

The Baptism of the Lord

10th 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 10th February

Easter Sunday: Sunday 27th March

Pentecost Sunday: 15th May

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of obligation): Monday 15th August

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Maree and Noel Laming, Kerry Hennessy, Betty White, Rita Jowsey, Anna Kovac, Bernie Smith, 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, Tomas Laming and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Barry Ford (R.D.), Eileen (Connie) Daly (Anniv), John (Jack) McNerney (Anniv), Ken Sutton, Bob Leece, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Winnie Menzies, Peter Pereira, Mary Writer, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Bernard Hoffmann, Marcia Rae, Imelda Zamprogno and Maria Cabonara. May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.

PIETY STALL: Please come and visit this Parish Stall and see what items are available for sale.

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

Parishioner's Birthday's for last week:

4th: *Nathanael Robinson, 6th: Edmund Pew,*
7th: *Chris Vine and Catherine Robinson*

Parishioner's Wedding Anniversaries for last week:

3rd: *Theresa & Joe Berbari (46 years)*
4th Jan: *Daphne & Edmund Pew (58 years)*
5th Jan: *Rosalie & Chris Vine (47 years) and Thesora & Brian Wyer (53 years)*
7th Jan: *Rosa & Manuel Herrera (55 years) and Gwen & Brian Harris (49 years)*

Parishioner's Birthday's for this week:

10th: *Julie Writer*
13th: *Isabella Namasenh*
Parishioner's Wedding Anniversary for this week:
12th: *Julie & Julie Writer (53 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

PARISH LADIES GROUP THANKYOU: *The Parish Ladies Group would like to thank everyone who has supported the fundraising raffles throughout last year. With your support we will be able to help with various improvements in our Parish Church and Hall. Wishing you all the very best for the coming Year.*

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: Thank you

Your St Vincent de Paul Conference is extremely grateful for the support of parishioners during what has proved to be a busy 2015.

We are encouraged in our work when we witness generous support for the Winter Appeal, Assist a Student Weekend and the Jesse Tree. We especially thank the Parish Ladies Group for the later but our supporters throughout the St Thomas More Community are many and it is impossible in this brief note to acknowledge them all.

This Christmas we have been able to provide toys to 42 households helping 146 children while facilitating nutritious hamper delivery to 86 households. We could not do this without your help. Thank you. While we are busy, our work is very rewarding. In 2016 we hope to conduct a recruitment drive and we encourage you to give this your prayerful consideration.

God Bless and Merry Christmas on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society Ruse/ Airds conference

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. Thank you.*

PARISH LITURGY TEAM: We are looking for interested Parishioners in being members of this Parish Ministry. This Parish Ministry plans the Liturgies for Special celebrations eg: Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. This also involves members of the Sacristy Team, Musicians, Powerpoint Creator's, Reader's and Acolytes. *Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 20th January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre to plan for the Lent and Easter Liturgies. Please see Fr Tony for any enquiries.*

PARISH SACRAMENTAL TEAM: We are looking for interest 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 3rd 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 17th 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 21st 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 6th 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 24th April.

Confirmation: Date to be announced.

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

OPENING OF HOLY DOORS FOR THE YEAR OF

MERCY: Saturday 23 January, at 9.30am, the Carmel of Mary and Joseph Convent, 345 St Andrews Rd Varroville, will hold the ceremony of blessing their Holy Door followed by Mass and then morning tea. Your parishioners are most welcome to attend. Jan 23 is the feast of the Espousals of Mary and Joseph and is the patronal feast of this community. As such, it is celebrated by them as a Solemnity. A warm invitation is extended to all to visit this designated place of pilgrimage in the Diocese.

DIARY DATES:

Thursday 14th January: 9.30am Retiree's Social Group Gathering in the Parish Hall (1st for 2016), all retiree's over 55 are most welcome. Come along for a chat, cuppa and a laugh etc.

Wednesday 20th January: 7.30pm Parish Liturgy meeting

For Lent/Easter in the Parish Centre

Wednesday 3rd February: 7.00pm Sacramental Team meeting in the Parish Centre



PARISH ROSARY STATUE:

During the Christmas Season and School holidays, the Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners Homes until February 2016. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2015. I wish them and their families a joyous Christmas and God's Blessings. If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry in 2016, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS: EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday: 16th Jan: Trish Newman and Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 17th Jan: Fay and Junior Faamau

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd Jan: Maureen Molland and Louise Phillips

9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th Jan: Catherine Minogue and Annette Read

READERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

(Could the 2nd Reader please read also the Prayers of Intercession)

Vigil Mass: Saturday 16th Jan: Maryse Parisi & Andrew James

9.00am Mass: Sunday 17th Jan: Christine Foreman and Maria Feher

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd Jan: Andrew James & Gabby Menzies

9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th Jan: Angela Truong & Julie Writer

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

Saturday 16th Jan: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community

Saturday 23rd Jan: Group3: Brian O'Brien, Christine Foreman, James and Carmel Munro

USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 16th Jan: Maureen Molland

9.00am Mass: Sunday 17th Jan: Gwen & Brian Harris

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd Jan: Carmel Munro

9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th Jan: Barry Daley

FLOWER ARRANGERS FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

17th Jan: Christine and Carmel

24th: Christine Gomes

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.

Fr Tony's Christmas Thank You Message:

I would like to personally thank the many people who contributed to the Christmas Celebrations of our Parish.

The Acolytes, The Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, The Reader's, The Usher's, The Sacristan's, all the Choirs and Musician's, The Powerpoint Creator, The Powerpoint worker's, the Flower Arranger's, The Church Cleaner's, The Groundsmen, The Children's Pageant creator and participants and anyone who else who helped in the background.

The gift of your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a most Blessed and Holy New Year.

God Bless. Fr Tony (Parish Priest)

