

4th Sunday of Easter
Year B
29th April 2012

Good Shephard/Vocation Sunday

Today, we celebrate the 49th World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The Church around the world invites you to pray for those you might know who are discerning, or people you think God may be calling to a priestly or religious vocation and would benefit from your prayers. As Pope Benedict XVI said in his message for today, "Every specific vocation is in fact born of the initiative of God; it is a gift of the Love of God!"

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."

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Ken Smith, Christine Hudson, Jim Writer, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Maree Laming, Marcia Davis, Ginny Pereira, Jack O'Sullivan, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Tina Boyd, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVillie, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Theresa Cruz, Phillip Conroy, Alphonso Zammit, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, Amy Jablonskis, Sioeli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Mary Ritter (Anniv), Jeanette Wells, Mick Cook, Noel Dercy, Theresa (Tessie) Henriques, Keith Gomes, Baptist D'Sa, Ladislav Feher, Margaret Edgerton, Maria Cabonara, Frank Mckay, Genie Lynch, Jim McKenzie, Lina Pereira, John McFeeters, and Robert Deville.

Diary Dates:

- **Parish Pastoral Council meeting** Tuesday 1st May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- **Parents Information meeting for First Holy Communion** Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm in the Church (see Sacramental notice for more details)
- **Baptism Preparation Class** Monday 7th May at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Ladies Group** Monday 7th May meeting at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre, **new members are most welcome**
- **St Vincent de Paul Society meeting** Tuesday 8th May at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre, **new members are most welcome**
- **Parish Finance Council meeting** Wednesday 9th May at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre
- **Retiree's Social Group meeting** Thursday 10th May after the 9.00am Mass in the Parish Hall (retiree's over 55 are most welcome)

Parish Birthday for this week:
30th: Bill Molland

WELCOME into our Christian Community
Joshua Robert Eric Griffin who was Baptised last weekend.

PARISH LADIES HIGH TEA: The Parish Ladies Group has arranged to have a High Tea at Ridges (Campbelltown Catholic Club) to celebrate Mother's Day. This will be held on Sunday 6th May from 12noon (please note change of time) onwards. The cost is \$40.00 per head and the payment has to be finalised by Sunday 29th April. If you would like to come along and bring your friends please put your name down on the clipboard on the table at the entrance of the Church.

Come on Ladies come and enjoy being "waited" on.

CHURCH CLEANERS ROSTER: Is due to end in the middle of May, and we urgently need new parishioners to join this Ministry. If you have a spare hour to help with this Ministry it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Parish Office during Office hours or speak with Fr Tony for more details. **Please help to keep our place of worship welcoming.** If you are already on the roster and would like to continue please put your name down on the clipboard at the entrance of the Church.
Thanking you all in anticipation.

READERS AND COMMENTATORS: The current Readers'/Commentators' roster finishes at the end of June. If you are already a reader and you wish to continue or if you have considered joining this Ministry please put your name on the clipboard at the entrance of the Church. If you do, you will be on the roster to read for a period of a month perhaps twice a year and to commentate approx. every 6 weeks. This is a commitment and at any time you are unavailable it is essential you let me know so as you can be replaced.
I will have a workshop for new or old readers who have not previously attended one and I look forward to seeing you.
Many thanks Julie

CATECHIST'S FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AND CATECHIST'S FOR STATE SCHOOLS: If you are available to assist with the Sacrament of First Holy Communion Programme commencing Sunday 6th May and concluding Wednesday 30th May please meet with Fr Tony (ASAP) for more information *Thanking you in anticipation.*

PARISH LADIES GROUP MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE: The Parish Ladies Group will be selling raffle tickets at all Masses next weekend (5th/6th May) for a \$1.00 per ticket. There are great prizes to be one. Please support this Parish fundraiser.

St Vincent de Paul Raffle – Prize Winners
1st Prize of \$5,000 Cash – **Pren Karan**
Sold by Westpac Bank Campbelltown
2nd Prize of Couples Weekend in Sydney – **Sharon Thompson**
Sold by Wards Accounting Camden
3rd Prize of Family Fun Pack – **Lina Yeng Tung**
Sold by Ruse/Airds Conference
St Vincent de Paul would like to thank all the people who supported this fund raiser and we were very pleased that one of our parishioners won 3rd Prize!!!

DIVINE MERCY: Every Sunday the Samoan Divine Mercy prayer group begins at 1.00pm in our Parish Church. All parishioners are most welcome. For more information please phone Maria on 9603 5106 or 0404929498. If you would like to help with donations of chips and/or poppers for their visit to Reiby Detention centre for the 3rd Sunday of the month please leave them either in the Church kitchen or at the Parish Office during working hours.

THANKYOU: To the many Parishioners who help with keeping our Parish Church a place of welcoming and worship. If you have some spare time during the week and would like to help in anyway please come and talk with Fr Tony or phone on 4628 2967 or email ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org. Any help would be beneficial for our Parish Church. *Please think seriously how you are able to help.*

NOMINATIONS CALLED FOR DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL: Bishop Peter Ingham is now calling on people to nominate for the Council. Interested applicants will need to be endorsed by the priest in their parish of worship and send in their nomination before the end of April. Then, at the beginning of May, Bishop Peter will appoint the final Council from nominations received. **If you are interested in joining the Diocesan Pastoral Council or know someone with the qualities to offer a rich contribution, please contact your local priest, download a copy from our diocesan website at www.dow.org.au, or contact the Bishop's Office and speak with Jane Edwards on 4253 0899.**

MANY CULTURES ONE IN CHRIST Mass Preparation Meeting will be held on **Thursday, 10 May 2012 at 7:30pm at Xavier Centre, 2 Bond Street, Bellambi.** The annual celebration of the cultural diversity within our Diocese, also marking Migrant & Refugee Sunday, occurs on Sunday, 26 August, 2012 and will be held at the Cathedral and St Mary Star of the Sea College hall. **Those interested in taking part in this celebration are invited to attend this first preparation meeting.**

DIOCESAN FESTIVAL - A TIME TO CELEBRATE – STALLS, MUSIC, RIDES, SPEAKERS, FOOD. You are invited to join the Diocese on **Saturday, 26 May 2012 at John Therry Catholic High School, Rosemeadow**, any time between 10.00am and 4.00pm, to celebrate the many gifts and opportunities we have to participate in the life of the Church. This festival day promises to be a wonderful witness to the life and vitality that exists within our Catholic community with rides for the children, many stalls, music, keynotes, showcases and a whole array of food from the many cultures in our Diocese. **So save the date in your calendars now! If you would like to participate on the day with a food stall, music or a stall showcasing your ministry, contact Darren McDowell on 4253 0985 or darren.mcdowell@woll.catholic.org.au by Friday, 27 April.**

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR THE FAITH & LIFE E-NEWSLETTER? The Faith & Life eNewsletter is a new monthly email newsletter from the Diocese of Wollongong focussing on all things Catholic. It's a particularly great resource for those involved in ministries in the Church. In addition to feature articles each month, the eNewsletter contains regular articles such as Diocesan Calendar of events and activities etc: Sign up now at www.dow.org.au before the May edition is released next week! You can also view the prior month's eNewsletters.

The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Michael and Cathy** from Monday **30th April** until Sunday **6th May**. The family will say the Rosary at **7.30pm**. Please see main notice board for the address details. *Please collect the statue from the church on the weekend and return it the following weekend. Thank you.*

READERS FOR MASS FOR MAY 2012:

Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie & James Munro
8.00am Mass: Kerry Hennessy & Tim Logue
9.30am Mass: Vela Andrews & Maryse Parisi

COMMENTATORS for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Catherine Robinson
8.00am Mass: Brian O'Brien
9.30am Mass: David Minogue

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Chantal Barbari
8.00am Mass: Cathy Bye
9.30am Mass: Ellen Healy and Noel Laming

FLOWERS for next weekend: Francesca

CHURCH CLEANING for next weekend: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy group

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS: Sunday 6th May (after the 8.00am Mass) Cathy Bye, Kathy Donachie and Maureen Hennessy

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2012

(Enrolment for all Sacraments will require the presentation of a Baptism Certificate)
First Holy Communion

(Children Year 3 and above who have made their First Reconciliation)

Parent Information Night (Parents and Carers only) **this Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm – Parish Church**
Classes will commence week beginning Sunday 6th May at 3.00pm – Parish Hall and will conclude week beginning Sunday 27th May.

Second Rite of Reconciliation Wednesday 6th June at 7.30pm- Parish Church.
Practice – Friday 8th June at 5.00pm – Parish Church
Sacrament of First Holy Communion - Weekend Masses 9/10th June (6.00pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am)

Confirmation

(Children Year 6 and above who have made their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion)

Parent Information Night (Parents and Carers only) Wednesday 1st August at 7.30pm – Parish Church
Classes will commence week beginning Sunday 5th August at 3.00pm – Parish Hall and will conclude week beginning Sunday 26th August.

Second Rite of Reconciliation Thursday 30th August at 7.30pm- Parish Church.

Confirmation Practice Friday 7th September at 5.00pm – Parish Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation Saturday 8th September (Mass time to be advised)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER – 4th Sunday of Easter

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hand who run off, 'leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the world.'

