

8th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year A
2nd March 2014



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"

DATES OF PARISH SACRAMENTS FOR 2014:

Wednesday 4th June: Parent/Carer's Information night for **Confirmation** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 6 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**
The Sacrament of Confirmation will be Celebrated on Saturday 26th July at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 6th August: Parents/Carers Information night for **First Holy Communion** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 3 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**
The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be Celebrated on the weekend of 13th /14th September.

LENT 2014

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 until the beginning of their 60th year. (CCL 97, 1251-52).

Ash Wednesday: This Wednesday 5th March **Stations of the Cross:** will be every Friday evening during Lent commencing (next Friday 7th March) at 7.30pm in the Parish Church

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Thursday 17th April:
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 18th April:
Stations of the Cross
The Passion of the Lord
Evening Prayer of Divine Office

Saturday 19th April:
Easter Vigil Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

Sunday 20th April:
Easter Sunday Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARISHIONERS

If anyone knows of any parishioner who would like a visit from Father Tony, or is ill and/or unable to come to Mass, housebound or in hospital. **Could a family member or friend please contact Fr Tony on: 4628 2967 or speak to him in person after/before Mass to arrange a suitable visiting time.**

GLUTEN FREE ALTAR BREADS: If you require Gluten Free Hosts could you please see Fr Tony before Mass so as they are available for you at Holy Communion

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Ladislav Feher (Anniv), Philip Mills (R.D. Brother of Sr Colleen – STM Catholic Primary School), Josephine McKay (R.D.), Charles Dows, Stuart Eldridge, Mary Writer, Frank McKay, Genie Lynch, and Maria Cabonara. **May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and May perpetual light shine upon them.**

SICK LIST: Please pray for the *many* sick in our Parish Community: Barry Daley, Beryl Purcell, Candice Walker, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, Graham Wagg, Jack O'Sullivan, Ken Churchill, Maree Laming, Melanie Blessing, Sitani (Stan) Nasio, Tina Boyd and Tomas Laming.

PARISH BIRTHDAYS for this week:

2nd: Michael Walsh
3rd: Janece Levi

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community: **Poppy Jade Driver** and **Jack Arthur Rodriguez** who were Baptised last weekend.

LEFTOVER PALMS: If you still have your palms from previous years and would like to return them to the Church it would be greatly appreciated. Either bring them to the Church Sacristy or the Parish Office. Thanking you in anticipation.

ST THOMAS MORE RETIREE'S SOCIAL GROUP:

Dear Parishioner's, The Retire Social Group would like to invite Senior Parishioner's (over 55) to join us in the Hall after the 9.00am Mass **Thursday 13th March** for a **cuppa, chat and a laugh.** We would like to welcome more Retired Parishioners.

Hope to see you soon Fellow Retiree's

JOIN A WEEKLY PARISH LENTEN GROUP THIS YEAR:

Our 44-page weekly program (with an accompanying CD Resource) is a six-week Lenten preparation resource primarily for small groups and families. See the sign-up sheets at the entrance of the Church if you would like to attend and/or host a group that will be running ENCOUNTER in our parish. The books are \$3 each and will be given out 1st meeting. The Triple CD is available for \$5.00.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is during the 9.00am Sunday Mass and is for children in kindergarten up to and including Year 6, during School Terms. If you would like to find out more about this Parish Ministry, be a helper or Teacher, please contact Christine on 4626 7475 or the Parish Office on 4628 2967.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00. One of the main articles is the appointment of Cardinal George Pell as the Prefect of the new Secretariat for the Economy at the Vatican, and the completion of his term as Archbishop of Sydney. Don't forget to **buy** your copy.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Peter Comensoli as Apostolic Administrator "sede vacante" of the Archdiocese of Sydney, until the appointment of the new Archbishop is determined.

"I am sure you will rejoice with me in noting this appointment of a former priest of our own Diocese. We congratulate Peter and pray for him as he undertakes this onerous responsibility administering the Archdiocese of Sydney". (Bishop Peter Ingham DD) 270214

URGENT REQUEST: We are in urgent need of Church cleaner's. If you have a spare hour on either Friday afternoon or Saturday morning, it would be greatly appreciated. Please come and help Keep the Lord's House clean ("cleanliness is next to Godliness") Please let Fr Tony know or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. **Thank you in anticipation.**

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE DROUGHT APPEAL:

While it may be raining at the moment, the farmers of NSW affected by drought will need assistance for a considerable time before crops can be raised or herds rebuilt. The affects of the current drought are going to be around for a long time and will place an unimaginable and heart breaking burden upon our rural brothers and sisters.

We are proposing to place Appeal Envelopes in the Church for masses on the weekend 8th & 9th March and ask that where able, you give generously. Simply place money in the envelopes and put in either collection. The envelopes also provide for credit card donations and we can provide tax receipts. Your conference will make sure the money raised gets to those in need, in the most practical way.
Bill George Conference President St Vincent de Paul Society

2015 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT FOR ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL:

Forms are available at the Parish School Office. For enquiries please contact the School Office on 4625 6561.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: Find out what is happening in our Parish Catholic Primary School, please take home a copy. They are on the tables at the entrance of the Church.

BISHOP PETER WANTS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE: Young people (from ages 12 and up) and those involved with young people (eg parents, teachers, clergy, youth ministers, catechists) are invited to complete a survey on what works and what is needed for Catholic youth:
<http://tinyurl.com/dowyouth>.

FRENCH MASS: Next Sunday (9th March) at 6.00pm at St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown. French Mass is celebrated the 2nd Sunday of the month (except September).

PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO EXPLORE POPE

FRANCIS' JOY OF THE GOSPEL WITH ELIO CAPRA & A WEEKEND WITH PICTON PARISH: Friday 14th March to and including 16th March. Please see flyer on noticeboards for more information. Contact details are: Parish Office on 4683 2230, Margaret on 4681 8321 or Lesley on 4681 8944.

CATHOLIC CARE ST PATRICK'S DAY RACING FUNRAISER:

Sat: 15 March, Kembla Grange Racecourse, tickets on sale now. Book ASAP avoid disappointment.
Ph: 42271122 Email: chiarum@catholiccare.dow.org.au
Web: www.catholiccare.dow.org.au
All monies raised will assist the Family and Sibling Support (Sibs) program - helping siblings of kids with a disability

EXPLORING MATTHEW'S GOSPEL: In our Parish Hall on Thursday 20th March from 9.30am – 1.00pm. As we listen to Matthew's Gospels this year, Matthew presents Jesus in his own unique way. During this session you will explore the rich themes found in this gospel. Registration is essential please contact Darren on cfl@dow.org.au or 4222 2463. Morning tea is provided and BYO lunch.

READERS: March

Vigil Mass: 8th: Phil and Pam Kenyon
9.00am Mass: 9th: Brian and Claire O'Brien

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

Vigil Mass: 15th/22nd: Julie Writer & Bill George
9.00am Mass: 16th/23rd: Samuel Gould & Maureen Molland

USHER'S FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
9am Mass: Gwen and Brian Harris

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

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am SUNDAY MASS:

16th March: Maureen Molland, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy, Julie Writer and Parents/Carers of Years 1 and 5 from St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Dexter** for 2 weeks commencing **Monday 3rd March to Sunday 16th March.** Dexter will be saying the Rosary on the **Monday's at 5.30pm.** The address is on the main notice board at the side of the Church. **Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.**

When you pray the Rosary in your home you are still a community at prayer. Have you considered celebrating praying the Rosary at home and inviting other parishioners to share this special time with you? Those interested in having the Rosary Statue (and/or would like more details) can contact the parish office on 4628 2967 to arrange a suitable time you and your family would like to have our Parish Rosary Statue in your home.

Parish Diary Dates:

Saturday 1st March: Diocesan Assembly from 10.00am to 2.00pm (please read bulletin notice)

Monday 3rd March: Parish Ladies Group meeting from 7.30pm in the Parish Centre (all ladies come along for a cuppa and a chat and see what this fun Parish Ministry is all about).

Tuesday 11th March: St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting at **7.30pm** (please note change in time from now on) in the **Parish Centre** (new members are most welcome)

Thursday 13th February: Retiree's Social group gathering after the 9.00am Mass, all Retiree's over 55 are most welcome (come along for a good laugh and chat) in the Parish Hall

