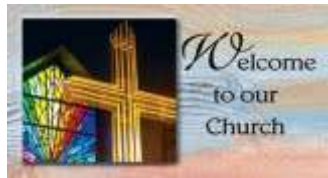


**1st Sunday of Lent  
Year A  
9th March 2014**



**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"*

**LENT 2014**

**Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18<sup>th</sup> year, until the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year until the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> year. (CCL 97, 1251-52).**

**Stations of the Cross: Every Friday evening** during Lent at 7.30pm in the Parish Church

**The Sacred Paschal Triduum**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April:**

Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April:**

Stations of the Cross

The Passion of the Lord

Evening Prayer of Divine Office

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April:**

Easter Vigil Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April:**

Easter Sunday Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

**DATES OF PARISH SACRAMENTS FOR 2014:**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June:** Parent/Carer's Information night for **Confirmation** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 6 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**

**The Sacrament of Confirmation will be Celebrated on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 3.30pm.**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August:** Parents/Carers Information night for **First Holy Communion** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 3 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**

**The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be Celebrated on the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> /14<sup>th</sup> September.**

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

**IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARISHIONERS**

If anyone knows of any parishioner who would like a visit from Father Tony, or is ill and/or unable to come to Mass, housebound or in hospital. **Could a family member or friend please contact Fr Tony on: 4628 2967 or speak to him in person after/before Mass to arrange a suitable visiting time.**

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:** Please pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Ladislav Feher, Philip Mills, Josephine McKay, Charles Dows, Stuart Eldridge, Mary Writer, Frank McKay, Genie Lynch, and Maria Cabonara. **May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and May perpetual light shine upon them.**

**SICK LIST:** Please pray for the **many** sick in our Parish Community: Barry Daley, Beryl Purcell, Candice Walker, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, Graham Wagg, Jack O'Sullivan, Ken Churchill, Maree Laming, Melanie Blessing, Sitani (Stan) Nasio, Tina Boyd and Tomas Laming.

**PARISH BIRTHDAYS for this week:**

**9<sup>th</sup>:** Robert Rawson & Brian Wyer

**10<sup>th</sup>:** Kerry Hennessy

**PARISH ANNIVERSARY for this week:**

**11<sup>th</sup>:** Laura and Warwick O'Reilly (8 years)

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Christian Community: **Aleesha Catherine McVittie** and **Amber Rose Grabbe** who were Baptised last weekend.

**ST THOMAS MORE RETIREE'S SOCIAL GROUP:**

**Dear Parishioner's,** The Retire Social Group would like to invite Senior Parishioner's (over 55) to join us in the Hall after the 9.00am Mass **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March** for a **cuppa, chat and a laugh.** We would like to welcome more Retired Parishioners.

**Hope to see you soon Fellow Retiree's**

**WEEKLY PARISH LENTEN GROUP THIS YEAR:** Our parish is running two Lenten Groups this year Monday evenings and Wednesday mornings (in the Parish Hall) after the 9.00am Mass. We still have 2 of the Triple CD for \$5.00 each available.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Is during the 9.00am Sunday Mass and is for children in kindergarten up to and including Year 6, during School Terms. If you would like to find out more about this Parish Ministry, be a helper or Teacher, please contact Christine on 4626 7475 or the Parish Office on 4628 2967.

**THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** Great value for only \$2.00. Please purchase your copy from the back table at the main entrance to the Church. There are many great articles also including "Celebrating the Irish Way". We have plenty copies available.

**FRENCH MASS:** Today Sunday (9<sup>th</sup> March) at 6.00pm at St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown. French Mass is celebrated the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month (except September).

**URGENT REQUEST:** We are in urgent need of Church cleaner's. If you have a spare hour on either Friday afternoon or Saturday morning, it would be greatly appreciated. Please come and help Keep the Lord's House clean ("cleanliness is next to Godliness") Please let Fr Tony know or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. **Thank you in anticipation.**

**EXPLORING MATTHEW'S GOSPEL:** In our Parish Hall on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30am – 1.00pm. As we listen to Matthew's Gospels this year, Matthew presents Jesus in his own unique way. During this session you will explore the rich themes found in this gospel. Registration is essential please contact Darren on [cfl@dow.org.au](mailto:cfl@dow.org.au) or 4222 2463. Morning tea is provided and BYO lunch.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE DROUGHT APPEAL:** While it may be raining at the moment, the farmers of NSW affected by drought will need assistance for a considerable time before crops can be raised or herds rebuilt. The affects of the current drought are going to be around for a long time and will place an unimaginable and heart breaking burden upon our rural brothers and sisters. We are proposing to place Appeal Envelopes in the Church for masses this weekend, and ask that where able, you give generously. Simply place money in the envelopes and put in either collection. The envelopes also provide for credit card donations and we can provide tax receipts. Your conference will make sure the money raised gets to those in need, in the most practical way. **Bill George Conference President St Vincent de Paul Society (Ruse Conference)**

**2015 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT FOR ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Forms are available at the Parish School Office. For enquiries please contact the School Office on 4625 6561.

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER:** Find out what is happening in our Parish Catholic Primary School, please take home a copy. They are on the tables at the entrance of the Church.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:** From the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> March, Our Parish Catholic Primary School will be "open" for visits: **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March:** 12.00-1.00pm Come along and see R.E. in action.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March:** 12.00pm -1.00pm Come along and see Maths in action.

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March:** 9.00am – 10.00am Come along and see English in action.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March:** 1.45pm-2.45pm Come and experience art, music, drama and sport.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March:** You are very welcome to our Cross Country Carnival.

**BISHOP PETER WANTS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE:** Young people (from ages 12 and up) and those involved with young people (eg parents, teachers, clergy, youth ministers, catechists) are invited to complete a survey on what works and what is needed for Catholic youth: <http://tinyurl.com/dowyouth>.

**CATHOLIC CARE ST PATRICK'S DAY RACING FUNRAISER:** Sat: 15 March, Kembla Grange Racecourse, tickets on sale now. Book ASAP avoid disappointment. Ph: 42271122 Email: [chiam@atholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:chiam@atholiccare.dow.org.au) Web: [www.catholiccare.dow.org.au](http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au)

All monies raised will assist the Family and Sibling Support (Sibs) program - helping siblings of kids with a disability

**PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO EXPLORE POPE FRANCIS' JOY OF THE GOSPEL WITH ELIO CAPRA & A WEEKEND WITH PICTON PARISH:** Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March to and including 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please see flyer on noticeboards for more information. Contact details are: Parish Office on 4683 2230, Margaret on 4681 8321 or Lesley on 4681 8944.

**READERS: March**

**Vigil Mass: 15<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>: Julie Writer & Bill George**

**9.00am Mass: 16<sup>th</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>: Samuel Gould & Maureen Molland**

**(Could the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader please also read the Prayers of Intercession)**

**USHER'S FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

**Vigil Mass: Vicky Horne**

**9am Mass: Karene Harvey**

**CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community**

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am SUNDAY MASS:**

**16<sup>th</sup> March: Maureen Molland, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy, Julie Writer and Parents/Carers of Years 1 and 5 from St Thomas More Catholic Primary School**

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:** The Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Dexter** for 2 weeks commencing **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March.** Dexter will be saying the Rosary on the **Monday's at 5.30pm.** The address is on the main notice board at the side of the Church. **Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.**

When you pray the Rosary in your home you are still a community at prayer. Have you considered celebrating praying the Rosary at home and inviting other parishioners to share this special time with you? Those interested in having the Rosary Statue (and/or would like more details) can contact the parish office on 4628 2967 to arrange a suitable time you and your family would like to have our Parish Rosary Statue in your home.

**Parish Diary Dates:**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March:** St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting at **7.30pm** (please note change in time from now on) in the Parish Centre (new members are most welcome)

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March:** Retiree's Social group gathering after the 9.00am Mass, all Retiree's over 55 are most welcome (come along for a good laugh and chat) in the Parish Hall

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Parish Pastoral Council meeting at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Parish Liturgy meeting at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall

**REFLECTION PRAYER:**

**Teach us, good Lord,  
To serve you as you deserve,  
To give and not to count the cost,  
To fight and not to heed the wounds,  
To toil and not to seek for rest,  
To labour and not to ask for any reward,  
Save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen  
(St Ignatius Loyola)**

