



20th August 2017

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"

Our Parish is wheelchair friendly. We have ramps going into the Church and into the Parish Hall. Please let your family and friends know. "Anymore who welcomes you, welcome me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS: If you require Low Gluten Hosts for Holy Communion please see Fr Michael *before* Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Can you please supervise your children in the Church courtyard and Parish Hall. They are not permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church **and** the Parish Hall, the surrounding trees and the garden in the courtyard. Supervision is your responsibility. We cannot accept liability for a child hurting themselves if they engage in these activities.



PARISHIONERS and VISITORS

ARE INVITED: To Refreshments in the Parish Hall after the Sunday 9.00am morning Mass. Come and share a cuppa and a chat and meet other Parishioners

and visitors to our Parish.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS FROM OUR PARISH: We currently have 2 Acolyte's who visit Parishioners and bring them Communion every Tuesday to those who are ill or elderly and unable to come to Mass. Please encourage them (or a family member) to contact either Fr Michael or the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Please keep in your prayers the 56 Children who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Also for their families and the teachers who are giving of their time in preparing these children. *The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be at the Weekend Parish Masses: Saturday 9th September at 6.00pm Vigil Mass and Sunday 10th September at 9.00am Mass.*

WE WELCOME: Into our Parish Community *Elliott James Simone* and *Ellie-May O'Neill* who were Baptised last weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Helen Rawson, Faleniko Tiatele, Maureen Wyer, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Pio Byron, Elaine Hoffmann, Natalie Dwyer, Aimiti Seufatu, Robert Berthaly, John Hill, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Ellen Healy, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Bernandino Ordiz, Bruce McDonald, Keith Millar, Sadie Mir, John McMillan, Margaret Wheeler, Fr Tony Daly, Keith Gomes, Ladislav Feher, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Josephine & Frank McKay, Genie Lynch, Alice Harris and Maria Cabonara. *Eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

Parishioner's Birthdays this coming week:

20th: Emily Vossen
If any Parishioner/s 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

2016 NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY RESULT FOR OUR PARISH:

Demographic Profile:
60% people are female and 40% are male
22% of all people have a university degree
29% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma
49% have primary or secondary school education.
Church Background and Attendance:
71% are longterm
4% are newcomers
16% switcher/transfer
10% were visitors
The Average Age of people is 57 years
59% of all people were born in AUSTRALIA
41% were born overseas
34% speak a language other than ENGLISH at home
20% off attenders here are new arrivals to this parish in the past 5 years
94% attend Mass at least monthly.

These results are from the 140 forms (Adults) and 10 (Child forms) that were completed in November last year. Attenders could select up to 3 options so percentages may not add up to 100%.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is held during the 9.00am Sunday morning Mass (during School Terms) and is for school aged children - Kindergarten to Year 6 (inclusive). If you would like more information on this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on 0421 802 132.

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME: Is held on Tuesday's (during School Terms) from 9.30am - 11.30am in our Parish Hall. **Gold coin donation.** Parents/Guardians/Grandparents, if you have children including School aged and bubs, come for a chat and cuppa while the children enjoy playtime activities. If you have any enquiries please contact Catherine on 4627 1842.

THE RETIREES SOCIAL GROUP: Would like to invite senior parishioners (over 55) to join our group in the hall after 9.30am Mass (Thursday's) this Thursday. We meet twice a month. Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.

PARISH LADIES GROUP: FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE: Tickets are on sale this weekend: and next (26th/27th August) after all Parish Masses. **Tickets are \$1.00 each and there are 8 great prizes.**

Please support this Parish Fundraiser. Funds raised will go towards the "revamping" of the Parish Hall.

PARISH LADIES GROUP: SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 29th October: Parish Ladies Group High Tea. More details to follow.

PARISH MAINTENANCE: A reminder regarding the Parish Maintenance book on the main table at the entrance of the Church. You can either write in the book or phone/email the Parish Office, if you are aware or notice anything that is in need of repair.

PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: There are still Envelopes ready for collection. If your envelopes are not there, can you please put your name down on the clipboard in the middle of the boxes and they will be ready for you next weekend.

PARISH PIETY STALL: We have plenty available stock for sale eg: Rosary Beads, various medals, cards etc. The Piety Stall is *open after the Sunday 9.00am Mass.*

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Thank you to the many Parishioners, Parents, Friends etc who supported our Parish Catholic Primary School Fete last Sunday. A very successful day was had.

Save the date:

Saturday 7th October: St Thomas More School Shopping bus trip: leaving the Church grounds at 7.00am. Numbers have to be in by Tuesday 19th September. Please take a flyer on the tables at the entrance of the Church, please take one or more. This is a most enjoyable fun day.

Please take home a School Newsletter to keep up to date with what is happening. They are located on all the tables at the entrance to the Church.

AUGUST 27 August: World Refugees & Migration Day

POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON "SAME-SEX MARRIAGE"

ANNOUNCED: The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include "same-sex marriage". Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to www.aec.gov.au/enrol/ before the cut-off date of Thursday, 24 August. **To keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man, vote NO.**

EAST AFRICA FOOD CRISIS - CARITAS APPEAL 2017:

The immediate need is for food and water, shelter and medical supplies to help reduce the loss of life due to malnutrition and disease. You can help deliver emergency relief by donating on-line at www.caritas.org.au/foodcrisis or calling 1800 024 413. Donation envelopes are available in the church foyer and can be mailed directly to Caritas - no stamp required.

*An anonymous saying for thought:
Seven days without prayer makes one weak.
Silence, stillness and simplicity - the best way to pray*

BISHOPS' SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT ON THE ECONOMY: We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 24 September. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2017 is titled: *'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'*. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, **please phone Bev on: 4625 0659.** *"When you prayer the Rosary, you have our Lady's hand in your hand. When you pray the Holy Rosary you have the power of God in your hand".*

PARISH DIARY DATES:

Tuesday 22nd August: 7.30pm St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre
Thursday 24th August: Retiree's Social Group gathering is after the 9.30am Mass. **(Any Retirees over the age of 55 are warmly welcome to join this group).** Gathering is held in the Parish Hall. (see notice)
Monday 4th September: 7.30pm Parish Ladies Group Meeting in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 5th September: 7.30pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Parish Hall

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

26th August: Saturday Vigil Mass: Trish Newman & Bev McKenzie
27th August: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Julie Writer
2nd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: James Munro & Winnie Cameron
3rd September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Annette Read & Catherine Minogue

READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

26th August: Saturday Vigil Mass: Kerry Hennessy & Marisel King
27th August: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Andrew Truong & Maureen Molland
2nd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Marisel King & Kerry Hennessy
3rd September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Feyise & Julie Writer

USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

26th August: Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro
27th August: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley
2nd September: Saturday Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
3rd September: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Saturday 26th August: Group 3: Christine Foreman, James and Carmel Munro
Saturday 2nd September: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Faye Faamau, Colleen Jablonskis., Rosa & Manuel Herrera

