

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B



**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.

**CHRISTMAS DAY THIS YEAR:** Falls on Monday and this is a holy day of obligation. The Sunday obligation will be covered by the Saturday Vigil and Sunday 9.00am Mass (23/24<sup>th</sup> Dec). The Christmas Day obligation (holy day) is covered by the Sunday evening Vigil (for Christmas), Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE:**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December:**  
5.30pm: Christmas Pageant and Carols  
6.00pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass  
11.30pm: Christmas Carols  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December:**  
12.00am: Midnight Mass  
8.30am: Christmas Carols  
9.00am: Christmas Day Mass

**READER'S FOR CHRISTMAS:**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass:** Julie McKenzie and May Michelutti  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December:**  
**Midnight Mass:** Carmel and James Munro  
**Christmas Day Mass:** Alison Hourigan and Christine Foreman

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER'S OF COMMUNION:**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass:** Mavon Vaughan & Catherine Minogue  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December:**  
**Midnight Mass:** Annette Read & Bertha Barbari  
**Christmas Day Mass:** Bertha Barbari

**FR MICHAEL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:**

*A very happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas to all our Parishioners.  
May the child Jesus touch all the hearts and the homes of the Parish with peace, happiness and good will this Christmas and throughout the New Year.  
Merry Christmas Fr Michael*

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS TIMETABLE:**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December:**  
6.00pm: Vigil Mass for *The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

2018

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January:**  
9.00am: Mass for the *HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

**READER'S FOR NEW YEARS DAY:**

**1st January: 9.00am Mass: Julie & Jim Writer**

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER'S OF COMMUNION:**

**1st January: 9.00am Mass: Fay & Junior Faamau**

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To *Andrienne Maree Le-Guier* and *Aaron John Giannini* who were Married in our Parish Church last weekend. Wishing them God's Blessings always.

**PARISHIONER'S BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:**

23<sup>rd</sup>: *Christel Kohler*  
24<sup>th</sup>: *Daphne Pew*  
26<sup>th</sup>: *Jim Writer*

**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](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au)

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:** Jim McKenzie (Anniv), Mary McInerney (Anniv), Maurya Hutton (Anniv), Fr Tony Daly, Ralph Carmona, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.  
*May internal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual Light shine upon them.*

**PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** Thank you to the many people who have supported these Parish Fundraising Raffles. The winners of our Christmas Raffle were: *Maureen Hennessy, Gabbie Menzies, Kerry Walker, Bill George, L J Thomas, Mia Graham, Annette Read* and *Noel Laming.*

*Wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas and the very best for the coming year.*  
*The Parish Ladies Group*

**THANK YOU: PARISH GROUNDS WORKING BEE**

**PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS:** Thank you to the Parishioners who helped with preparing the Church grounds for Christmas last Saturday morning. The gifts of your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

**THANK YOU: TO THE MANY PARISHIONERS:** Who have prepared our Parish Church for the Christmas celebrations. The Gifts of your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

**THANK YOU FROM ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**

As 2017 draws to a close, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the Council members for their dedication and assistance in carrying out their Council and Ministry requirements. These sentiments I would like to extend to all participants in the Ministries for the enthusiasm and effort they put into carrying out their Stewardship. On behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas and may the New Year bring you everything you wish for.  
*Mike Young - Chairperson - Parish Pastoral Council*

**THANK YOU: ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:**

Your St Vincent de Paul Conference is extremely grateful for the support of parishioners again during a busy 2017. We are encouraged in our work when we witness your generous support for the Winter Appeal, Assist a Student Weekend and especially the Jesse Tree. We must thank the Parish Ladies Group for the later but our supporters throughout the St Thomas More Community are too many to acknowledge in this brief note. This Christmas we have been able to assist 78 households. All up these festive gifts brought the hope of Christmas to 259 people. We could not do this without you. Our work is very rewarding but we still need new members. Our recent recruitment weekend was the first of what we hope will become an annual event. The result was encouraging but new members remain a priority for us. 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.

**GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:** The Parish is looking for a volunteer who will be willing to work on a regular basis each week in an effort to keep the Church grounds and surrounds neat and tidy. Hours would be flexible and any handyman skills would also be beneficial as there sometimes small tasks that need doing but it is expensive to bring a tradesman in. If you are able to assist please contact the Office on 46282967 your help would be greatly appreciated.

**PARISH MAINTENANCE:** Like anywhere, from time to time little things need 'doing' in the Church, Parish Hall, toilets etc. It's good to keep on top of things. If you happen to notice eg: kneelers need mending, or anything that is need of repair, please write in the 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 PIETY STALL:** Come and have a look at our Parish Piety Stall for those last minute Christmas gifts. John and Bertha wish to thank everyone who has supported the Parish Piety Stall this year and would like to wish

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

The New Principal to our Primary School is Mr Phillip Barrington. We look forward to working with Mr Barrington from the beginning of 2018.

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

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

- EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**30<sup>th</sup> December: Saturday Vigil Mass: Trish Newman & Bertha Barbari**  
**31<sup>st</sup> December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue 2018**  
**6<sup>th</sup> January: Saturday Vigil Mass: Julie & Bev McKenzie**  
**7<sup>th</sup> January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue & Julie Writer**

- READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**30<sup>th</sup> December: Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro & Kerry Hennessy**  
**31<sup>st</sup> December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Maureen Molland & Christine Foreman 2018**  
**6<sup>th</sup> January: Saturday Vigil Mass: Julie McKenzie & Kerry Hennessy**  
**7<sup>th</sup> January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Feyise & Tess Eriter**

- USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**30<sup>th</sup> December: Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro**  
**31<sup>st</sup> December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Foreman 2018**  
**6<sup>th</sup> January: Saturday Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne**  
**7<sup>th</sup> January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Brian & Gwen Harris**

- CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Barry Daley, Eugene Wasko & Kathy Donachie 2018:**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January: Group 3: Christine Foreman, James & Carmel Munro**

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:** *During the Christmas Season and School holidays, the Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners Homes until February 2018. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who have had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2017. I wish them and their families a joyous Christmas and God's Blessings. If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home during 2018, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659*



