

**2nd Sunday of Advent
Year C
8th December 2012**



ADVENT

Has a twofold character - as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time, Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.
(GNLYC 39)

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."

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE

2nd Rite of Reconciliation:

Monday 17th December at 7.30pm:

St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown

Tuesday 18th December at 7.30pm:

Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow

Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm:

St Thomas More Catholic Church, Ruse

Thursday 20th December at 7.30pm:

Mary Immaculate, Eaglevale

1st Rite Reconciliation (St Thomas More Catholic Church Ruse):

- **Saturday 22nd December:**

11.00am - 12noon

5.00pm - 5.30pm

- **Monday 24th December (Christmas Eve):**

11.00am - 12.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Monday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

5.30pm: Children's Christmas Pageant & Carols

6.00pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

11.30pm: Christmas Carols

12 Midnight: Christmas Mass

Tuesday 25th December (Christmas Day)

8.30am: Christmas Carols

9.00am: Christmas Day Mass

Parish Birthdays for this week:

12th: Melanie Webb

13th: Russell Goodall

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community **Megan Rose Forester** and **Emmie Hope Dadd** who were Baptised last weekend.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Daniel Karr, Peter Pereira, Dr Ken Saw, Thomas Scott-Dolby, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Jim McKenzie, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Frank Keevers, Laurie Keevers, Chris Wagstaff, John DeVille, Keith Gomes and Maria and Graziano Cabonara and for anyone else whose Anniversary occurs at this time.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Hector Bernardino, Maurya Hutton, Elaine Hoffman, Colum Brennan, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, Kay Burton, Mary Pace, Alphonse Zammit, Ken Smith, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Marcia Davis, Jack O'Sullivan, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Tina Boyd, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVille, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Phillip Conroy, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, Sioeli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

Diary Dates:

- **St Vincent de Paul Society** meeting Tuesday 11th December at **6.30pm** (note change of time for meeting once only) in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Finance Council** meeting Wednesday 12th December at **7.00pm** in the Parish Centre
- **St Thomas More Catholic Primary School** Wednesday 19th December End of School Year Mass at 10.00am (at the school)
- **2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Christmas** on Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm
- **Retiree's Social Group** gathering after the 9.00am Mass, Thursday 20th December (**parishioners and friends over 55 are more than welcome**) come along for a chat, a cuppa and a good laugh

OUR PLACE OF WORSHIP AND PRAYER NEEDS SOME TENDER LOVING CARE (TLC):

Recently we have noticed that there has been damage to our property (Church, Parish Hall and Church grounds) and breakages to various items. If you notice any broken or damaged property or items, it is of **utmost importance** that you notify either Fr Tony or the Parish Office ASAP. This is so as to keep things in their proper order and usage to help us in our Worship and Prayer. **Thanking you in anticipation and God Bless.**

PARISH PIETY STALL: Have for sale St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards \$7.00 per packet of 10 cards. **There are also plenty of gift ideas for Christmas presents.**

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Newsletter is available on all the tables at the entrance of the Church. Please take one and find out what is happening in our Parish Catholic Primary School.

"AWAKEN": Daily Advent & Christmas Reflections 2012 are also available for **80c** per copy from the Piety Stall. **Bishop Peter Ingham recommends that every home of every parishioner in our Diocese have one of these books.** The book contains short daily reflections from the beginning of Advent all the way to the Epiphany primarily for personal use. The daily reflections are written by Fr Graham Schmitzer, St Hilda Scott OSB, Fr Ronan Kilgannon and Ms Michelle Vass (Spiritual Director at Douglas Park). It contains beautiful religious artworks from our rich Catholic history for which Fr Sean Cullen is providing short descriptions.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY - ASSIST A STUDENT SCHEME -Year 2012. The Scheme can be promoted with friends and members of the family and colleagues at work. For those who may want another brochure or missed out on one they are available in the stands at the back of the church. **Thank you from St Thomas More Catholic Church St Vincent de Paul Conference.**

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Jesse Tree is in the back of the Church. Please take a tag (or two) and buy a present appropriate for the age and gender of the child on that tag. We also ask that you **don't** wrap the presents to make the sorting easier.

For those parishioners who can't get out to buy a gift, we will leave blue Vinnies envelopes at the base of the Jesse Tree and a cash donation will be gratefully accepted. The envelope can be put in the collection plate or given to Father Tony or the office. **Thank you for your generosity to the needy in our area.**

FRENCH MASS: Is to be held on 9 December 2012 at 6:00pm at St John the Evangelist Cnr Cordeaux and Lindesay Street, Campbelltown.

CLAIM THE DATE - Stamp Club Auction - Campbelltown Stamp Club Auction Night

Please support the Stamp Club members whose annual auction of stamps, collectibles, bric-a-brac etc. will this year see 100% of all sales go to support the work of your local St Vincent de Paul Society Conference. **When:** Wednesday 12 December 2012 at 7.30pm for 8pm start. **Where:** St Thomas More Parish Hall, 43 Acacia Avenue Ruse. **How you can help:**
1. **Donate** - Items such as stamps, books, collectibles, novelties and all sorts of bric-a-brac may be donated. Simply bring them to the hall after 6.45pm on the night of the auction. So start searching those cupboards!
2. **Attend** - This is a chance to meet new people, have some fun and perhaps to find a bargain amongst the goods being auctioned. The Stamp Club members will provide nibbles along with coffee and tea. To help make the night a success, why not bring a friend?

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME: Will now be shown on **Channel 11 at 5.30am every Sunday** and repeated on the Aurora Channel on Foxtel during the week. This program benefits those who are isolated from the usual parish celebration: through age, distance, illness or imprisonment. If you know someone who enjoys this program or is in a situation that prevents them attending Mass, please let them know of this programming change.

Parish Rosary Statue: During the Christmas Season and School holidays. The Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners homes until February 2013. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2012. I wish them and their families a joyful Christmas and God's Blessings. Saying this great prayer the family Rosary every day will always bring peace in the family - The family prays together stays together.

Thank you and God Bless Fr Tony

READERS FOR MASS FOR DECEMBER 2012:

Vigil Mass: Louise Phillips and James Munro

9.00am Mass: (2nd & 9th): Chris and Claire O'Brien
(16th & 23rd): Noel Laming & Sinisita Filitoga

(Could the 2nd reader please also read the Prayers of the Faithful)

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne

9am Mass: Chantal Barbari

FLOWERS: Francesca Chow

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 2:

Cathy Bye, Barry Daley, Eugene Wasko, Kathy Donachie & Arthur Michelutti

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am Mass: Sunday 16th December (3rd Sunday of Advent - Rose Sunday): Parish Family Mass: assistance and donations would be greatly appreciated.

ADVENT PRAYER

Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan
you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts
for the coming of your Son.
Help me to hear his words and repent of my sins,
so that I may clearly see the way to walk,
the truth to speak, and the life to live for Him,
our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**



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