

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Year C

13th January 2013

Today is The Baptism of the Lord, the official end to the Christmas Season



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 would like to welcome Fr Kos (Stan) who will be celebrating at all our Parish Masses this weekend. Fr Kos (Stan) is visiting our Diocese from New Guinea. We thank Fr for visiting our Parish this weekend.

MANY THANKS TO THE MANY VOLUNTEERS OF OUR PARISH CHURCH:

There are so many who help in our Parish throughout the year in varying jobs and ministries, especially at Christmas. Grateful thanks to: the acolytes, altar servers; our musicians and choir; the Church cleaners; the flower ladies who provide such beautiful displays throughout the year; the Sacristans; the readers; the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion; the collectors; parish welcomers/ushers; powerpoint; the team of counters; the St Vincent de Paul; ground maintenance; maintenance men; fundraising committees; refreshments after Mass; and to everyone else who gives of their time.

"THANK YOU" TO YOU ALL.

Heartfelt thanks from:
Fr Tony and the many parishioners and friends of our Parish

Celebrations for Liturgical Year C

13 th February	Ash Wednesday
29 th March	Good Friday
30 th March	Easter Saturday
31 st March	Easter Sunday

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS – A TIME TO GET INVOLVED:

Our Parish is not a small community and sometimes we can become lost in the shuffle. Being involved in one of our Parish Ministries or groups provides the chance to get to know some of the folks you see across the aisles at Mass. Please see Fr Tony or contact our parish office (4627 2968) for details about the many ways you can get involved. Why not make it your New Year's resolution?

Parish Birthdays for this week:

13th: Kerry Hooton, Jerome Astruc, Isabella Nakasenh
18th: Eleanor Barbari, Rosalie Vine

Belated Wedding Anniversaries for last week:

4th: Edmund and Daphne Pew (55 years)
5th: Chris and Rosalie Vine (44 years)

Wedding Anniversaries for this week:

12th: Jim and Julie Writer (50 years)
13th: Bret and Karen Metcalfe (6 years)

Diary Dates:

- **Parish Pastoral Council** meeting Tuesday 15th January at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- **Catechist's** meeting Tuesday 29th January at 10.00am in the Parish Hall (after the 9.00am Mass)
- **Baptism Preparation Class** Monday 4th February at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Ladies Group** meeting Monday 4th February at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Wednesday Prayer Group** returns Wednesday 6th February after the 9.00am Mass
- **Parish Finance Council** meeting Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Elaine Hoffman, Colum Brennan, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, Mary Pace, Alphonse Zammit, Ken Smith, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Tina Boyd, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVillie, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Phillip Conroy, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, Sioli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Eileen Daly (Anniv), John McInerney (Anniv), Maurya Hutton, Jim McKenzie, Ronald Dawson, Anthony Jabbour, Dominic Pereira, Peter Pereira, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Frank Keevers, Laurie Keevers, John DeVillie, Keith Gomes and Maria Cabonara and for anyone else who's Anniversary occurs at this time.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS?

Members of our parish community visit parishioners and bring communion every week to those who are ill or elderly so are unable to come to Mass. Sometimes, it may be that someone could benefit from a lift. Please encourage them to contact our parish office either to arrange communion to be brought to them or to organize transport.

NAME TAGS: We have been promoting the wearing of a name tag in our Parish to create a hospitable parish where people are getting to know each other and calling everyone by name. We encourage you to wear your name tag each time you go to mass and sit with a different person each weekend. *If you haven't got your name tag please put your name down in the book at the Name Tag table and we will prepare one for you.*

DONATION OF ANY PETROL DOCKETS: If any parishioners have any *non-expired dated* petrol dockets that would enable purchase of discounted petrol for use for the needy in our area. These can also be left in the grey bin marked "missions" at the entrance of the Church.

PARISHES PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BY WORKING TOGETHER – YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED

Our Diocese is growing and to plan for our future we are asking parishes to work together to make sure our planning and process of change will strengthen us in our roles as "bearers of Christ's love", in existing and new communities. The Process for planning for the future builds on our existing diocesan pastoral plan and will be launched by Bishop Peter Ingham on **Sunday 3rd February**. Every family in the diocese will on that day receive a Workbook and DVD. These will give you information about our role as baptised people in the Church as well as particular information about parishes and ministries in our Diocese.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER. A weekend for married couples from **Friday 15 to Sunday 17 March 2013** at **Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville**. Take time out of your busy schedule to invest in your most precious asset ... your marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again! Bookings Ardell & Bill Sharpe on 4283 3435 or email wsharpe@bigpond.net.au. For information visit www.wwme.org.au

EDMUND RICE Retreat & Conference Centre, Mulgoa: The Dominican friars will be holding a retreat for men aged 18-35 from 15th- 17th February, and the cost is \$200 (includes accommodation and meals) Please register by 26th January. For more information and registration please email james.baxter@op.org.au. The Theme is "Wisdom".

HARTZER PARK Conference & Retreat Centre: Will be Having a 6 day guided retreat: 12th – 18th February Presented by Fr Chris Chaplin MSC and the theme is The Ocean of God's love – Gazing into the Mystery and The cost is \$540. For more details phone 4861 3223 Please see the main notice board at the entrance of the Church for further retreats 2013.

Parish Rosary Statue: During the Christmas Season and School Holidays, The Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners homes until the beginning of February.

How To Pray The Rosary - The purpose of the Rosary is to help keep in memory certain principal events or mysteries in the history of our salvation, and to thank and praise God for them. There are twenty mysteries reflected upon in the Rosary, and these are divided into the five **JOYFUL MYSTERIES**, the five **LUMINOUS MYSTERIES**, the five **SORROWFUL MYSTERIES**, and the five **GLORIOUS MYSTERIES**.

Saying this great prayer the family Rosary every day will always bring peace in the family – The family prays together stays together.



READERS FOR JANUARY 2013:

Vigil Mass: David Minogue and Bev McKenzie
9.00am Mass: Meli Mauga and Julie Writer
(20th & 27th): Chris and Rosalie Vine
(Could the 2nd reader please also read the Prayers of the Faithful)

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro
9am Mass: Noel Laming

FLOWERS: Christine and Carmel

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 1:
Syro-Malabar Indian Community

EUCCHARISTIC FAST:

Those who receive Holy Communion are to abstain for one hour beforehand from all food and drink with the exception of water and medicine. This does not apply to the elderly, the sick and those who care for them, or to priests celebrating a second or third Mass on a given day.

It is most strongly recommended that the faithful receive Holy Communion in the course of a Eucharistic celebration
(CCL 918-919)

Prayer for enlightenment

Gracious God, Source of all life,
by our baptism you call us by name
and invite us to fullness of life in you.
Bless each of us as we respond
to your call to follow the Son.
May we encourage and support one another in
discerning and living out our Christian vocation.
Help us to foster a culture of vocation
in which your seed will bear much fruit.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

