6th Sunday of Easter (World Communications Day) Year C 5th May 2013

EASTER TIME: The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one 'great Sunday' (Athanasius). These above all others are the days for the singing of the Alleluia. The Sundays of this season rank as Paschal Sundays... (GNLYC 22-24)

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 WORKING TOGETHER

Bishop Peter Ingham has invited our parishes to work more closely together to strengthen ourselves in our mission to be bearers of Christ's love and share the Good News. Over 1200 people have participated during the parish education sessions, with a further 800 people involved in the regional consultations. Submissions have been received from individuals, groups and parish communities, and feedback is also being offered via Catholic advisory councils and agencies. All the feedback is now being considered ahead of a response by Bishop Ingham at Pentecost (19 May). Please continue to pray for our Church that this process helps us be more authentic in serving God's mission.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2013 (Enrolment for all Sacraments require the Presentation of a Baptism Certificate)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember and keep in your prayers the children who are currently preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at a special 11.00am Mass on Sunday 2nd June.

CONFIRMATION

(Children who are in Year 6 and above, who have been Baptised and have made the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion). (The Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday 10th August 2013) (More details to follow).

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community Zoe Amore Beeby who was Baptised last weekend.

PARISH BIRTHDAY FOR THIS WEEK:

5th: Gwen Harris, Britney and Courtney D'Souza 6th: Megan Mahanay and Joe D'Souza 9th: Feyise Writer

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

5th: Joe and Michelle D'Souza (23 years) 7th: Col and Marg Davis (49 years)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Bishop William Edward Murray (Emeritus Bishop of Wollongong), Mary Writer, John Snell, Joseph Rodrigues, Limita Rodrigues, Stephen Vaz, Nypha Vaz, Carlos Carvalho, Cecil Moylan, Emily Wauchop, Michael Seufatu, Caroline D'Mello, Ladislav Feher, Stephen Vaz, Sioeli Salas, Robin Platt, Maurva 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.

DO YOU 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 who could benefit from a lift. Please encourage them to contact our parish office (4628 2967) either to arrange communion to be brought to them or to organize transport to Mass.

THANKYOU: To the many Parishioners who help with keeping our Parish Church a place of welcoming and worship. If you have some spare time during the week and would like to help in anyway please come and talk with Fr Tony or phone on 4628 2967 or email <u>ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org</u>. Any help would be beneficial for our Parish Church.

Please think seriously how you are able to help.

Diary Dates:

- Parish Ladies Group meeting Monday 6th May at 7.30pm new members are most welcome
- Retiree's Social group gathering in the parish hall on Thursday 9th May after the 9.00am Mass
- St Vincent de Paul Society meeting Tuesday 14th May at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre new members are most welcome
- Parish Pastoral Council meeting Tuesday 21st May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

PARISH HALL - TEA TOWELS AND TABLECLOTHS: If

anyone has taken home the tea towels and/or tablecloths from the Parish Hall could they please be returned ASAP.

This would be greatly appreciated as many are still missing.

Thank you to the people who wash/iron and return them.

DIVINE MERCY: Every Sunday the Samoan Divine Mercy prayer group begins at 1.00pm in our Parish Church. All parishioners are most welcome. For more information please phone Maria on 9603 5106 or 0404929498. If you would like to help with donations of chips and/or poppers for their visit to Reiby Detention centre for the 3rd Sunday of the month please leave them either in the Church kitchen or at the Parish Office during working hours.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Has now changed to colour and many more articles of interest are included. Don't forget to take your copy home, great value for only \$2.00. Some articles of interest are: CWL Sydney centenary: pictures, Bishop calls for boast to jobseeker allowance and how our new archive site can serve you plus many more.

THE ROAD TO PENTECOST / INPUT SESSIONS. An invitation is extended to Parishioners from around our Diocese to attend the Road to Pentecost faith formation and spirituality sessions as we prepare for Pentecost. The sessions run on Thursday evenings 2, 9, 16 and 23 May from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at the new Diocesan Offices, Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St Wollongong and will focus on personal openness to God's grace as we participate in the mission of the Church. For bookings please contact Vince Fitzwilliam 0413 126 095 or Jude Hennessy 4222 2407 / jude.hennessy@dow.org.au

SPIRIT ALIVE YOUTH FESTIVAL: 11th May | 5-9pm

Following on from last year's successful Spirit Alive PM, 2013 will feature four Spirit Alive Youth Festivals throughout the Diocese. Don't miss the first Festival featuring Sr Hilda Scott. Whenever Sr Hilda speaks to young people they walk away affirmed, challenged and inspired. In addition to Sr Hilda Scott, the evening will include a Youth Mass, dinner (bring some money for dinner) and an evening of praise and worship. AGES: 16-35 years, VENUE: Holy Spirit College Bellambi (entry via Kent Street, Bellambi). For more information contact Loretta at Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong on 4222 2460 or email vouth@dow.org.au. Proudly presented by CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY WOLLONGONG

www.facebook.com/cymdow, youth@dow.org.au, @cymdow.

"A PEACE THE WORLD CANNOT GIVE": This is what Jesus offers in today's Gospel. How can we obtain that peace? Rather than asking what should I do with my life, do I ever stop and wonder what God wants me to do with my life? It is not an easy question, and we may need help to hear what God is saying, but responding to that question will change our life. Either contact Fr Tony on 46282967 or Fr Richard Healey, vocations director, on 0401 621 591, priesthood@dow.org.au.

<u>COME AND SEE:</u> Have you ever wondered about a vocation to Religious Life? The Sisters of the Good Samaritan invite you to spend time with us from Friday 17 May 6pm to Sunday 19 May 3pm. Come and hear the Good Sam story in Australia, Japan, The Philippines, Kiribati and East Timor, share conversation and meals and pray together at Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills Rd., PENNANT HILLS (enter via side entrance on Hull Road.) For more information contact Sister Bernadette Corboy sgs on 0429 074 849.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of Jim and Marie for two weeks, commencing Monday 29th April until Sunday 12th May. The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. The family will be saying the Rosary on Mondays at 4.00pm.

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

READERS FOR MAY 2013:

Vigil Mass: James Munro and David Minogue 9.00am Mass: 5th & 12th: Tim Logue and Michael Bye 19th: & 26th: Maureen Molland and May Michelutti (Could the 2nd Reader please also read the Pravers of the Faithful)

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland 9am Mass: Karenne Harvey

FLOWER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Maree

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 5: Samoan **Divine Mercy group**

Refreshments after 9.00am Mass:Sunday 19th May: **Tongan Community**

BLESS THIS DAY



This day is full of beauty and adventure, help me Lord to be fully alive to it all. During this day, may I become a more thoughtful person, a more prayerful person, a more generous and kindly person.

Help me not to be turned in on myself but to be sensitive and helpful to others. Let me do nothing today that will hurt anyone. but let me help at least a little. to make life more pleasant for those I meet.

When night comes, may I look back on this day without regrets; and may nobody be unhappy because of anything I have said or done or failed to do.

Lord God, bless this day for me and all of us. Make it a day in which we grow a little more like your Son, and gentle as Mary His Mother.

Amen

An Easter Prayer

Lord, I believe, help my unbelief. The first Christians recognised the signs and wonders of their day. Help me to see your guiding hand each day. Reveal your risen presence to me as you come to me in Holy Communion. Let my heart burn with love for you as you speak to me in

the scriptures.

Keep alive in me the joy of this season that always and everywhere the Easter alleluia may arise as a hymn of glory to Your name.

Amen.