

**3rd Sunday of Lent
Year A
23rd 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 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year until the beginning of their 60th 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 17th April:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 18th April:

Stations of the Cross

The Passion of the Lord

Evening Prayer of Divine Office

Saturday 19th April:

Easter Vigil Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

Sunday 20th April:

Easter Sunday Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Congratulations to the Candidates who made the Sacrament of Reconciliation during last week. Thank you also to the teachers who prepared them for this Sacrament, your time was greatly appreciated.

DATES OF PARISH SACRAMENTS FOR 2014:

Wednesday 4th 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 26th July at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 6th 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 13th /14th September.

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. Michael Seufatu, 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:

23rd: Betty Berthon

26th: Jamie Vossen

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is during the 9.00am Sunday Mass 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.

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.

FACE TO FACE: LENTEN CONCERT: At Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, 193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville on Sunday 23rd March from 3.00pm-4.30pm. Entry is by donation (proceeds of the concert will go to Project Compassion). For bookings phone the parish office on: 9603 7373 or nellalucestudio@hotmail.com
Refreshments at intermission.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR: St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Campbelltown & World of Fine Theatre and Music Productions present "Jesus Christ Superstar" (4 shows) on 4th, 5th, 11th and 12th April at 8.00pm in the Church. Unreserved seating. Please see notice boards for more details. For bookings please phone the Parish Office on: 4625 8044

YOUTH - HAVE YOUR SAY, GET INVOLVED – BISHOP PETER SEEKS YOUR WISDOM

On **Tuesday 1 April** those involved in youth ministry will gather with 100 young people around our diocese to determine our priorities moving forward with Jesus. Ask your parish priest about representing your parish. Contact our Diocesan Youth Office on 4222 2460 or youth@dow.org.au

Can you offer music or drama skills at these events? Please let us know when you RSVP.

Find out more about the National Vision for Youth at <http://tinyurl.com/anoointed-sent>

APPIN MASSACRE MEMORIAL CEREMONY Sunday 13 April 2014

This is an annual event to remember the Dharawal people that perished in the Massacre of 1816.

All are welcome to this annual memorial. For further information contact: Aunty Muriel Brandy 9605 4540; Uncle Ivan Wellington 0447 581 306; Sr Kerry 9605 1838 or Ann Madsen 4647 7324

FORTY DAYS Lent is a time to renew the gift of our vocation, and a time for us to listen more deeply to God's call. Have we been resisting the invitation to consider a particular vocation? Start a conversation. Fr Richard Healey, Vocations Director, on 0401 621 591, priesthood@dow.org.au.

**INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOP
Thursday, 27 March, 9:30am-3:30pm, Xavier
Conference Centre, 38 Harbour St Wollongong**

Pastoral Care is a way of responding to the invitation of Jesus to "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). This Introduction to Pastoral Care is an opportunity for people interested in visiting people who are aged in nursing home or in their own homes. For more information contact: Carmen Karauda, Diocesan Aged Care Advocate Ph: 4640 8515 or 0448 930 287 Email

Carmen.Karauda@catholiccare.dow.org.au

COUNTERS REQUIRED

Can you spare a couple of hours on a Sunday morning to assist with the collection process for the Parish Panned Giving.

The commitment will only be required on a rostered basis which can be twice a year for a one month period depending on the numbers of teams available.

Teams are normally four people. If you can assist in this special ministry would you please contact Father Tony or the Parish Office

READERS: March

Vigil Mass: 29th: Freda Miranda and James Munro

9.00am Mass: 30th: Christine Foreman and Barry Daley

READERS: April:

Vigil Mass: 5th: Freda Miranda and James Munro

9.00am Mass: 6th: Christine Foreman and Barry Daley

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

USHER'S FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Vigil Mass: Help needed

9am Mass: Christine Foreman

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 3: Brian O'Brien, Christine Foreman, Carmel and James Munro

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Rosary Statue will be in the home of *Beryl* for 2 weeks commencing **Monday 17th March to Sunday 30th March**. *Beryl* will be saying the Rosary on the **Monday's at 5.00pm**. 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 25th March: Parish Liturgy meeting at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall

Tuesday 25th March: St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting at **7.30pm** in the Parish Centre (new members are most welcome)

Thursday 27th 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

Monday 7th April: Baptism Preparation Class at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre

Monday 7th April: Parish Ladies Group meeting at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

Wednesday 9th April: Parish Finance Council meeting at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

STEWARDSHIP CORNER – Third Sunday Lent

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives!

