

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C
10th February 2013

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."

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

The Bishop has given an overview of what this process is all about which builds upon the work of our diocesan pastoral plan. The book that you received (there is plenty still available on the table at the entrance to the Church) gives much information about our vital role as baptised faithful in the Church as well as details about parishes and ministries in our Diocese.

Our parish will continue information and discussion sessions today (Session 1 after the 9.00am Mass), and Sessions 2 on Tuesday 12th and next Sunday 17th February:

1st Session:

Sunday 10th February 10.15am – 11.45am
And

2nd Session: (either – not both)

Tuesday 12th February 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Sunday 17th February: 10.15am – 11.45am

We would like as many people as possible to attend the remaining sessions.

Parishioners can obtain more information from the website for "Parishes Working Together" on www.pastoralplanning.dow.org.au

It is very important that you are informed about this process of change as every parish in our Diocese will be affected. We need your feedback as we prepare for the future.

MASSES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY (13th February)

- 8.00am Mass (Church)
- 9.30am Mass at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School (Years 2 -6) Parishioners Are most welcome
- 11.30am Liturgy and Ashes at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School for Kindergarten And Year 1 students
- 4.00pm Liturgy and Ashes at Kentlyn Gardens Nursing Home
- 7.30pm Mass (Church)

HOUR OF PRAYER AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will be every Friday during Lent beginning with the Hour of Prayer at 6.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm in the Church, beginning this Friday (15th February).

Lent begins this Wednesday (13th February). Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until The beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year (CCL97, 1251f) Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised.

PROJECT COMPASSION: The theme for this year is "Open Doors to a Better Future". Your donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion give expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and help those suffering from poverty and disadvantage. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of Lenten envelopes and give generously to the appeal this Lent.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2013
(Enrolment for all Sacraments will require the presentation of a Baptism Certificate)

FIRST RECONCILIATION
(Children Year 3 and above)

Parent Information Night (Parents and Carers only)
Wednesday 20th February at 7.30pm – in the Parish Church

Classes will commence week beginning Sunday 24th February And conclude week beginning Sunday 17th March.
Second Rite of Reconciliation will be on Thursday 4th April and Friday 5th April from 4.00pm – 5.30pm.

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

Parent Information Night (Parents and Carers only)
Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm – in the Parish Church

Classes will commence week beginning Sunday 28th April and conclude week beginning Sunday 19th May.
Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be on Sunday 2nd June (more details to follow)

Diary Dates:

- "Parishes Working Together" (1st workshop session) Sunday 10th February 1.15am – 11.45am in the Parish Hall
- St Vincent de Paul Society meeting Monday 11th February at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre (*please note change in day – once only*), this is the first meeting for 2013, new members are most welcome
- "Parish Working Together" (2nd workshop session) Tuesday 12th February from 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- Wednesday Prayer Group meet every Wednesday in the Parish Hall after the 9.00am Mass
- Stations of the Cross Friday 15th February at 7.30pm in the Church
- "Parish Working Together" (2nd workshop session) Sunday 17th February from 10.15am in the Parish Hall

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community Piper Rose, Arabella Jane and Darcy Helen Archer who were Baptised last weekend

Parish Birthdays for this week:

13th: Howard Pew

14th: Claire Astruc, Jacob Inkster and Denis Wass

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: 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, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Sioeli Tupola (R.D.), Eustaquio Salas (Anniv), Robin Platt (Anniv), Brooke Millbank, Mary Writer, Phillip Conroy, Maurya Hutton, Jim McKenzie, Ronald Dawson, Anthony Jabbour, Dominic Pereira, Peter Pereira, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, 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.

LENTEN PROGRAM 2013: We will be using the Diocesan Lenten called BELIEVE: Lenten Program 2013 – a 44 page program designed as a six-week Lenten resource for small groups, prayer companions, staff reflections, families and individuals. *If you would like to host/join a group please put your name down on the clipboard at the entrance of the Church. The programs will commence this week (Monday 11th and Wednesday 13th February)*

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Returns today (10th Feb) during the 9.00am Mass. This is available for children who attend school from Kindergarten to Year 6. If you would like to help with this Parish Ministry please contact Christine on 4626 7475 for more details.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Please take home a copy of our Parish School newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening.

FRENCH MASS: Today (10th Feb) at 6.00pm at St John's Catholic Church, Campbelltown

MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE: One day retreat: Saturday 16th February 10.00am to 4.00pm. The topic is "Lent: A Fresh Start" tea/coffee provided, bring your own lunch. Retreat donation is \$20. For bookings please phone: 8795 3400, 247 St Andrews Rd, Varroville.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT EVENINGS FOR YEAR 7 2014:
John Therry Catholic High School:

Saturday 23rd February at 10.30am Information and Presentation in the School Hall (Enrolment packages will be Available on the day – they will also be available from the local Catholic Primary Schools from Monday 25th February

Mount Carmel Catholic High School:

Tuesday 26th February at 7.00pm in the Champagnat Centre, at the school. (Enrolment packages will be available on the night)

St Gregory's College:

(Sunday 24th February: College Open Day from 10.00am – 2.00pm)

Wednesday 27th February at 7.30pm in the Brother Luke Hall at St Gregory's College (Enrolment packages will be available on the night). The School also offers 3, 5 & 7 day boarding

CATECHIST COURSES – MACARTHUR/HIGHLANDS: The LEVEL 1 BASIC Course will be run on Monday, 11 & 18 February from 9.30am – 1.30pm at Micah House, Campbelltown. The full LEVEL 1 Course will continue on Monday, 25 February and 4 & 11 March from 9.30am – 1.30pm, also at Micah House, Campbelltown. Please contact Cindy on 4640 8550 or email cindy.oliver@dow.org.au.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: KICK-OFF RALLY on Tuesday the 12th February @ St Peter's Church, Surry Hills. Mass 6pm with Bishop Julian Porteous followed by Procession to Preterm abortuary. Pancake Supper afterwards. Contact: Family Life International (Aust) 42844412, Sydney Office 02 95199111, Email: mail@fli.org.au Web: www.fli.org.au
"Help us give witness on the streets, to the wonder and uniqueness of every human life"

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of Jeff and Marion for two weeks, commencing Monday 4th February until Sunday 17th February. The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. Parishioners are Welcome to say the Rosary with the family on Monday 4th February at 7.00pm.
Please pray the powerful prayer – "The Rosary" with the family and receive many blessings. *Please collect the statue from the Church return it the following fortnight.*

READERS FOR FEBRUARY 2013:

Vigil Mass: Steven and Anthony Robinson
9.00am Mass: Maryse Parisi and Vella Andrews (17th & 24th)

(Could the 2nd reader please also read the Prayers of the Faithful)

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro
9am Mass: Helen Rawson & Chris Reddy

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 9.00am MASS: There will be no refreshments after the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 17th February due to the 2nd session of Parishes Working Together meeting. The next one will be after the 9.00am Mass on the 17th March.

