

24<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
THE YEAR OF MERCY

**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.  
"Anyone who welcomes you, welcome me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me".  
Matthew 10:40"*

**GLUTEN FREE HOSTS (ALTAR BREAD):** If you require *Gluten Free Hosts* for Holy Communion please see Fr Tony before Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

**IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN OUR PARISH:** *Who is ill/or unable to come to Mass and would like to have Holy Communion please either let Fr Tony or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. We have 2 Acolyte's and Fr Tony who take Communion to the ill/elderly and/or housebound.*

**IMPORTANT FEAST DAYS FOR 2016:**

**Ash Wednesday:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
**Pentecost Sunday:** 15<sup>th</sup> May  
**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of obligation):** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August

**LENT:**

**Ash Wednesday:** 10<sup>th</sup> February:  
9.00am Mass and Ashes  
7.30pm Mass and Ashes  
*Stations of the Cross will be every Friday evening during Lent in the Parish Church at 7.30pm*

**MERCY: Lenten Program 2016:** There is a clipboard on the back table of the Church, if you would like to host a Lenten group or attend please put your name down with your contact details. Or if you wish to purchase a book and/or Triple CD Resource (Digital download) please contact Jennifer on 4222 2411 or email at [orders@dow.org.au](mailto:orders@dow.org.au).

**WELCOME BACK to our Parish School Children who will commence their school Year for 2016 this coming week. "You shall reap what you sow"**

**PIETY STALL:** Has available for sale "The Little Black Book" – Six-minute reflections on the Weekday Gospels for Lent. They are available for \$4.00 each.

**CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** Great value for only \$2.00 each, many interesting articles for your perusal.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Mario Sala, Maree and Noel Laming, Kerry Hennessy, Betty White, Rita Jowsey, Anna Kovac, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Stevie Dilen, Bill Eccleston, Candice Walker, Chris Noyce, Ethan Craig, Leo Cornwell, Doreen Monckton, Mary Smith, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Tina Ting, Beryl Purcell, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Natalie Dwyer, and Mary Fredericks.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:** Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Fr George Ryan (R.D.) (past Parish Priest at Eaglevale), Dominico Marfia (R.D.), Mark Wilson (R.D.), Genie Lynch (Anniv), Michael Bartolo, Barry Ford, Eileen (Connie) Daly, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Mary Writer, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Bernard Hoffmann, and Maria Cabonara. *May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

**Parishioners' Birthday for this week:**

26<sup>th</sup>: Bill Fabry  
28<sup>th</sup>: Christine Foreman

**Parishioners Wedding Anniversary for this week:**

25<sup>th</sup>: Noel and Maree Laming (58 years)  
*If any Parishioner/s would like to have their Birthdays and or Wedding Anniversaries included in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 or [ruse@dow.org.au](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au)*

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL TEAM:** We are looking for interested people to join the Parish Sacramental Team. This Ministry prepares candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation which are: Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. This is a very rewarding form of Catechises (teaching).

*Our first meeting is to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and will be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre. Please see Fr Tony for any enquiries.*

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2016:**

**First Reconciliation:** (For Baptised children in Year 3 and above). **Parent/Carer Information Night: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Parent's/Carer's have to attend for your child to make this Sacrament. Classes will commence on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**First Holy Communion (Eucharist):** (For Baptised Children in Year 3 and above and have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation). **Parent/Carer Information Night: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Parent's/Carer's have to attend for your child to make this Sacrament. Classes will commence on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Confirmation:** Date to be announced.

*If you have any enquiries regarding any of the Sacraments please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.*

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2016:** Is returning next Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> January) during the 9.00am Mass. This is for School aged children from Kindergarten to Year 6 inclusive. If you would like more information on this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on: 0421802132.

**RETURNING OF OLD EASTER PALMS:** Ash Wednesday is fast approaching (Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Feb), if you have any Palms that you wish to return please either leave them in the basket (near where the Catholic Weekly is sold) or the Parish Office (during Office Hours) by the 7<sup>th</sup> February. Thanking you in anticipation.

**THANK YOU:** To the Parishioners who have been spreading the mulch around the Church carpark garden areas and also to the Parishioners who came and gurneyed the courtyard pebblecrete during the week. The gift of your time is greatly appreciated.

**PARISH PLANNED GIVING:** Planned Giving is essential to the running costs of the Parish Did you know that you can contribute in several ways: Weekly Envelopes, Direct Debit from your Bank Account, Direct Credit by electronically transferring funds (EFT) from your Bank Account direct to the St Thomas More Church Account.

Irregular contributions. (The Direct Credit facility is new and means that you control when you contribute but you need to join the Planned Giving Program to ensure that your contribution is recognized in our Finance System.) *If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program please contact the Parish Office on 46282867 or e-mail: [ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org.au](mailto:ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org.au). Thank you.*

**CALLED TO MINISTRY?** Have you considered serving our parish as an Acolyte, Adult Altar Server, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? The 2016 Diocesan Training courses in these ministries are scheduled for **Saturday 13 February**, with institution and commissioning ceremonies to be held during May. More information about these ministries on the website <http://www.liturgydow.org.au/ministry.html>. You can express your interest in any of these ministries using the form at: <http://www.liturgydow.org.au/expression-of-interest.html>.

The times for each of the Ministry training are:  
**Acolytes and Adult Altar Servers:** 10am - 4pm.  
**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

10am - 1pm

**Sacramental Preparation Coordinators and Team Members (Special In-Service)** 20 February 2016, 10am - 1pm

All the training will be held at: Xavier Conference Centre Ingham and Wilson Rooms, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. *If wish to attend any of these training days please see Fr Tony.*

**MEETING THE GOD WHO WANTS TO MEET YOU" ..a day for the young people of our diocese.**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February, Benedictine Abbey 695 Jamberoo Mountain Rd, Jamberoo. Led by: Sr. Hilda. (Check out our website for a weekly video message from Sr. Hilda). Day begins with Mass at 9 am, for those who can get there. Day concludes at 3.30 pm. Should anyone wish to stay on for Vespers at 5 pm and a time of Adoration afterwards, they would be very welcome. You need to bring: Lunch and a drink. Morning and Afternoon tea will be provided. Closed in shoes, For more information and Registration please phone: Petrina on 42 36 0533. There is no cost.

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:**

*During the Christmas Season and School holidays, the Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners Homes until February 2016. I would like to thank the Parishioners who had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2015. If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry in 2016, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659*



**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January: 9.30am** Retiree's Social Group Gathering in the Parish Hall, all retiree's over 55 are most welcome. Come along for a chat, cuppa and a laugh etc.  
**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February: 7.30pm** Parish Ladies Group Meeting and AGM (1<sup>st</sup> for 2016)  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February: 10.00am** Catechist's meeting in the Parish Centre  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February: 7.30pm** Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre (1<sup>st</sup> for 2016)  
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February: 7.00pm** Sacramental Team meeting in the Parish Centre (preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation)  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February: 7.30pm** St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre, all are most welcome to the meeting and hear about the good works of St Vincent de Paul

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

**EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Vigil Mass: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan: Winnie Cameron and Bertha Berbari**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan: Julie Writer and Karenne Harvey**  
**Vigil Mass: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: Trish Newman**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb: Fay and Junior Faamau**

**READERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

(Could the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader please read also the Prayers of Intercession)  
**Vigil Mass: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan: Gabby and Pauline Menzies**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan: Andrew Truong and Julie Writer**  
**Vigil Mass: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: Pauline Menzies**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb: Brian O'Brien and Pesio Aiga**

**CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Fay Faamau, Rosa and Manuel Herrera and Colleen Jablonskis**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy**

**USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Vigil Mass: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan: HELP NEEDED**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan: Christine Foreman**  
**Vigil Mass: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb: Maureen Molland**  
**9.00am Mass: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb: Chris Reddy & Helen Rawson**

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SUNDAY 9.00am MASS:**

*Will be returning in February. Thank you to the many people who are members of this Ministry and also to the Parish Ladies Group who continue to support this Parish Ministry.*

