

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Year C

12th May 2013



The [Ascension of Our Lord](#), a [Holy Day of Obligation](#), celebrates the day that Christ, in the presence of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven. The Ascension occurred on the 40th day of [Easter](#).

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"

THE MONTH OF MAY:

In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God**, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her the church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of the redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be.

Vatican 11, Sacrosanctum Concilium 102, 104

PARISHES WORKING TOGETHER

Bishop Peter Ingham has invited our parishes to work more closely together to strengthen ourselves in our mission to be bearers of Christ's love and share the Good News. Over 1200 people have participated during the parish education sessions, with a further 800 people involved in the regional consultations. Submissions have been received from individuals, groups and parish communities, and feedback is also being offered via Catholic advisory councils and agencies. All the feedback is now being considered ahead of a response by Bishop Ingham at Pentecost (19 May). Please continue to pray for our Church that this process helps us be more authentic in serving God's mission.

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community **Kaylie Lyn Curtis and Jada Saiha Elizabeth Phoeurn** who were Baptised last weekend. Also to **Matthew Galatidis** who was Received into the Catholic Church during the week.

PARISH BIRTHDAY FOR THIS WEEK:

13th: Bertha Barbari & Elaine Nakasen
16th: Matthew Cross

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

12th: Wilfred and Freda Miranda (50 years)
13th: Junior and Christina Faamau (6 years)

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2013

(Enrolment for all Sacraments require the Presentation of a Baptism Certificate)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember and keep in your prayers the children who are currently preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at a special 11.00am Mass on Sunday 2nd June.

CONFIRMATION

(Children who are in Year 6 and above, who have been Baptised and have made the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion).
(The Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday 10th August 2013) (More details to follow).

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Michelle McAndrew (R.D.), George Pew (Anniv), Gertrude Peters (Anniv), Bishop William Edward Murray (Emeritus Bishop of Wollongong), Mary Writer, John Snell, Joseph Rodrigues, Limita Rodrigues, Stephen Vaz, Nypha Vaz, Carlos Carvalho, Cecil Moylan, Emily Wauchoy, Michael Seufatu, Caroline D'Mello, Ladislav Feher, Stephen Vaz, Sioli Salas, Robin Platt, 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.

Diary Dates:

- **St Vincent de Paul Society** meeting Tuesday 14th May at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre **new members are most welcome**
- **Parish Pastoral Council** meeting Tuesday 21st May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall
- **Retiree's Social group** gathering in the parish hall on Thursday 23rd May after the 9.00am Mass

PARISH LADIES GROUP – MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE: We have 4 great prizes to raffle, what a bargain at \$1.00 per ticket. Please support this fundraising raffle; all monies will go towards our Parish Church.

Thanking you all in anticipation.

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.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Has now changed to colour and many more articles of interest are included. Don't forget to take your copy home, great value for **only \$2.00**. **Some articles of interest are:** 5 nuns and 3 priests from one family, Euthanasia safeguards 'aren't safe enough' and Father-figure bishop 'had us screaming with laughter' plus many many more articles of interest.

MISSING PARISH HALL TEA TOWELS AND TABLECLOTHS:

Even though some have been returned we are still missing many. If you have taken them home to be washed, could you please return them ASAP. Thank you to the parishioners who have returned them and thank you to those who will return these items it is greatly appreciated.

PARISH PIETY STALL: Is available after the 9.00am Mass for any last minute Mother's Day gifts or for any other Religious goods. John and Bertha would love to help you with ideas.

FRENCH MASS: Will be held today (Sunday 12th May) at St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown at 6.00pm

"A PEACE THE WORLD CANNOT GIVE": This is what Jesus offers in today's Gospel. How can we obtain that peace? Rather than asking what should I do with my life, do I ever stop and wonder what God wants me to do with my life? It is not an easy question, and we may need help to hear what God is saying, but responding to that question will change our life. Either contact Fr Tony on 46282967 or Fr Richard Healey, vocations director, on 0401 621 591, priesthood@dow.org.au.

COME AND SEE: Have you ever wondered about a vocation to Religious Life? The Sisters of the Good Samaritan invite you to spend time with us from Friday 17 May 6pm to Sunday 19 May 3pm. Come and hear the Good Sam story in Australia, Japan, The Philippines, Kiribati and East Timor, share conversation and meals and pray together at Mount St Benedict Centre, Pennant Hills Rd., PENNANT HILLS (enter via side entrance on Hull Road.) For more information contact Sister Bernadette Corboy sgs on 0429 074 849.

ILLAWARRA GREGORIAN CHANT FESTIVAL 2013

St Patrick's Catholic Church, Port Kembla, NSW (In conjunction with: Schola Cantorum of Brisbane) Thursday 23rd May - Sunday 26th May. Please see notice boards for more details.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS:

This year will be celebrated on Sunday 8th September at 2.00pm at the Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow. If you have been married 25, 40, 50 or 60 years of marriage and would like to be sent an invitation for this mass please either contact the Office of the Bishop on 42222400 or our Parish Office on 4628 2967.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Kay** for two weeks, commencing **Monday 13th May until Sunday 26th May**.

The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. The family will be saying the Rosary on **Mondays at 4.00pm**.

Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.

READERS FOR MAY 2013:

Vigil Mass: James Munro and David Minogue
9.00am Mass: Tim Logue and Michael Bye
19th: & 26th: Maureen Molland and May Michelutti

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

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro
9am Mass: Chantal Barbari

FLOWER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Melanie and Elaine

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 6: Tongan Youth Group

Refreshments after 9.00am Mass: Sunday 19th May: Tongan Community



A Prayer for Mothers

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion. We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen

