

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C
20th December 2015



THE YEAR OF MERCY

(Tuesday 8th December 2015 to 20th November 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

Fr Tony’s Christmas Message



A warm welcome to everyone who is visiting our Parish this Christmas Season. A special thank you to our Parishioners who through their continued support, prayer and activities in our Parish Ministries which promote the growth of our Parish into God’s Kingdom.

This December 2015, being the beginning of “The Jubilee Year of Mercy”, we ask the Christ Child to extend his wonderful Blessings of Loving Kindness to all our Parish families throughout this Christmas Season.

I would like to wish each and everyone one of you, a most Holy, Happy and Blessed Christmas celebration remembering the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

God Bless
Fr Tony Daly
(Parish Priest)

READERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES 2015:

Christmas Vigil Mass: 1st Reader: Angela Truong
: 2nd Reader: Julie McKenzie
Midnight Mass: 1st Reader: May Michelutti
: 2nd Reader: Carmel Munro

Christmas Day Mass:
1st Reader: Christine Foreman
2nd Reader: Jim Writer

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Christmas Vigil Mass: Trish Newman and Bev McKenzie
Midnight Mass: Bertha Berbari and Karenne Harvey
Christmas Day Mass: Julie Writer and Catherine Minogue

NEW YEAR’S DAY MASS TIMETABLE:

Thursday 31st December:
6.00pm: New Year Vigil Mass – Mary, Holy Mother of the Church
Friday 1st January 2016:
9.00am: New Year’s Day Mass – Mary, Holy Mother of the Church

READERS FOR NEW YEARS DAY

Thursday 31st December:
Vigil Mass: 6.00pm: 1st Reader: Maureen Molland
2nd Reader: James Munro

New Year’s Day: Friday 1st January:
9.00am Mass: 1st Reader: Christine Foreman
2nd Reader: May Michelutti

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 Tony or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. We have 2 Acolyte’s and Fr Tony who take Communion to the ill/elderly and/or housebound.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Maree and Noel Laming, Betty White, Rita Jowsey, Anna Kovac, Bernie Smith, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Stevie Dilen, Bill Eccleston, Candice Walker, Chris Noyce, Ethan Craig, Leo Cornwell, Doreen Monckton, Mary Smith, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Tina Ting, Beryl Purcell, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Natalie Dwyer, Tomas Laming and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ken Sutton (R.D.), Bob Leece (R.D.), Jim McKenzie (Anniv), Mary McInerney (Anniv), Maurya Hutton (Anniv), Winnie Menzies, Peter Pereira, Ivo Pereira, Kelly Betherly, Peter Allen Daly, Mary Writer, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Bernard Hoffmann, Marcia Rae, Imelda Zamprogno and Maria Cabonara. May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.

PIETY STALL: For those last minute Christmas Cards, presents or Columban Calendars for next year, please go and visit our Parish Piety Stall.

Parishioner’s Birthday’s for this week:

21st: Jeff Cross, 23rd: Christel Kohler, 24th: Daphne Pew and Abigail Minogue

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

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you to everyone who supported this Parish Fundraiser. The winners are: 1st: Christel Kohler 2nd: Valerie Francios 3rd: Munro Family 4th: Fay Faamau.

The Parish Ladies Group would like to thank everyone who has supported the fundraising raffles throughout the year. With your support we will be able to help with various improvements in our Parish Church and Hall. Wishing you all a very Holy and Happy Christmas and the very best for the coming Year.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: Thank you

Your St Vincent de Paul Conference is extremely grateful for the support of parishioners during what has proved to be a busy 2015.

We are encouraged in our work when we witness generous support for the Winter Appeal, Assist a Student Weekend and the Jesse Tree. We especially thank the Parish Ladies Group for the later but our supporters throughout the St Thomas More Community are many and it is impossible in this brief note to acknowledge them all.

This Christmas we have been able to provide toys to 42 households helping 146 children while facilitating nutritious hamper delivery to 86 households. We could not do this without your help. Thank you.

While we are busy, our work is very rewarding. In 2016 we hope to conduct a recruitment drive and we encourage you to give this your prayerful consideration.

God Bless and Merry Christmas on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society Ruse/ Airs conference

ROSE SUNDAY (Parish Family Mass) THANKYOU: To the many Parishioners who helped with the preparing of this Parish Mass. It was good to see so many people attend and join in sharing Refreshments after the Mass. Thank you to the donations of food, to the ladies for the serving and cleaning up afterwards. A spirit of Parish Family community was felt. Your time and talents were greatly appreciated.

PRECHRISTMAS WORKING BEE THANKYOU: A huge thank you to those Parishioners (both young and over retirement age) who helped with the working bee last Saturday morning. Many jobs were completed, and they were rewarded with a lovely morning tea and ending with a great BBQ. Once again thank you for your support in preparing our Church Grounds for Christmas. The giving of your time and talents were greatly appreciated. **Noel Laming (Chairman) and The Parish Pastoral Council**

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00 each, many interesting articles for your perusal.

WISHING all our School students, staff and their families a very happy and restful Christmas and the very best for the coming year.

CHRISTMAS falls next Friday – it is a holy day of obligation. Christmas Time runs from First Vespers (Evening Prayer1) of the Nativity of the Lord up to and including the Sunday after Epiphany or after 6th January. GNLYC 32-33

PARISH PLANNED GIVING: Planned Giving is essential to the running costs of the Parish Did you know that you can contribute in several ways: Weekly Envelopes, Direct Debit from your Bank Account, Direct Credit by electronically transferring funds **(EFT)** from your Bank Account direct to the St Thomas More Church Account. Irregular contributions.

(The Direct Credit facility is new and means that you control when you contribute but you need to join the Planned Giving Program to ensure that your contribution is recognized in our Finance System.)

If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program please contact the Parish Office on 46282867 or e-mail: ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org.au. Thank you.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE:

During the Christmas Season and School holidays, the Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners Homes until February 2016. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2015. I wish them and their families a joyous Christmas and God’s Blessings. If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry in 2016, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659

PARISH DIARY DATES:

Wednesday 23rd December: 7.00pm – 9.00pm Choir practice for Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass – 9.00am), **all singers are encouraged to attend**

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS’ OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Winnie Cameron and Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Catherine Minogue and Annette Read

Vigil Mass: Saturday 2nd Jan 2016: Maureen Molland and Bertha Berbari

9.00am Mass: Sunday 3rd Jan: Fay and Junior Faamau

READERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

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

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Louise Phillips and Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Jacqui and Marion Cross

Vigil Mass: Saturday 2nd Jan 2016: Bev and Julie McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 3rd Jan: Pesio Aiga and Chris O’Brien

CHURCH CLEANERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

Saturday 26th Dec: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy

Saturday 2nd Jan 2016: Group 6: Tongan Youth Group

(Nasio Family)

USHERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Carmel Munro

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Barry Daley

Vigil Mass: Saturday 2nd Jan 2016: Carmel Munro

9.00am Mass: Sunday 3rd Jan: Christine Foreman

FLOWER ARRANGERS FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

26th Dec: Melanie Webb and Elaine Hoffmann

2nd Jan 2016: Samoan Divine Mercy Group

