



4<sup>th</sup> December 2016

**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. “Anyone who welcomes you, welcome me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me”. Matthew 10:40*

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

**NEXT SUNDAY: Third Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday)** our Parish celebrates this Sunday as a Family Mass followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall after the Sunday 9.00am Mas. (Children’s Liturgy will be on for school student’s Kindergarten to Year 6 (inclusive). We look forward to seeing as many Parishioners, their families and visitor’s to our Parish as possible.

**IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN OUR PARISH:** Who is ill/or unable to come to Mass and would like to have Holy Communion please either let Fr Ross or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. We have 2 Acolyte’s who take Communion to the ill/elderly and/or housebound.

**THANK YOU TO THE MANY PARISHIONERS IN THE VARIOUS PARISH MINISTRIES** for the giving of their time and talents for our Parish. You are *greatly* appreciated. Acolyte’s, Sacristan’s, Church Cleaner’s, Musician’s (all Choir’s), Powerpoint Creator and Operator’s, Reader’s, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Usher’s, Parish Counter’s, Flower Arranger’s, Catechist’s, Sacramental Team, Children’s Liturgy Teacher’s, Baptism Preparation, Refreshments After Mass, Communion to the Sick/Elderly, St Vincent de Paul, Parish Ladies Group and the many other Parish Groups.

God Bless and thank you Fr Ross



*Thank you Fr Ross for teaching, guiding, inspiring and uplifting and most of all, thank you for bringing us closer to Christ. May God continue to bless you for your faithful Ministry.*

*God’s Blessings always, the Parishioners, visitor’s and friends of St Thomas More Parish.*



*All Parishioners are invited to a thank you morning tea for Fr Ross after Sunday 9.00am Mass in the Parish Hall.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:**

Ken Dewick (R.D.), Fr Tony Daly, Deborah Rix, Jim McKenzie, Mary Writer, John Read, Josephine and Frank McKay, Ladislav Feher, Genie Lynch, Maurya Hutton, Alice Harris and Maria Cabonara. *May internal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The *many* sick in our Parish Community *including:* Elaine Hoffmann, Cathy Bye, Natalie Dwyer, Aimiti Seufatu, Robert Berthaly, Ken Flemming, Bryce Smith, John Hill, Liban (Wako) Family, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

**Parishioner’s Birthday’s for this week:**

6<sup>th</sup>: *Joe Berbari*

**Parishioner’s Wedding Anniversary for this week:**

5<sup>th</sup>: *Kerry and Maureen Hennessy (46 years)*  
*If any Parishioner/s would like to have their Birthdays and or Wedding Anniversaries included in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 or ruse@dow.org.au*

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Parish Community: *Amelia Surae and Alexis Brooke Jennings, Ryan Muscat, Harry Sweetnam and Ava Katherine Moretti* who were Baptised recently.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: Christmas Jesse Tree:**

(Please do not wrap gifts). The gifts will be distributed before the School Holidays. So the Gifts need to be returned ASAP to the Parish Office. *We thank you for your kindness and know that your gifts will make a difference to needy children.*

**PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:**

Tickets are on sale this weekend at all the Parish Masses. We have 4 terrific prizes, tickets are \$1.00 each. *The raffle will be drawn next Sunday (Rose Sunday) during morning tea. Please continue to support this Parish Fundraiser.*

**CHILDRENS PAGEANT – CHRISTMAS EVE**

"Any children interested in joining in the Children’s Pageant, (5.30pm on Christmas Eve, prior to Vigil Mass), please fill in details on clipboard after Mass, or leave details at Parish Office. Joanne from Children Liturgy will be available after the 9am Mass for the next two weekends to answer any queries. Details re practice sessions will be notified to you when they are confirmed."

**READERS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES:** If you are available and wish to read, kindly put your name in the appropriate place on the clipboard on the table at the church entrance. Thank you. – May

**MESSAGE FOR READERS:** The current Readers’ Roster ends on the 18th December and the year 2017 roster will be released by mid-December this year. We would like to invite more new readers to join us this new year. We are looking for individuals, couples or families who have passion for reading and would love to share their God-given talent. We highly encourage young people, who are in Year 5 and above and are good readers to join us. Those of you who have been readers in the past, we hope you will continue. There is a sign-up clipboard on the table at the church entrance for the next few weeks for your name, phone numbers, email address and preferred Mass time. Should you have any question regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me on 0451468931. *Thank you to the old readers for their loyalty and welcome to new ones into this rewarding Ministry.* – May

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY:** Is held during the Sunday 9.00am Mass (during School Terms). This is for School children from Kindergarten up to and including Year 6. If you would like more information on this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on 0421802132

**TAKE A RISK AND GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH:** Did you know that in our Parish there is a faithful team of volunteers that take a risk and step out in faith? In State Government schools there are no school lessons that teach the basic message about Jesus, our faith and the great adventure that life can be with God. That’s where Catechists come in. Each week of the school year they have a short 30-minute lesson where they use a step-by-step lesson plan that helps Catholic children understand their faith, grow in love and maturity and learn what it means to be Catholic. We were all given this gift by someone. Someone stepped up for us so that we would know. *So we invite you to take a risk and give the gift of faith. Become a Catechist as a teacher or helper today! For more information, ask our Parish Priest for more information or phone Colleen (our Parish Scripture Co-Ordinator) on: 0414284717. Thanking you in anticipation.*

**PARISH PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:** If you would like to join our Planned Giving Program, either using the envelopes or by Direct Debit or Direct Credit, forms are available on the tables near the church entrance doors. *Thank you for all who are generous to our Parish.*

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Please take home a School Newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening in our Parish Catholic Primary School. *Parishioners are invited to the School’s Christmas Carol Concert to be held this Wednesday evening (7th December) at St Patrick’s College, Campbelltown.*

**St. PATRICKS BUSINESS COLLEGE LTD.** Enrolments are now open for our 2017 Diplomas in Business and Business Administration. These 40-week courses are ideal for Year 10, 11 or 12 school leavers and provide a viable alternative pathway to career or university. We also assist the majority (well over 90%) of our graduates to find well-paid and enjoyable roles. Contact our Director of Education, Anne Fairhall, to arrange a 1:1 interview to discuss your study options on 0407 278 164.

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:**

The purpose of the Ministry is to increase prayer within our Parish. Parishioners involved in this Ministry are prepared to open their home for fellow parishioners to join them in saying the Rosary. *If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry please phone Bev on: 4625 0659*

**PARISH DIARY DATES:**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December: 7.30pm** Parish Pastoral Council meeting (last for 2016) in the Parish Hall  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December: 7.00pm** Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre  
**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December: (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday).** All Parishioners are invited to celebrate the Christmas Message and our Parish Family Mass followed by morning tea in the Parish Hall.  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: 7.30pm** Parish Finance Council meeting (last for 2016) in the Parish Centre

**PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

**EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS’ OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

*Vigil Mass: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Trish Newman, James Munro*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: Catherine Minogue, Helen Rawson*  
*Vigil Mass: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Bev McKenzie & James Munro*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: Fay & Junior Faamau*

**READERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

*Vigil Mass: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Bev McKenzie, Julie McKenzie*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: Therese Writer, Bill George*  
*Vigil Mass: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Pauline & Gabby Menzies*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: Elisapeta Misinale & Feyise Writer*

**CHURCH CLEANERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS**

*Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Group 4 Maureen Molland, Fa’atu Faamau, Colleen Jablonskis, Rose Herrera, Manuel Herrera*  
*Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Syro-Malabar Indian Community*

**USHERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

*Vigil Mass: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec: Vicki Horne*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: Gwen & Brian Harris*  
*Vigil Mass: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec: Carmel Munro*  
*9.00am Mass: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: Barry Daley*

**Volunteer Lay Ministers:**

Volunteer lay ministers are people of a parish that do work that is instrumental to the operation of a parish. *Without them many of the things that happen in parish life would be available.*

*Prepare the way of the Lord*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

“All-powerful, most holy, most high, supreme God: all good, supreme good, totally good, You Who alone are good, may we give You all praise, all glory, all thanks, all honor, all blessing, and all good. So be it! So be it! Amen.”

*Advent and Christmas Wisdom from St. Francis of Assisi*

