

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
YEAR C



23rd December 2018

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.**

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION and MASS TIMES:

Reconciliation:

Christmas Eve: Monday 24th December: 11.00am – 12noon

Christmas Mass Timetable:

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: (5.30pm Christmas Carols) 6.00pm Mass

Midnight Mass: (11.30pm Christmas Carols) 12midnight Mass

Christmas Day: (8.30am Christmas Carols) 9.00am Mass

New Years Day: 9.30am Mass

READERS FOR CHRISTMAS and NEW YEARS DAY:

Christmas Eve: Ian Star and Julie McKenzie

Midnight Mass: James and Carmel Munro

Christmas Day: Marian Cross and Barry Daley

New Years Day: May Michelutti and Annette Read

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR:

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie and Trish Newman

Midnight Mass: Annette Read and Bertha Barbari

Christmas Day: Loretta and Lafitaga Tuigamala

New Year's Day Mass: Julie Writer and Bev McKenzie

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED and the ANNIVERSARIES THAT OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

Jim McKenzie (Anniv) Mary McNerney (Anniv), Ev McNerney (Anniv), Maurya Hutton (Anniv), Pedro Santos, Fr Tony Daly, Deborah Rix, Jim McKenzie, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr John Whitty, Roge Beshoy(baby), Maureen Hennessy, Elaine Hoffmann, Ellen Healy, Patricia McNerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

PARISHIONER'S BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS COMING WEEK:

23rd: **Christel Kohler**, 24th: **Daphne Pew and Abigail Minogue** 25th: **Jesus** and 26th: **Jim Writer**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY FOR THIS WEEK:

27th: **Catherine & Steven Robinson (21 years)**

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

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you to the many Parishioners and Visitor's to our Parish who have supported our Parish Fundraising Raffles. These funds will go towards our Parish Church. Congratulations to the Winners of our Christmas Raffle: **Elaine Hudson, Loretta Tuigamala, Yvonne, Virginia Clarke, Pauline Menzies and Faye Faamau.** *Wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas and the very best for the coming year. The Parish Ladies Group*

PARISH PIETY STALL: *For those last-minute Christmas presents:* eg: 2019 Columban Christmas – great value for \$9.00 each, Rosary Beads, St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards, etc. Come and peruse our Parish Piety Stall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2018: Has ceased for 2018 and will return in January 2019

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME: Has ceased for this year and will return on Tuesday 12th February 2019.

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 (including the washing/ironing of the Church Linen), Prayers of Intercessions Creator's, Church Cleaner's, Flower arrangers, Musician's (all Choir's), Powerpoint Creator and operator's, Extraordinary Ministers Of Communion, Usher's, Parish Counter's, Catechist's, Sacramental Team, Children's Liturgy Teacher's, Baptism Preparation, Parish Ladies Group, St Vincent de Paul, Refreshments after Mass groups, and the many other Parish Ministry Groups.

To the many Parishioners who also gave of their time to prepare our Church and Church grounds in readiness for Christmas, you are greatly appreciated.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: Big "Thank You" to the parishioners who attended the 2nd meeting and to those who have responded on line! (plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

PARISH COLLECTIONS IN THE CHURCH: We depend on your generosity to make ends meet for the support of our Parish. **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.

YOUR ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE is extremely grateful for the support of parishioners again during a difficult 2018.

We are encouraged in our work when we witness your generous support for the Winter Appeal, our drought appeal and especially the Jesse Tree. We must praise & thank the Parish Ladies Group for the later. The toys received this year have been amazing and will brighten Christmas for many young people in our community. Our supporters throughout the St Thomas More Parish are too many to acknowledge in this brief note but we thank you all! **God bless and Merry Christmas on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society Ruse/ Airds conference.**

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2019: Please mark your diaries
The Sacrament of Reconciliation: 1st/2nd/3rd April 2019
Confirmation: Saturday 22nd June 2019
First Holy Communion: 22nd/23rd September 2019
More details to follow.

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Please take home a copy of our final Parish Catholic Primary School Newsletter for 2019. Wishing all our Parish School Children and their families a very Holy and Blessed Christmas and the very best for 2019.

Eric Genuis Concert at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Ruse, 7 March 2019, 7pm. Looking for a Christmas gift for the person who has everything? Why not buy them tickets to an experience you can share as well as help your Parish community? A rare opportunity to listen to a pianist of exceptional talent who brings with him a world class violinist, cellist and soprano playing in our parish church. The 'Opera House' is coming to our parish! All original compositions together with powerful testimonies outlining the inspiration behind each piece with true stories of life transformations destined to make a deep impression upon all who hear them. A message of hope for all. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession; \$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at www.ericgenuistour.com. A parish event not to be missed. Your support will support our parish.
With kind regards, Fr Michael.
Tickets are available for sale at our Parish Office during Office hours.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: *During the Christmas Season and School holidays, the Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners Homes until February 2019. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who have had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2018. 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 2019, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

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

Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: See notices
Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Midnight Mass: See notices
Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day Mass: See notices

Saturday 29th December: Saturday Vigil Mass: Winnie Cameron and Bev McKenzie
Sunday 30th December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue and Annette Read

2019:

Saturday 5th January: Saturday Vigil Mass: John Greene and Bev McKenzie
Sunday 6th January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue and Julie Writer

• **READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: See notices
Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Midnight Mass: See notices
Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day Mass: See notices

Saturday 29th December: Saturday Vigil Mass: Maryse Parisi and Pauline Menzies
Sunday 30th December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: May Michelutti and Alison Hourigan

2019:

Saturday 5th January: Saturday Vigil Mass: Cecile Marot and May Michelutti
Sunday 6th January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Jim and Julie Writer

• **USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

Saturday 29th December: Saturday Vigil Mass: HELP REQUIRED
Sunday 30th December: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman

2019:

Saturday 5th January: Saturday Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne
Sunday 6th January: Sunday 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy

• **CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

Saturday 29th December: Group 6: Tongan Community
2019:
Saturday 5th January: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Kathy Donachie, Eugene Wasko and Barry Daley

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*

AN IRISH CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*The light of the Christmas star to you
The warmth of home and hearth to you
The cheer and good will of friends to you
The love of the Son and God's peace to you
Beannachtaí na Nollag agus na hAthbhliana
Christmas and New Year Blessings*

