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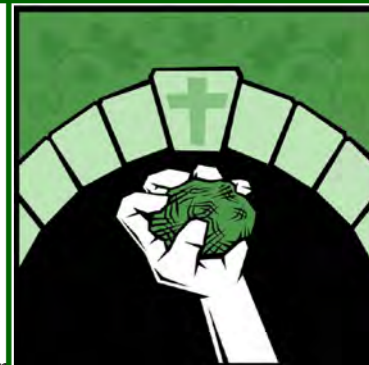
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CATHOLIC CHURCH - DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

St. THOMAS MORE PARISH, RUSE
WELCOMES YOU
Parish Priest: Fr Michael Healy

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A
4th OCTOBER 2020



Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?'
Matthew 21:31-42.

FIRST READING - Isaiah 5:1-7.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord.
(R.) Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,

devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
4. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

SECOND READING - Philippians 4:6-9.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.
(R.) Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING - Matthew 21:33-43.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said.

But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
(R.) Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

REFLECTION - by Fr Michael Tate.

In the Hebrew scripture, Israel is spoken of as the Vineyard of God. We can say that now the Church is the vineyard of God. God is the Landlord, we are the tenants. It is our job to faithfully tend it and ears good fruit. If we are unfaithful, then God will find other people to carry on his plan, other tenants to tend his vineyard. Certainly, we see that within the Universal Church. With the decline of the Eurocentric church, who has God turned to as new tenants for his vineyard? Look at the surging numbers of Catholics in sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria, the Philippines, Korea. The persecuted Church in Vietnam and China is surviving and growing despite the severity of oppression. I think we may agree that the vineyard of the Church in Australia is not as fruitful as it could be. This is a challenge for us. It is wonderful to see the energetic work of the new immigrants and refugees in our parishes (including the Bishop of Parramatta!). We could pause for a moment to commit to taking up the privilege and duty to work in the vineyard of the Church.

mtate@bigpond.com



MASS TIMES

- TUESDAY 6th OCTOBER**
9.30am. - Mass.
- WEDNESDAY 7th OCTOBER**
9.30am. - Mass.
- THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER**
9.30am. - Mass.
- FRIDAY 9th OCTOBER**
9.30am. - Mass.

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

- SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER**
Saturday Vigil for 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
6.00pm. - Mass.
- SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER**
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
9.00am. - Mass.

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH DIRECTORY



43 Acacia Avenue, Ruse NSW 2560
P.O. Box 200N Campbelltown North 2560
PARISH PRIEST
Fr Michael Healy
PARISH OFFICE
Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro
(TUES-FRI) 9.00am - 3.30pm
Telephone: 46 282967
Email: ruse@dow.org.au
Website: www.stmruse.org.au
Facebook: St Thomas More Catholic Parish Church, Ruse.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro
TUESDAY - FRIDAY
9.00am - 3.30pm

Parish ☎: 4628 2967
Email: ruse@dow.org.au
School ☎: 4625 6561

STEWARDSHIP
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

In the Gospel today, the owner of the vineyard sent messengers to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers, but there was not a single good steward on the property!

God is the owner, we are the tenants

What sort of stewards are we?

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
11th OCTOBER 2020
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

First Reading:
Isaiah 25:6-10.
The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

Second Reading:
Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20.
I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.


Gospel Reading:
Matthew 22:1-14.
Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

HUMOUR CORNER

THE WI-FI PASSWORD
A man goes into a bar at the Airport and asks the bartender what the password is to their wi-fi.
Bartender: You need to buy a drink first.
Me: Okay, I'll have a coke.
Bartender: Is Pepsi okay?
Me: Sure. How much is that?
Bartender: \$3.00.
Me: There you go. So what is the password?
Bartender: You need to buy a drink first. No spaces and all lowercase.

THIS PSYCH PATIENT IS JUST HANGING AROUND
A doctor of psychology was doing his normal morning rounds, and he entered a patient's room to find his patient sitting on the floor, sawing at a piece of wood with the side of his hand. Meanwhile another patient in the room, was hanging from the ceiling by his feet. The doctor asked his patient what he was doing, sitting on the floor.
The patient replied in an irritated fashion, "Can't you see I'm sawing a piece of wood in half?"
The doctor inquired, "What is the fellow hanging from the ceiling doing?"
"Oh. He's my friend, but he's a little crazy. He thinks he's a light bulb." The doctor asks, "If he is your friend, don't you think you should get him down from there before he hurts himself?"
"What? And work in the dark?"

ST JOHN LEONARDI



St John Leonardi was born in Lucca, Tuscany, in 1541. He worked as a pharmacist, but gave up this career to study for the priesthood. He was ordained a priest in 1572 and two years later formed a group of lay people who worked to implement the teachings and reforms of the Council of Trent. He organised groups of priests to live in the community instead of monasteries, but this radical approach was met with much opposition and he spent some time in exile. In 1583 his congregation was eventually recognised by Pope Gregory XIII; in 1614 they adopted the name, Clerks Regular of the Mother of God. In addition to his on going reform activities, he founded four more religious orders and cofounded a seminary for missionary priests. He died on October 9, 1609 after contracting influenza while nursing epidemic victims. He is the patron saint of pharmacists.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



4th October 2020

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.

"Any more who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

Matthew 10:40

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL: Weekend of: 19/20 September - To support the Retirement and Health of Clergy and Local parish Ministries. Take a moment to consider a donation. Donations can be made by credit card, EFT, cheque or money order. Please visit www.dow.org.au/giving to find out more. Call (02) 4222 2446 to make a donation over the phone.



PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS'S TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND WOULD LIKE to congratulate the Holy Communion Candidates:



May you always know the Peace of Jesus, the Light of His Love and the joy of His LIFE.

For your First Communion Day May God give you.... For every storm, a rainbow, For every tear, a smile, For every care, a promise, And a blessing in each trial. For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share, For every sigh, a sweet song. And an answer for each prayer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The Parishioners and Visitor's to our Parish over the past 4 weekends congratulate the **31** children who made the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in our Parish.

Thank you to the many people (Fr Michael, The Sacramental Team, Teacher's and Families) who have prepared the Children for this Sacrament.

Special thank you on behalf of the First Holy Communion Children and their Families: to Fr Michael, The Sacramental Team and Teacher's for assisting in helping to prepare our children for this Sacrament. **Thank you** also to the Powerpoint Creator, Church Cleaners' and Organist.

CONFIRMATION is scheduled for early November. The Information and Enrolment Form/s have been given out and returned. The Parents/Carer's will be given more information ASAP.

DO YOU WISH TO ATTEND A WEEKEND MASS?
You cannot just turn up for Mass as previously!!

YOU HAVE TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH OFFICE BY THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE WEEKEND MASSES.

We are unable to accommodate more than 70 in our church, and it will not be possible to admit parishioners who have not pre registered.

Please arrive **early** for Mass (at least **15 minutes** beforehand). Church doors **are** locked as Mass begins, No collections are taken up at Mass. **Usual Parish Collection donations can be placed in the baskets provided on the table at the Church entrance door.**

If you are elderly (70 years +) or not feeling well, the ruling states that, (for your own safety) YOU MUST STAY AT HOME. After entering the Church for Mass, your hands will be sanitized and your temperature taken. (This is obligatory) then a Monitor will show you to your RESERVED seat, where **Social distancing (4 sq meters)** must be strictly observed, (except for people of the same house-hold)

No Holy Water fonts, No Votive Candles, No Offertory Procession, no Sign of Peace, Holy Communion (in a single file) **must** be Received in the hand.

You are to sanitize your hands again as you leave the Church and **Nobody** will be permitted to socially assemble in the courtyard before, during and after Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: All the people who have died in this current pandemic, the recently deceased and whose anniversaries that occur at this time: Robert (Bobby) Cameron (Anniv), Ida Sa Cordeiro (Anniv), Renato Sa Cordeiro (Anniv), Michael Hennessy, Fr Anthony (Tony) Daly), Bernard Hoffmann, John Read, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Ladislav Feher, Beryl Ford, Jim McKenzie, Marguerite (Marg) Davis, Maree Laming, Jay Jablonskis, Deborah Rix and Maurya Hutton. **May they Rest in Peace**

PLEASE PRAY FOR: For the **many** sick in our Parish Community including: Katy Carolan, Jan Vaughan, Peter Gabas, Ron Fredericks, Kathleen Sidebottom, Kerry Walker, Jessica Nilsson, David Jabour, Dennis Jabour, Samantha Glover, Shirley Starr, Kenny Wilson, Antonio David, Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Steve Foreman, Luke Van Der Burg, Briege Glover, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Betty Berthon, Moria Harris, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Mary Fredericks and Flynn Griffiths.

WE WELCOME into our Christian Community: **Jack Allan and Coeh Mitchell Hall** and **Thomas Frank Kremers** who were Baptised last weekend.

BAPTISM: If you wish for your child to be Baptised in our Parish, please contact the Parish Office during Office Hours, so that a suitable date can be organized for the celebration. Due to COVID-19 we are currently having only 1 Baptism per Sunday.

FOR ANY PARISHIONERS: who would like to have their birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries included in the Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office: 4628 2967 or email: ruse@dow.org.au. **Parishioner's Birthdays this coming week: 4th: John Barbari**
Parishioner's Wedding Anniversary this coming week: 9th: Maureen and Bill Molland (44 years)

PARISH COLLECTIONS: With the current situation it is imperative that you please keep up your weekly contributions, as the Parish runs on a limited budget and without these regular contributions to both the First and Second Collections, we will be in real financial difficulties. For this reason, I strongly encourage parishioners who currently give by envelope to change to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions (please read the following notice on how to arrange this or contact the Parish Office) to ensure the regular income of the parish continues. **I Thank you.**

Otherwise, please drop your Planned Giving Envelope Contribution into the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave, each week. Please don't forget the first collection for the sustenance of the clergy (as we still have to live too!) For this collection please place your donation in a plain envelope and mark it 'FIRST COLLECTION' and drop it in the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave.

Thank you once again for your continued support of our Parish of St Thomas More, Ruse.

ELECTRONIC PARISH PLANNED GIVING: Parishes are urgently needing the ongoing financial support of parishioners more than ever, as their overhead costs will not change. The majority of parishioners give physically to their parish in the first and second collection baskets during Mass, we are encouraging all parishioners to join the electronic parish planned giving program. The Diocese have created a page with 2 simple options for parishioners to give to their local parish electronically. You can view the page and forms at the following link: www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving. If you have any questions about the form, please contact the CDF Wollongong: Trevor Kellam at trevor.kellam@dow.org.au

VINNIES APPEAL: Your St Vincent de Paul Conference was unable to run the Winter Appeal in 2020. However, there remain many people in need and anyone able to make a cash donation is encouraged to do so. Simply, visit www.vinnies.org.au/donate or call **13 18 12** to make a secure donation. All donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S:
10th Oct: Group 3: Christine Foreman, Chris Charlton and James and Carmel Munro
17th Oct: Group 1: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy

2021 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR'S: Are for sale from the Parish Office for the bargain price of \$9.00 each. These make terrific Christmas Presents.

THANKYOU: Parishioner's and Visitor's to our Parish Masses during the week and weekends, who help with the santising of their seats plus the many areas that are touched eg: door handles, the Lectern, Sactuary etc.

WISHING ALL OUR PARISH SCHOOL CHILDREN: A very happy and safe holiday in readiness for Term 4.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Please contact the School Office on 4625 6561 for School enquiries. To keep up-to-date with the happenings in our Parish Catholic Primary School please use this link to read their School newsletter: <https://stmdow.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=50>

AROUND THE DIOCESE:

DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG MASS ONLINE: For all of the online Mass options - please visit the Dow website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>. Members of the faithful are urged to keep holy the Lord's Day by making an act of Spiritual Communion.

THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG WEEKLY PODCAST: The Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast - 'The Journey' - **4 October:** don't miss the great music, stories and God spots on our weekly Podcast. Uploaded every Friday for free download - go to www.jcr.org.au

PARISH RENEWAL: Reflecting n Pope Francis' Recent Instruction on Parish Life: Online Sessions in 3 Parts - between 12 October -13 November. Visit: www.dow.org.au/news-and-events for more information or contact Darren on daren.mcdowell@dow.org.au

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Marriage Enrichment Weekend 20-22 November 2020 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Book online at www.wvme.org.au Alternatively contact Christine & Terry on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wvme.org.au

YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE: Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong has launched LIVE -Check it out at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdC-Q7-OVY>. great way. To get in touch with the NET team and be part of this, simply follow the "CYMW" Facebook page or by Instagram at "wollongongnetteam".

PRAYER RESOURCES for INDIVIDUALS and FAMILIES: these include daily prayers and readings, prayer services, the Sunday Office commentaries, homilies and reflections as well as Gospel based activities and resources to support personal and family prayer. Go to: liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray and follow the prompts to access.

FAITH CIRCLES: free small group resource: Is available to download at www.faithcircles.dow.org.au or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

CatholicCARE- Have you thought about becoming a foster carer? Needed is foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. For more information please either call 0418 783 956 or email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au>.