

Third Sunday of Advent Year B



17th December 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.

HEALTH UP DATE OF FR MICHAEL HEALY: Fr Michael after a short stay in hospital is well and resting. Fr would like to thank everyone for their prayers, well wishes, love and support. Please continue to keep Fr Michael in your prayers.

WELCOME: The Parishioners of our Parish would like to welcome Fr Victor Vincent to our Parish this weekend to Celebrate our Parish Masses. *Thank you and God Bless*



WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND VISITOR'S TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND:

On behalf of Fr Michael, I would like to welcome you to our Parish Special Family Mass in preparation for Christmas. I thank you for joining us in prayer and celebrating the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. Please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments after Mass. With God's Grace and Blessings. *Fr Victor Vincent*

THANK YOU TO THE MANY PARISHIONERS IN THE VARIOUS PARISH MINISTRIES: for the giving of your time and talents for our Parish. Acolyte's, Sacristans, Church Cleaners, Flower arrangers, Musicians (all Choir's), Readers, Powerpoint Creator and operators, Extraordinary Ministers Of Communion, Ushers, Parish Counters, Catechists, 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. You are greatly appreciated. *Thank you*

WE WELCOME: Into our Parish Community: *Dominic Giuseppe Kedde* who was Baptised last weekend.

PARISHIONER'S BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:

21st: *Jeff Cross*

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr Michael, Fr David Catterall, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Colleen Keane, 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: Ralph Carmona, Fr Tony Daly, Deborah Rix, Jim McKenzie, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Maurya Hutton, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.
May internal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual Light shine upon them.

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you to the many people who have supported these Parish Fundraising Raffles. Christmas is fast approaching and the Parish Ladies Group have 8 wonderful prizes for their Christmas Raffle. *The raffle will be drawn in the Parish Hall after the 9.00am Mass.* Thank you for supporting this Parish Fundraiser.

THANK YOU: PARISH GROUNDS WORKING BEE PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS: Thank you to the Parishioners who helped with preparing the Church grounds yesterday (Saturday) for Christmas. The gifts of your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU: ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: Christmas Jesse Tree: We thank you for your kindness and know that your gifts will make a difference to needy children. If you still have toys, can you please hand them in at the Parish Office ASAP. Once again thank, God Bless and wishing each and every one of you a Blessed and Happy Christmas.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE: The Parish is looking for a volunteer who will be willing to work on a regular basis each week in an effort to keep the Church grounds and surrounds neat and tidy. Hours would be flexible and any handyman skills would also be beneficial as there sometimes small tasks that need doing but it is expensive to bring a tradesman in. If you are able to assist please contact the Office on 46282967 your help would be greatly appreciated.

PARISH MAINTENANCE: Like anywhere, from time to time little things need 'doing' in the Church, Parish Hall, toilets etc. It's good to keep on top of things. If you happen to notice eg: kneelers need mending, or anything that is need of repair, please write in the 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.

TAKE A RISK AND GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH: In our Parish there is a team of volunteers what take a risk and step out in faith. Each week of the school year Catechists present 30 minute lessons using a step-by-step lesson plan that helps Catholic children (in the State Schools) Understand their faith, grow in love and maturity And learn what it means to be Catholic. If you would Like to join this Ministry or have any questions please Contact our Parish Scripture Co-Ordinator: Colleen on 0414284717.

PARISH PIETY STALL: Come and have a look at our Parish Piety Stall eg: Rosary Beads, 2018 Calendars etc. *The Piety Stall also has many Christmas present ideas. Come and have a look at what is also available.*

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Please take a copy of the School Newsletter the last for 2017. The Parish of St Thomas More would like to thank Mr Paul Croker for being the Principal of our Parish Catholic Primary School for the past 6 years. We wish him the very best as the New Principal of St Charles Catholic Primary School, Waverley in the Archdiocese of Sydney commencing in 2018. The New Principal to our Primary School is Mr Phillip Barrington. We look forward to working with Mr Barrington from the beginning of 2018.

JOURNEY MAGAZINE: News from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong - Summer 2017 edition. Please take home this latest edition. The main feature being an interview with Bishop Peter Ingham as he prepares to say farewell (it was announced 3 days after this went to print that Pape Frances announced our new Bishop-elect for the Diocese). Christmas Mass and Reconciliation Times 2017; and many other great articles. *Copies are available from all the tables at the entrance to the Church.*

PARISH DIARY DATES:

20th: **December: 7.30pm** Parish Finance Council Meeting in the Parish Centre (last for 2017)

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

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

23rd December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie & Bertha Barbari*
24th December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Julie Writer*
(Christmas: see notices)
30th December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Trish Newman & Bertha Barbari*
31st December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue*

- READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

23rd December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Marisel King & David Minogue*
24th December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Bill George & Marian Cross*
(Christmas: see notices)
30th December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro & Kerry Hennessy*
31st December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Maureen Molland & Christine Foreman*

- USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

23rd December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: HELP REQUIRED*
24th December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy*
30th December: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro*
31st December: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Foreman*

- CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

Saturday 23rd December: Elisapeta Misinale
Saturday 30th December: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Barry Daley, Eugene Wasko & Kathy Donachie

The date for the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect Brian Mascord is now confirmed as follows:

Date and Time: 7.00 pm, Thursday 22 February 2018 (Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle)
Venue: WIN Entertainment Centre (Corner Crown and Harbour Streets, Wollongong)
Principal Consecrator: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP
Co-Consecrators: Bishop Peter Ingham and Bishop William Wright

WISHING: all our School students, staff and their families a very happy and restful Christmas and the very best for the coming year.

THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA: Begins on 17 December. At this point, the Advent focus shifts to the Christmas story and the Virgin Mary. These days serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth. GNLYC 42

CHRISTMAS DAY THIS YEAR: Falls on a Monday and this is a holy day of obligation. The Sunday obligation will be covered by the Saturday Vigil and Sunday 9.00am Mass (23/24th Dec). The Christmas Day obligation (holy day) is covered by the Sunday evening Vigil (for Christmas), Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE:

Saturday 23rd: 11.00-12.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE:

Sunday 24th December:
5.30pm: Christmas Pageant and Carols
6.00pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
11.30pm: Christmas Carols
Monday 25th December:
12.00am: Midnight Mass
8.30am: Christmas Carols
9.00am: Christmas Day Mass

READER'S FOR CHRISTMAS:

Sunday 24th December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: Julie McKenzie and May Michelutti
Monday 25th December:
Midnight Mass: Carmel and James Munro
Christmas Day Mass: Alison Hourigan and Christine Foreman

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER'S OF COMMUNION:

Sunday 24th December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Catherine Minogue
Monday 25th December:
Midnight Mass: Annette Read & Bertha Barbari
Christmas Day Mass: Bertha Barbari

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: "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". If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659.

