

5th Sunday of Easter
24th April 2016



Year C
THE YEAR OF MERCY

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 (ALTAR BREAD): If you require *Gluten Free Hosts* for Holy Communion please see the Acolytes before Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.



We welcome back our Parish School Children for Term 2. We wish them well in their studies.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Melanie Blessing, Liban (Wako) Family, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Brian Harris, 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, and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Angelina Cameron (R.D.), Mary Writer (Anniv), Fr Anthony (Tony) Daly, Betty White, Ladislav Feher, Genie Lynch, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Bernard Hoffmann, and Maria Cabonara. *May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS: We have Members of our Parish Community who visit parishioners and bring Communion every week to those who are ill or elderly so are unable to come to Mass. Please encourage them (or a family member) to contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.

FATHER TONY’S PONTIFICAL FUNERAL MEMORIAL CARD: We have Fr Tony’s Memorial Cards available for you to take home. They are available on all the tables at the entrance of the Church.

Parishioners’ Birthday for this week:

23rd: *Christine Charlton*
24th: *Richard Martin*
27th: *Kristine George*

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

24th: *Maria and Frank Byron (30 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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Please keep in your prayers the Children who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Also for their families and the teachers who are giving of their time in preparing these Children.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: Saturday 3rd September 2016 (more details to follow). *If you have any enquiries regarding any of the Sacraments please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.*

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The Parish Pastoral Council held its first meeting with the recently elected members Tuesday 5th April. The new executive of the council is as follows:

Chairperson - Mr Michael Young;

Deputy Chair - Mrs Kim Sami;

Secretary - Ms Julie McKenzie;

Asst Secretary - Mrs Annette Read.

We thank these people for accepting the responsibility of each role, which will last for a two year period.

MESSAGE FOR READERS: The current Reader’s roster finishes at the end of June and I have decided that it is time I gave someone else the opportunity to co-ordinate this Ministry. It is a rewarding role in the Parish *and an essential one.*

If you are interested please give your name to Carmel at the Parish Office (4628 2967) or to me (4625 7744) and I will be in touch. Regards **Julie**

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am SUNDAY

MORNING MASS: The roster is due to run out and we are looking for more volunteers. Please put your name down on the clipboard on the table at the entrance of the Church. If you would like to find our more information regarding this Parish Ministry please phone: phone Cathy on: 4625 5449.

PARISH LADIES GROUP MOTHERS’ DAY RAFFLE:

Tickets are on sale at all Masses this weekend. \$1.00 per ticket and there are 10 great prizes. The raffle will be drawn after the 9.00am Mass on Mother’s Day (8th May). *Please support this raffle/fundraiser, all proceeds are used to help with upkeep of our Church.*

ANZAC DAY - Monday 25th April: We will celebrate with a liturgy at 9am in the forecourt, followed by Mass at 9.30am. Stay and enjoy a cuppa and Anzac Biscuits afterwards.

ST THOMAS MORE PLAYTIME: Returns this Tuesday (26th April) from 9.30am – 11.30am in our Parish Hall. Parents/Guardians and Grandparents, if you have children including under School age children and bubs, come for a chat and cuppa while the kids enjoy playtime activities including Bible Story time, songs, craft, outside/inside play and pray time. God coin donation. If you have any enquires please contact Catherine on 4627 1842

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH 30TH

ANNIVERSARY NEWS! The parish will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Church’s opening at a special Mass on Saturday 25th June (Mass time to be confirmed). Do you have an interesting personal memory or significant anecdote about the church, former parish priests or any parish events that you would like to be included in the 30th Anniversary souvenir booklet? Please send an email to juliemckenzie@hotmail.com with your story. All stories welcome. Please note that some stories may be edited or combined with other similar stories to save room in the booklet.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS GATHERINGS

Please note that the first round of PPC Regional Gatherings will occur this Tues 26th April, 7:30-9:30pm, at St John’s Parish Hall Campbelltown. These gatherings provide an excellent opportunity to share the good news of what is happening in our parishes and learn about some of the resources on offer to assist in continuing to grow and enliven our communities. Specifically these gatherings will focus upon the Parish Self-Review and Improvement process and the 2016 National Church Life Survey. Registration for these gatherings is much appreciated and can be directed to Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au or 4222 2403

MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE: MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND DYING Saturday 14 May Xavier Centre

10am-1pm. This course provides general formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who minister to the Sick and Dying. The course comprises of variety of topics over two sessions. For further information visit www.liturgy.dow.org.au or contact Paul Mason liturgy@dow.org.au or 4222 2462. For enrolment registration contact Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au or 4222 2403

THE POOR CLARES OF BETHLEHEM MONASTERY -

Annual Ecumenical Service, Monastery Chapel 170 Narellan Road Campbelltown, on the Vigil of Pentecost, **Saturday 14 May** at 2.30, followed by afternoon tea. RSVP by 4 May clarescamp@bigpond.com or contact 4625 1591.

MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE RETREATS: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville. Phone: 02 8795 3400 email: retreats@carmelite.com www.carmeliteretreats.com.au. **LAUDATO SI: ENCOUNTERING GOD’S MERCIFUL CREATION: Sat 7 May, 10am-4pm (Retreat Day). Tues 10 May, 7:30pm-9:30pm AT Parish Meeting Room Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish.** *LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord”.* Sessions will be lead by Fr Michael Dyer and Darren McDowell. **For further information and essential registration contact Darren McDowell 4222 2463 or darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au**

PARISH ROSARY STATUE:

For next Monday, the Parish Rosary Statue will be in the Home of Freda and Wilfred and will be said on Mondays at 11.00am. Their address is on the main noticeboard. If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday 26th April: 7.30pm St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre (new members are most welcome, or come along to the meeting to see the good works of the Conference)
Monday 2nd May: 7.30pm Parish Ladies Group meeting in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 3rd May: 7.00pm Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 3rd May: 7.30pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Parish Hall
Thursday 5th May: 9.30am Retiree’s Social Group gathering in the Parish Hall (after the 9.00am Mass)

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS’ OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: James Munro & Louise Phillips

9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Annette Read & Julie Writer

Vigil Mass: Saturday 7th May: Winnie Cameron & Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 8th May : Catherine Minogue & Helen Rawson

READERS FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: Louise Phillips & James Munro

9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Feyise and Tess Writer

Vigil Mass: Saturday 7th May: Bev McKenzie & Louise Phillips

9.00am Mass: Sunday 8th May: Andrew Truong & Barry Daley

CHURCH CLEANERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Saturday 30th April: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Fay Faamau, Rosa & Manuel Herrera & Colleen Jablonskis
Saturday 7th May: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy

USHERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: Help required

9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Chris Reddy & Helen Rawson

Vigil Mass: Saturday 7th May: Vicky Horne

9.00am Mass: Sunday 8th May: Gwen & Brian Harris

In Flanders Field

by John McCrae, May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our place; and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow *In Flanders fields.*

