



8th December 2019

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, welcomes 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 Chelsea House (Parish Hall). They are not permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church and Chelsea House (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.

TAKE A RISK AND GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH: In our Parish, there is a team of volunteers that take a risk and step out in faith. NSW Government schools do not provide lessons that teach the basic message about Jesus, our faith, and the great adventure that life can be with God. Each week of the School year, catechists present 30-minute lessons using 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. Take a risk and Become a Catechist teacher or helper today. *For more information please ask Fr Michael or our Catechist Co-Ordinator: Colleen Jablonskis on 0414 284717*

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO SHOW-Airs 8th December: Reflections from: Fr Antony Jukes, Mother Hilda Scott, Bruce Downes and Sam Clear. Tune into LIFE 101.0 or 98.5 or to go www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au to ensure that you never miss a show, it can be sent to you each week as a Podcast via email – for free.

A VOCATION VIEW: Who, today, is willing to make ready the Way of the Lord, to clear Him a straight path? Good, I prayed You would. If anyone would like to know more, please Contact the Diocese Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez, At vocations@dow.org.au

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: 2 -8 January 2020: The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains. Registrations and details: epiphanypilgrimage.org and facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage.

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community *Lachlan Glen Diamond* who was Baptised last weekend.

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.
Parishioner's Birthday this coming week:
13th: *Russell Goodall* 14th: *Aggi D'Sa*

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Luke Van Der Burg, Brieger Glover, Steve Foreman, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Ellen Healy, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

PARISH GROUNDS WORKING BEE: The next scheduled Parish Grounds working bee (in preparation for Christmas) is **next Saturday 14th December**. Some of the jobs to be included are: removal of old pruned trees/branches etc, mending of Church Pew kneelers, gardening, pruning and some mowing. Please bring your lawnmowers, edger's etc. Morning Tea will be provided. *Thank you also to the Parishioners who come and tender to the Gardens and the tidying of the car park.*
You are all greatly appreciated by all those who come to worship in our Parish Church.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am MASS: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Rose Sunday): 15th December: This is the Sunday that all Parishioners are asked to bring a plate (with food) to share. Eg: biscuits, cake etc. This is our last one for the year and in readiness for Christmas. It is also a great time to catchup with your Parish Family. *Thanking you in anticipation.*

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Tickets are on sale this weekend and will be drawn next Sunday 15th December (3rd Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday)) at the morning tea after the 9.00am Mass. We have 5 fantastic prizes and tickets are great value for \$1.00 each. *Please support this Parish Fundraiser, as half the Appeal will go towards the St Vincent de Paul Conference Bushfire Appeal and the other half towards our Parish Church.*

PARISH JESSE TREE GIFTS: *Can the unwrapped gifts please be returned ASAP,* or be delivered to the Parish Office during Office Hours. The St Vincent de Paul Conference will distribute these gifts mid-December. *Thank you in advance for your continuing generosity.*

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S ROSTER: ends at the end of December. If you would like to join this very important Parish Ministry or continue, it would be greatly appreciated. You are appreciated by all who come to worship in our Parish. Please put your details down on the Clip board on the main table at the Entrance to the Church. *Thanking you in advance.*

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME 2019: is held in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) on Tuesdays 9.30am-11.30am during School Terms. Mums/Dads/Carers/Grandparents come along with your pre-school child/children. A gold coin donation. The last playtime for 2019 will be this Tuesday 10th December. Please contact Catherine on 4627 1842for details.

MESSAGE FOR READERS: The current Readers' Roster will end in December and the year 2020 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 in reading and would love to share their God-given talent in reading. 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 t 0413077824. Thank you to the old Readers for their loyalty and welcome new ones into this rewarding Ministry. **May**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2019: Is held during the 9.00am Sunday Mass. This is for Kindergarten up to and including Year 6 school students. If you would like to know more about this Parish Ministry or become a helper please contact Joanne on: 0421 802 132

ADVERTISING ON THE BACK COVER OF THE PARISH BULLETIN: If you would like to advertise your Business on the back cover of the Parish Bulletin please see/contact either Fr Michael, Barry Daley (Chairman Parish Finance Council) or the Parish Office. A business card size is \$275.00 (includes GST) or double business card size is \$550.00 (includes GST) this cost covers advertising for 12 months.

PARISH PIETY STALL: Looking for that extra special Christmas gift, come and look at the Piety Stall, there are many gift ideas etc.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00 (to be placed in the red letterbox)

PARISH COLLECTIONS IN THE CHURCH: We depend on your generosity to make ends meet for the support of our Parish. **The First Collection:** (at the Offertory) for our Parish Priest and the running of the Presbytery. **The Second Collection:** (after Communion) for Parish costs, insurance, bills (phone, gas, electricity, water etc) office operations etc. **If you are not part of our Parish Planned Giving Program, then please consider joining.** If you are new to our Parish, please consider joining. **You can join by the envelope system or Direct Debit.** There are forms on the table at the main entrance of the Church. For more information, please either contact the Parish Office or see Fr Michael

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Keep up to date with the "latest" at our Parish Catholic Primary School, please take home a copy of their School Newsletter

ADVENT has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these 2 reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight
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PARISH DIARY DATES TO NOTE:

Thursday 12th December: Retiree's Social Group Gathering in Chelsea House *after the 9.30am morning Mass*
Saturday 14th December: 8.30am – 11.00am: Parish Grounds Working Bee in readiness for Christmas (see main notices)

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

USHERS

Saturday 14th December: Vigil Mass: Chantal Barbari
Sunday 15th December: 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley
Saturday 21st December: Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
Sunday 22nd December: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris

READERS:

Saturday 14th December: Vigil Mass: May Michelutti and Karen Battour
Sunday 15th December: 9.00am Mass: Elisapeta Minisale and Jim Writer
Saturday 21st December: Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie and Pauline Menzies
Sunday 22nd December: 9.00am Mass: Feyise and Tess Writer

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Saturday 14th December: Vigil Mass: Trish Newman and Maureen Molland
Sunday 15th December: 9.00am Mass: Faye Faamau and Julie Writer
Saturday 21st December: Vigil Mass: Bertha Barbari and John Greene
Sunday 22nd December: 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan and Annette Read

POWERPOINT OPERATOR'S:

Saturday 14th December: Vigil Mass: Chantal Barbari
Sunday 15th December: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris
Saturday 21st December: Vigil Mass: Joshua Star
Sunday 22nd December: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris

CHURCH CLEANERS:

Saturday 14th December: Group 5: Samoan Divine Mercy
Saturday 21st December: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community

REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS: 3rd Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday): Please read main notice. (All Parishioners are asked to bring a plate (with food) to share)

