.00am. - Mass.

**ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH DIRECTORY**



43 Acacia Avenue, Ruse NSW 2560  
 P. O. Box 200N Campbelltown North 2560  
 PARISH PRIEST  
**Fr Michael Healy**  
 PARISH OFFICE  
**Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro**  
**(TUES-FRI) 9.00am - 3.30pm**  
 Telephone: 46 282967  
 Email: ruse@dow.org.au  
 Website: www.stmruse.org.au  
 Facebook: St Thomas More Catholic Parish Church, Ruse.

mtate@bigpond.com



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro  
**TUESDAY - FRIDAY**  
 9.00am - 3.30pm

Parish ☎: 4628 2967  
 Email: ruse@dow.org.au  
 School ☎: 4625 6561

**STEWARDSHIP**

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN  
 ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

*The "worthy wife" described in today's first reading is a perfect example of active stewardship, reaching out her hands to the poor and extending her arms to the needy.*

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**  
**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR A**

**First Reading:**  
**Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17.**  
*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*

**Second Reading:**  
**1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28.**  
*He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.*

**Gospel Reading:**  
**Matthew 25:31-46.**  
*He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

**ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY**



St Elizabeth of Hungary was the daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary. In 1221 she married Prince Louis of Thuringa at the age of thirteen. She built a hospital and cared for the sick herself, despite opposition from her family and the royal court. A legend arose that once when she was taking food to the poor, her husband

stopped her and looked under her mantle to see what she was carrying, only to find that the food had miraculously been changed to roses. After the death of her husband, St Elizabeth was driven from the court by her brother-in-law after she refused to marry again. In 1228 she became a Franciscan tertiary and continued her work with the poor and sick, but after only a few years of austere living, she died at the early age of twenty four.

**HUMOUR CORNER**

**SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD.....**

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present "Seven Wonders of the World." Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
2. Taj Mahal
3. Grand Canyon
4. Panama Canal
5. Empire State Building
6. St. Peter's Basilica
7. China's Great Wall

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one quiet student hadn't turned in her paper yet. So she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list.

The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many."

The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the 'Seven Wonders of the World' are:

1. to see
2. to hear
3. to touch
4. to taste
5. to feel
6. to laugh
7. and to love."

The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. Just a gentle reminder - that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.

"Each day comes bearing its own gifts -- learn to untie the ribbons."



15th November 2020

**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.*

*"Any more who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."*

*Matthew 10:40*

**DO YOU WISH TO ATTEND A WEEKEND MASS?**

You cannot just turn up for Mass as previously!!

**YOU HAVE TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH OFFICE BY THE FRIDAY (12noon) BEFORE THE WEEKEND MASSES.**

**We are unable to accommodate more than 70 in our church, and it will not be possible to admit parishioners who have not pre-registered.**

Please arrive early for Mass (at least 15 minutes beforehand). Church doors are locked as Mass begins, No collections are taken up at Mass. Usual Parish Collection donations can be placed in the baskets provided on the table at the Church entrance door. If you are elderly (70 years +) or not feeling well, the ruling states that, (for your own safety) YOU MUST STAY AT HOME.

After entering the Church for Mass, your hands will be sanitized and your temperature taken. (This is obligatory) then a Monitor will show you to a seat, where **Social distancing (4 sq meters)** must be strictly observed, (except for people of the same house-hold). Holy Communion (in a single file) **must** be Received in the hand **Nobody** will be permitted to socially assemble in the courtyard before, during and after Mass.

**ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND:** This collection is taken up on Good Friday but due to COVID-19, it will now be held in our Diocese as an online collection this weekend, World Day of the Poor. For further information and donations please go to: <https://www.dow.org.au/giving/holy-land-collection/>

**NOVEMBER: The Month of the Holy Souls:** Is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead. Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: sacramental confession, eucharistic communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions. (Norms 15,7) *There is a Sacred Space set up with the Book for the Deceased. If you would like to have your loved ones included please print their names clearly on: the envelope provided in your Planned Giving Envelopes, or on an envelope/paper and either hand to Fr Michael, put in the collection baskets (at the entrance to the Church) or the Parish Office or just email the Parish Office [ruse@dow.org.au](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au). Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. And may the Souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace Amen*

**CONFIRMATION:** Please keep in your prayers the 32 Candidates, their families and the Sacramental Team as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation is next Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020.

**BAPTISM:** If you wish for your child/ren to be Baptised in our Parish, please contact the Parish Office during Office Hours, so that a suitable date can be arranged for the celebration. Due to COVID-19 we are currently having only 1 Baptism per Sunday.

**WE WELCOME into our Christian Community:**

**Phoenix Ryan Storey** who was Baptised in our Parish last weekend.

**PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S:**

21<sup>st</sup> Nov: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community  
28<sup>th</sup> Nov: Group 3: Christine Foreman, Christine Charlton, James & Carmel Munro

We are in urgent need of Church Cleaner's. Due to COV-19 one of our Cleaning Groups has dropped down to only 1 Parishioner, this is a lot for only 1 person and another Group hasn't been coming.

If you have a spare ½ hour approximately every 6 weeks during the week or Saturday morning, please consider joining this Parish Ministry. Please contact the Parish Office for more details. *Thanking you in anticipation.*

**FOR ANY PARISHIONERS:** who 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).

**Parishioner's Birthday this coming week:**

17<sup>th</sup>: **Trish Newman & Natalie Vossen**, 18<sup>th</sup>: **Elizabeth Cross**

**PARISH COLLECTIONS:** With the current situation it is imperative that you please keep up your weekly contributions, as the Parish runs on a limited budget and without these regular contributions to both the First and Second Collections, we will be in real financial difficulties.

For this reason, I strongly encourage parishioners who currently give by envelope to change to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions (please read the following notice on how to arrange this or contact the Parish Office) to ensure the regular income of the parish continues. **I Thank you.** Otherwise, please drop your Planned Giving Envelope Contribution into the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave, each week. Please don't forget the first collection for the sustenance of the clergy (as we still have to live too!) For this collection please place your donation in a plain envelope and mark it 'FIRST COLLECTION' and drop it in the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave.

**ELECTRONIC PARISH PLANNED GIVING:** Parishes are urgently needing the ongoing financial support of parishioners more than ever, as their overhead costs will not change. The majority of parishioners give physically to their parish in the first and second collection baskets during Mass, we are encouraging all parishioners to join the electronic parish planned giving program. The Diocese have created a page with 2 simple options for parishioners to give to their local parish electronically. You can view the page and forms at the following link: <https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving>. If you have any questions about the form, please contact the CDF Wollongong: Trevor Kellam at [trevor.kellam@dow.org.au](mailto:trevor.kellam@dow.org.au)

**PARISH READER'S:** Thank you to the "fill in Reader's" during these uncertain/difficulty times, you are greatly appreciated. As some or maybe most of you are aware that our Reader's Roster for 2020 has not been strictly followed since Mass celebration came back with relevant restriction policies in place.

Due to required weekend Mass pre-registration, the Parish has had to temporarily assign/select readers based on those who pre-register to attend the weekend Masses. We are still unsure when this current system will cease but we are looking to do a temporary roster until Easter next year (2021).

I am reaching out to you to kindly ask if you are attending Mass and volunteer to read, under the present conditions. If you can let me know so we can take note who to approach to read.

Also, please note that Christmas is fast approaching and we will need a special roster for Christmas Masses. Kindly let me know as well if you are available to read.

May: [maalamiel@gmail.com](mailto:maalamiel@gmail.com)

*Thank you and God bless everyone! May*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** For the *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Chris Hayes, Tresora Wyer, Trish Spackman, Katy Carolan, Jan Vaughan, Peter Gabas, Ron Fredericks, Kathleen Sidebottom, Kerry Walker, Jessica Nilsson, David Jabour, Dennis Jabour, Samantha Glover, Shirley Starr, Kenny Wilson, Antonio David, Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Steve Foreman, Luke Van Der Burg, Briege Glover, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Betty Berthon, Moria Harris, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Mary Fredericks and Flynn Griffiths.

**2020 World Mission Appeal:** For more details and/or to donate please either Freecall: 1800 257 296 or email: [catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia](mailto:catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia)

**2021 COLUMBAN ART CALANDAR:** Are available from either the Parish Office (during Office hours) or from the Monitor's at weekend Masses. This makes a terrific Christmas gift at the bargain price of \$9.00 each.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Are available for sale from the Parish Office, during Office Hours. We have plenty of stock available.

**THANKYOU:** Parishioner's and Visitor's to our Parish Masses during the week and weekends, who help with the santising of their seats plus the many areas that are touched eg: door handles, the Lectern, Sactuary etc. **To the Parishioner's who have kindly donated: sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and face masks.**

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Please contact the School Office on 4625 6561 for School enquiries. To keep up-to-date with the happenings in our Parish Catholic Primary School please use this link to read their School newsletter:

<https://stmdow.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=50>

**AROUND THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG**

**DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG MASS ONLINE:** For all of the online Mass options – please visit the Dow website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>. Members of the faithful are urged to keep holy the Lord's Day by making an act of Spiritual Communion.

**THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG WEEKLY PODCAST:** The Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast – 'The Journey' – 15<sup>th</sup> November: Uploaded every Friday for free download – go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au)

**MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE REQUIRES CASUAL CLEANERS FOR 2021:** Successful applicants will need to be: fit, able to handle tasks involving lifting and carrying, and be able to work independently, and also harmoniously in a team environment. **Please call, John Ransom, for further information, on: 0435 857 690.**

**YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE:** Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong LIVE -Check it out at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdC-Q7-OVY>. great way. To get in touch with the NET team and be part of this, simply follow the "CYMW" Facebook page or by Instagram at "wollongongnetteam".

**PRAYER RESOURCES for INDIVIDUALS and FAMILIES:** These include daily prayers and readings, prayer services, the Sunday Office commentaries, homilies and reflections plus a lot more. Go to: [liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray](http://liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray) and follow the prompts to access.

**FAITH CIRCLES:** free small group resource: Is available to download at [www.faithcircles.dow.org.au](http://www.faithcircles.dow.org.au) or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

**FORMED:** Would you like to nurture your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting [Darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au](mailto:Darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au) or [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au).

**PRAYER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGARORY:**

*Remember those, O Lord, Who in your peace have died, Yet may not gain love's high reward Till love is purified.*



*With you they faced death's night, Sealed with your victory sign. Soon may the splendour of your light On them for ever shine.*

*Your love is their great joy; You will their one desire; As finest gold without alloy Refine them in love's fire.*

*For them we humbly pray: Perfect them in your love. O may we share eternal day With them in heaven above.*

Amen