## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Year B 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2015

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 a ramp going into the Church and one going 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:** 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.

Today is Commissioning Sunday. During the liturgy today, our Catechist's who participate in the evangelising mission of the Church will be commissioned to spread the word of Jesus to the young people in their care. It is an opportunity to pray for and encourage Catechists as they prepare to engage in another year of participation in this work of the Church.

#### **LENT TIMETABLE 2015**

**Stations of the Cross** are being held **7.30pm** *every* Friday evening during Lent in the Parish Church

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Thursday 2nd April:

7.30pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Then Altar of Repose till 11.30pm
Friday 3rd April: GOOD FRIDAY
10.00am: Stations of the Cross
3.00pm: The Passion of the Lord
7.30pm: Evening Prayer of Divine Office

Saturday 4th April: HOLY SATURDAY
7.00pm: Easter Vigil Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

Sunday 5th April: SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

**9.00am:** Easter Sunday Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

Please donate to **Project Compassion 2015** and help save the lives of people living on the brink of survival in Niger, giving them access to nutritional support and essential food for life. <a href="www.caritas.org.au">www.caritas.org.au</a> or 1800 024 413. Please take home a Project Compassion Box or the set of envelopes. These are on the tables at the entrance of the Church.

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Christian Community, **Mirabelle Renuka Jane Gutierrez** who was Baptised last weekend.

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Please keep in your prayers the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Birthdays for this week: 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb: Michael Berbari 24<sup>th</sup> Feb: Pina Raco 26<sup>th</sup> Feb: Debra Radzieta

Anniversaries for this week: 27th Feb: Father Tony Ordination to the Priesthood (12 Years)

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Paul Riddell, Leo Cornwell, Doreen Monckton, Mary Smith, Nathan Bethally, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Tina Ting, Tony Nolan, Fr David Catterall, Ann Webster, Beryl Purcell, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Maree Laming, Marie Moore, Natalie Dwyer, Scott Chesney, Tomas Laming, Mary Fredericks and Reno Zamprogno

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Ell Garcia (R.D.), Sr Mary Picone (Marist Sister previously residing at Airds), Josephine McKay (anniv), Beryl Ahsam, Donald McKinnon, Norma Sheehy, Andy Grima, David Eccleston, Kellan Byrnes, Stuart Eldridge, Mary Writer, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Peter Hampton, Colin Foley, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, and Maria Cabonara.

May eternal rest grant to them 0 Lord and may perpetual lights shine upon them.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER TONY:** The

Parishioners of our Parish would like to congratulate Fr Tony on his 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood this coming Friday (27<sup>th</sup> February).

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 know or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Many interesting articles to read, great value for only \$2.00. Please purchase your copy from the back table at the main entrance to the Church.

NEW GROUP STARTING: THIS TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup>
FEBRUARY: ST THOMAS MORE PLAYTIME
9.30 - 11.30am Tuesdays in our Parish Hall during school terms. Come for a chat and cuppa while the kids enjoy playtime activities including Bible Storytime, songs, craft, outside/inside play and pray time. Everyone Welcome Mums, bubs, pre-schoolers. Gold coin donation. If interested please place name on clipboard at back of church or ring Catherine for more information: 46271842

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:
Please take home a copy of the School Newsletter and see what is happening in our Parish Primary School.
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2016: Applications are now available from the School Office. Enrolments are being accepted until 3 April 2015. Enrolment interviews will take place in May. Open Day and Open Evening sessions – This Wednesday 25
February 2015: Open session will be at 9.15am and Open Evening session at 7.00pm. These are being held to "Showcase" the School.

Year 7 -2016 INFORMATION EVENING:
Wednesday 25th February: St Gregory's College,
Campbelltown at 7.30pm in the Br Luke Hall. For more information please contact the College Office on 4629 4222

INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE: Monday 23rd February 9am-3.30 Parish Meeting Room at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, Varroville. This introductory workshop will also outline the elements covered in the full Diocesan Certificate in Pastoral Care course. For more information about the workshop or course contact Carmen Karauda on 4640 8515 or Carmen.karauda@catholiccare.dow.org.au

**DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY – SATURDAY 7**<sup>TH</sup> **MARCH:** The first Diocesan Assembly for 2015 10am-1.30pm at St Mary's Star of the Sea College Hall, Wollongong. The focus for this assembly will be engaging in our Diocesan Pastoral Plan 2015 to 2017 with special focus on support family life and serving Christ's mission together. Registration is essential. Helen on helen.bennett@dow.org.au or 4222 2403.

MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE – SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE Enrolments Open: Tuesdays, 24 March – 5 May, 5:30-9:30pm, Mary Mother of the Church, Macquarie Fields.

Are you new to ministry and want to learn more? Interested in developing skills for working with others and enhancing the growth of a ministry in which you participate? Currently involved and seeking to develop further practical skills for ministry? Then *Serving God's* People course is for you. Serving God's People provides an overview of Christian ministry, equipping those involved or seeking to be involved in ministry with essential skills and knowledge for actively contributing to the life of the parish or Diocese. Opportunities in the other regions of the Diocese will be appearing very soon so stay tuned! Enrolments are now open and for further information please contact Darren McDowell, cfl@dow.org.au or 4222 463.

Understanding & Supporting the Journey of Loss & Grief Wednesday 25 March 9:00am-3:30pm Micah House, 35a Cordeaux St Campbelltown How do you cope with loss and grief, either your own or that of others? Would you like to better understand the loss and grief process; develop ways to learn from loss and grief; gain the skills required to pastorally support and communicate with others who are experiencing loss and grief? Loss and Grief can often be a very difficult experience. Facilitated by Carmen Karauda, Diocesan Aged Care Advocate. For information contact Carmen Karauda on 4640 8515 or Carmen.karauda@catholiccare.dow.org.au and registration essential to Helen Bennett 4222 2403 or helen.bennett@dow.org.au A suggested donation of \$10 is requested to cover morning tea, lunch and materials.

ST TERESA'S FIFTH CENTENARY CONCERT - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Church Varroville Saturday 28 March 2015 at 2pm. The concert features many artists of high standing, taking you on a musical pilgrimage through Lent, reflecting and representing the life and work of St Teresa of Jesus. The celebrations begin with a Mass at 10.00 with Bishop Peter Ingham, followed by a sausage sizzle lunch at 12.00 pm. Soon after at 2.00 pm, the concert begins and later on at 7.00 pm there will be dinner dance. You are all invited to come along to any event or all. Entry is by donation to raise funds for student's pilgrimage to Ávila and Project Compassion. For more information see www. teresa500.org.au and www.olmcvarroville.org.au or contact Parish Office on 9693 73737 or nellalucestudio@hotmail.com

## **PARISH DIARY DATES:**

**Tuesday 24**th **February:** *9.30am - 11.30am* "St Thomas More Playtime Group" meets in the Parish Hall. **Tuesday 24**th **February:** *7.30pm* St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre. New members are most welcome.

Thursday 26th February: 9.30am Retirees Social Group Gathering in the Parish Hall (for retiree's over 55) come along for a chat, laughs and a cuppa etc.

Friday 27th February: 7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Monday 2nd March: 7.30pm Parish Ladies Group meeting in the Parish Centre.

## PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

# EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: Trish Newman and Winnie Cameron

9.00am Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> March: Helen Rawson and Karenne Harvey

Vigil Mass: 7<sup>th</sup> March: Maureen Molland and Bertha Berbari 9.00am Mass: 8<sup>th</sup> March: Catherine Minogue and

#### **READERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

(Could the  $2^{nd}$  Reader please read also the Prayers of Intercession)

Annette Read

Vigil Mass: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: Ethan Billett and Tony Billet 9.00am Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> March: Maria Samaha and Maryse Parisi

Vigil Mass: 7<sup>th</sup> March: Ethan Billet and Tony Billet 9.00am Mass: 8<sup>th</sup> March: Ben Markham and Maryse Parisi

## **CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT WEEK**

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Barry Daley, Eugene Wasko and Kathy Donachie Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March: Group3: Brian O'Brien, Christine Foreman, James Munro and Carmel Munro

## **USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

Vigil Mass: 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: Help Needed 9.00am Mass 1<sup>st</sup> March: Barry Daley Vigil Mass; 7<sup>th</sup> March: Carmel Munro 9.00am Mass: 8<sup>th</sup> March: Gwen and Brian Harris

## REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 9.00AM MASS:

<u>15<sup>th</sup> MARCH:</u> Group 2: Julie Writer, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy and Hedy Toth.

## **Prayer for First Sunday of Lent**

We thank you, Lord God for all the benefits you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ.

We ask that we may see Christ more clearly Love Him more dearly, and follow Him more nearly. Amen