

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C
3th February 2013

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."

PARISHES PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BY WORKING TOGETHER – YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED

YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR BOOK AT THIS MASS

Today the process for "Parishes Working Together" is being launched by Bishop Peter Ingham who will speak to you and explain the process on DVD.

The Bishop will give an overview of what this process is all about which builds upon the work of our diocesan pastoral plan. The book that you will receive will give much information about our vital role as baptised faithful in the Church as well as details about parishes and ministries in our Diocese.

Our parish will have information and discussion sessions commencing this week:

1st Session: (either – not both)
Tuesday 5th February 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Sunday 10th February 10.15am – 11.45am
And
2nd Session: (either – not both)
Tuesday 12th February 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Sunday 17th February: 10.15am – 11.45am

Following these sessions Supper / morning tea will be provided.

We would like as many people as possible to attend these sessions. Please add your name to the Registration Forms on the table at the back of the Church.

Parishioners can obtain more information from the website for "Parishes Working Together" on www.pastoralplanning.dow.org.au

It is very important that you are informed about this process of change as every parish in our Diocese will be affected. We need your feedback as we prepare for the future.

As Bishop Peter says, this is a time that "we need to be more alert to the Holy Spirit to seek immediate and long term ways to respond to the pastoral needs in our Diocese".

WELCOME back to all our Parish School children who have commenced their new school year for 2013. We wish them well, and also to our Kindergarten children who will be commencing their first year of school.

Diary Dates:

- **Baptism Preparation Class** Monday 4th February at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Ladies Group** meeting Monday 4th February at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **"Parish Working Together" (1st workshop session)** Tuesday 5th February from 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- **Wednesday Prayer Group** returns Wednesday 6th February after the 9.00am Mass
- **Parish Finance Council** meeting Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Sacramental Team** Meeting Thursday 7th February at 3.00pm at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
- **"Parish Working Together" (1st workshop session)** Sunday 10th February from 10.15am in the Parish Hall

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Colum Brennan, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, Mary Pace, Alphonse Zammit, Ken Smith, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Tina Boyd, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVille, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, Sioeli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Brooke Millbank (nee Eccelston) (R.D.), Mary Writer, Phillip Conroy, Maurya Hutton, Jim McKenzie, Ronald Dawson, Anthony Jabbour, Dominic Pereira, Peter Pereira, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Frank Keevers, Laurie Keevers, John DeVille, Keith Gomes and Maria Cabonara and for anyone else who's Anniversary occurs at this time.

Parish Birthdays for this week:

1st: Marg Davis
3rd: Michael Carbonara
4th: Bernadine Walsh
6th: Francesca Chow and Lachlan Munro

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

5th: Michael and Cathy Bye ((41 years)
8th: David and Catherine Minogue ((16 years)

NAME TAGS: We are promoting the wearing of a name tag in our Parish to create a hospitable parish where people get to know each other and calling everyone by name. We encourage you to wear your name tag each time you go to mass and sit with a different person each weekend. *If you haven't got your name tag please put your name down in the book at the Name Tag table and we will prepare one for you.*

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS?

Members of our parish community visit parishioners and bring communion every week to those who are ill or elderly so are unable to come to Mass. Sometimes, it may be that someone could benefit from a lift. Please encourage them to contact our parish office either to arrange communion to be brought to them or to organize transport.

LENTEN PROGRAM 2013: We will use the Diocesan Lenten called BELIEVE: Lenten Program 2013 – a 44 page program designed as a six-week Lenten resource for small groups, prayer companions, staff reflections, families and individuals. Fr Graham Schmitzer offers engaging weekly Scripture commentaries accompanied by enlightening spiritual direction from St Hilda Scott OSM (Jamberoo Abbey). Each week also contains challenging reflection questions as well as some practical Lenten tips by Fr Graham. A Double-CD resource (\$8.00) is also available to accompany the program that offers narrations of the Scriptures and commentaries as well as a beautiful sung closing prayer and mantra written by Paul Mason each week. The CD Resource will also be available for free download at www.lent.dow.org.au. *If you would like to host/join a group please put your name down on the clipboard at the entrance of the Church. The programs will commence the week beginning Monday 11th February.*

BUSINESSES WISHING TO ADVERTISE ON THE BACK COVER OF THE PARISH BULLETIN:

If any parishioners know of any businesses eg: handymen, electricians, caterer's etc, that would like to advertise on the back cover of the Parish Bulletin (this has a distribution of approximately 300 households) could they please contact either Fr Tony or the Parish Office on 4628 2967. For a business size card add the cost is \$275.00 this includes GST and a double business size card is \$550.00 also includes GST.

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Will return next Sunday (10th February) during the 9.00am Mass. This is available for children who attend school from Kindergarten to Year 6. If you would like to help With this Parish Ministry please contact Christine on 4626 7475 for more details.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Please take home a copy of our Parish School newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening. Parishioners are invited to attend the beginning of their school year Mass this coming Friday (8th) at 11.30am at the School.

CATECHIST COURSES – MACARTHUR/HIGHLANDS:

The LEVEL 1 BASIC Course will be run on Monday, 11 & 18 February from 9.30am – 1.30pm at Micah House, Campbelltown. The full LEVEL 1 Course will continue on Monday, 25 February and 4 & 11 March from 9.30am – 1.30pm, also at Micah House, Campbelltown. Please contact Cindy on 4640 8550 or email cindy.oliver@dow.org.au.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: KICK-OFF RALLY on Tuesday the 12th February @ St Peter's Church, Surry Hills. Mass 6pm with Bishop Julian Porteous followed by Procession to Preterm abortuary. Pancake Supper afterwards. Contact: Family Life International (Aust) 42844412, Sydney Office 02 95199111, Email: mail@fli.org.au Web: www.fli.org.au
"Help us give witness on the streets, to the wonder and uniqueness of every human life"

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Jeff and Marion** for two weeks, commencing Monday 4th February until Sunday 17th February. The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. Parishioners are Welcome to say the Rosary with the family on Monday 4th February at 7.00pm.

Please pray the powerful prayer – "The Rosary" with the family and receive many blessings. We can also avoid the catastrophes happening around the world.

Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.



READERS FOR FEBRUARY 2013:

Vigil Mass: Steven and Anthony Robinson
9.00am Mass: Bill Fabry and Pauline Menzies (3rd & 10th)
Maryse Parisi and Vella Andrews (17th & 24th)

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

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne
9am Mass: Christine Foreman

FLOWERS: Maree

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Leesha Bell, Fa'au Faamau, Lina Tino and Tino Maugututia

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 9.00am MASS: Sunday 17th February: Maureen Molland, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Christine Goodall and Pauline Menzies

GOD IS CALLING! ARE YOU LISTENING?

Remember that God is never "too busy" to hear from you. Don't be "too busy" for him! There are some daily Catholic prayers such as the Our Father and the Rosary that take only minutes to say, yet their benefits can last a lifetime!

Catholic prayers can do wonders for your soul. God gives us joy and strength through prayer. You can get a great sense of peace in good times and consolation in bad from them. Our Lord wants to give us the good things we ask for in accordance with His will. The more we pray the more we can grow in His grace.



