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Catholic Church - Diocese of Wollongong

**St. THOMAS MORE PARISH, RUSE**

welcomes you

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Healy

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**5th JULY 2020**

**FIRST READING - Zechariah 9:9-10.**

A reading from the prophet Zechariah.

The Lord says this:

‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.’

The Word of the Lord.

**(R.) Thanks be to God**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING - Romans 8:9.11-13.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in

you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The Word of the Lord.

**(R.) Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL READING - Matthew 11:25-30.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**(R.) Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28*

**PRAYERING FOR OUR WORLD, AMIDST COVID-19**

Gracious God, We give thanks anew for your providence and presence. We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas. We pray for those in need of healing. We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving. We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response. We pray for your Holy spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders. We each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**REFLECTION - by Fr Michael Tate.**

In the Jewish story of the creation of Adam, the author has God fashion a figure of a human being out of damp earth, and then breathes into the nostrils of this clay figure. It becomes 'Adam'. In Hebrew, the word for breath, wind or Spirit is the same, so this story tells us that we become human when the Holy Spirit is breathed into our very being.

St Paul tells the early converts in Rome, those recently baptised, and therefore tells us who are baptised: 'The Spirit of God has made his home in you.'

Since your baptism, the Holy Spirit, the Breath of God, dwells in you in a special way. Baptism re-creates us, sharing in the life of the true Adam.

We could pause for a moment to pray: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

mtate@bigpond.com

**Living the GOSPEL**

**Shoulder my yoke**

Jesus invites us to shoulder his yoke and learn from him for he is gentle and humble in heart. The yoke he invites us to shoulder is the deceptively simple teaching: love God and love your neighbour. To love God is to consciously make a place in our lives for God. The busy spin that tends to be characteristic of so many people's lives today does not allow room for God; does not allow room for prayer and quiet; does not allow room for compassionate response to others. To love God and love our neighbour we must first make room for them.



‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.’  
Matthew 11:28.

**MASS TIMES**



**TUESDAY 7th JULY**  
9.30am. - Mass.

**WEDNESDAY 8th JULY**  
----- NO MASS -----

**THURSDAY 9th JULY**  
----- NO MASS -----

**FRIDAY 10th JULY**  
9.30am. - Mass.

**SATURDAY 11th JULY**  
**Saturday Vigil for 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**  
6.00pm. - Mass.

**SUNDAY 12th JULY**  
**15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
9.00am. - Mass.

**ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH DIRECTORY**



43 Acacia Avenue, Ruse NSW 2560  
P. O. Box 200N Campbelltown North 2560

**PARISH PRIEST**

**Fr Michael Healy**

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro**

**(TUES-FRI) 9.00am - 3.30pm**

**Telephone: 46 282967**

**Email: ruse@dow.org.au**

**Website: www.stmruse.org.au**

**Facebook: St Thomas More Catholic Parish Church, Ruse.**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

*"Let all Your works give You thanks, Oh Lord, and let Your faithful ones bless You," says the psalmist. Stewardship is this "attitude of gratitude" for the many gifts God has given us.*

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**12th JULY 2020  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**1st Reading:**

**Isaiah 55:10-11.**

*The rain makes the earth fruitful.*

**2nd Reading:**

**Romans 8:18-23.**

*All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.*

**Gospel Reading:**

**Matthew 13:1-23.**

*A sower went out to sow.*

**HUMOUR CORNER**

**CHUCKLE TIME .....**

"A man walked into the doctor's. The doctor said, 'I haven't seen you in a long time.' The man replied, 'I know. I've been ill.'"

"A man walked into the doctor's. He said, 'I've hurt my arm in several places.' The doctor said, 'Well don't go there any more.'"

I just had an annual check-up at the Medical Centre. The doctor said "Don't eat anything fatty" I said, "Like bacon and burgers?" He said, "No fatty, don't eat anything"

An elderly couple are in church. The wife leans over and whispers to her husband, "I just let out a long, silent fart but it doesn't smell, what should I do?" The husband replies, "Firstly, when we get home we are going to replace the batteries in your hearing aid, and tomorrow we are going to the doctors to sort your sinus problem"

**ST MARIA GORETTI**



St Maria Goretti was born in Ancona, Italy. She grew up on a farm with her mother and father and five brothers and sisters.

In 1902 when she was only twelve years old, she was attacked by a nineteen year old farm hand. She survived in hospital for two days, forgave her attacker, asked God to forgive him and died holding a crucifix and a medal of Our Lady.

She later appeared to her attacker in a vision while he was in prison. This led to his conversion and he later testified at her cause for beatification.

Year A  
14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME  
(National Aboriginal and TSI Sunday)



5<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**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.*

*"Anymore who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."*

Matthew 10:40

**PARISH MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL:**



Dear Parishioners and friends of St Thomas More Parish

For Parish Masses please read main notices.

Have you "checked in" on another parishioner this week to say "Hi"?

May God bless keep you well and safe,  
Fr Michael

**URGENTLY NEEDED:**

**MONITOR'S:** These are to help people enter the Church safely and to ensure social distancing and not to congregate before or after Mass, and other similar things. Each Mass will require at least 2 Monitor's - if you would like to assist in this important role - please contact the Parish Office (during Office Hours - 4628 2967).

**CLEANER'S:** The Church, where people have sat, and frequently touched surfaces, need to be cleaned after each Mass, to help ensure the safety of our parishioners-all materials are supplied. If you have a spare 2-3 minutes after each Mass to assist with this - it is greatly appreciated.

**UPDATES IN OUR PARISH:**

**Parish Bulletin:** All parishioners who have provided the parish office with an email address have been receiving the Parish weekly Bulletin (that includes my weekly message). If you know of a parishioner who is not receiving these emails please encourage them to contact the parish office. There are hard copies available at the entrance to the Church.  
**Planned Giving Envelopes 2020/21:** There are still a few to be collected from the Parish Office during Office Hours.

**WEEKDAY MASSES AT RUSE CHURCH: Masses on: Tuesday and Friday's at 9.30am:** Those attending a Weekday Mass will NOT have to Register beforehand, only the first 66 Worshippers will be admitted.

**DO YOU WISH TO ATTEND A WEEKEND MASS?**

**You cannot just turn up for Mass as previously!!**

**Note: emails and text messages cannot be accepted.**

You can state the weekend date and time of the Mass you wish to attend and you must give the name and phone number of each person you wish to register. These details will be checked and ticked off at the Church door as you enter for Mass.

1. If you are elderly (70 years +) or not feeling well, the ruling states that, (for your own safety) YOU MUST STAY AT HOME.
2. After entering the Church for Mass, your hands will be sanitized and your temperature taken. (This is obligatory) then an usher will show you to your RESERVED seat, where **Social distancing (4 sq meters)** must be strictly observed, (except for people of the same house-hold) Details of movement during the Mass will be announced.
3. No Holy Water fonts, No Votive Candles, No Offertory Procession, no Sign of Peace Holy Communion **must** be Received in the hand
4. Please arrive early for Mass (**at least 10 minutes beforehand**). Church doors **must** be locked as Mass begins
5. No collections can be taken up at Mass. Usual Parish Collection donations can be placed in the baskets provided at the Church door
6. You are to sanitize your hands again as you leave the Church
7. **Nobody** will be permitted to socially assemble in the courtyard before, during and after Mass.

**SOME STATISTICS from 2016 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CENSUS FOR RUSE PARISH 2016:**

Total Population: 12,272  
Catholic Population: 3,402  
Catholics make up 27.7% of the total population  
Total Catholic Families: 1,312  
Medium age of Catholics in Ruse Parish: 38

**MORE TO COME**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** All the people who have died in this current pandemic, the recently deceased and whose anniversaries that occur at this time: Fr Douglas Bede Rheinberger (R.D.), Rita D'Souza (R.D.), Debbie Phillips (R.D.), Dulcie Munro (Anniv), John Read, Wanda Antao, Richard Garton, Fr Theophane (Theo) Rush ofm, Cohan Boyd, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Cathy Wiggins, Fr Anthony (Tony) Daly, Ladislav Feher, Beryl Ford, Jim McKenzie, Bobby Cameron, Marguerite (Marg) Davis, Maree Laming, Jay Jablonskis, Deborah Rix, Bernard Hoffmann, Maurya Hutton and Maria Cabonara. **May they rest in peace**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** For the **many** sick in our Parish Community including: Kerry Walker, Jessica Nilsson, Samantha Glover, Shirley Starr, Kenny Wilson, Antonio David, Hannah Kavanagh, Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Steve Foreman, Luke Van Der Burg, Briege Glover, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Patricia McInerney, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill,

Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Mary Fredericks and Flynn Griffiths.

**FOR ANY PARISHIONERS:** who would like to have their birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries included in the Parish Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office: 4628 2967 or email: [ruse@dow.org.au](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au).

**Parishioner's Birthdays this coming week:**  
8<sup>th</sup>: David Minogue

**THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** Is available online at <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/catholic-weekly-newspaper-online/>

**PARISH COLLECTIONS:** With the current situation it is imperative that you please keep up your weekly contributions, as the Parish runs on a limited budget and without these regular contributions to both the First and Second Collections, we will be in real financial difficulties. For this reason, I strongly encourage parishioners who currently give by envelope to change to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions (please read the following notice on how to arrange this or contact the Parish Office) to ensure the regular income of the parish continues. **I Thank you.** Otherwise, please drop your Planned Giving Envelope Contribution into the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave, each week. Please don't forget the first collection for the sustenance of the clergy (as we still have to live too!) For this collection please place your donation in a plain envelope and mark it 'FIRST COLLECTION' and drop it in the secure letter box outside the Church in Acacia Ave.

**Thank you once again for your continued support of our Parish of St Thomas More, Ruse.**

**ELECTRONIC PARISH PLANNED GIVING:** Parishes are urgently needing the ongoing financial support of parishioners more than ever, as their overhead costs will not change. The majority of parishioners give physically to their parish in the first and second collection baskets during Mass, we are encouraging all parishioners to join the electronic parish planned giving program. The Diocese have created a page with 2 simple options for parishioners to give to their local parish electronically. You can view the page and forms at the following link: [www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving](http://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving). If you have any questions about the form, please contact the CDF Wollongong: Trevor Kellam at [trevor.kellam@dow.org.au](mailto:trevor.kellam@dow.org.au)

**Vinnies Winter Appeal:** Your St Vincent de Paul Conference is unable to run a normal Winter Appeal in 2020 due to the current pandemic and associated risks. However, there remain many people in need and anyone able to make a cash donation is encouraged to do so. Simply, visit [www.vinnies.org.au/donate](http://www.vinnies.org.au/donate) or call 13 18 12 to make a secure donation. All donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Please contact the School Office on 4625 6561 for School enquiries. To keep up-to-date with the happenings in our Parish Catholic Primary School please use this link to read their School newsletter: <https://stmdow.schoolzineplus.com/schoolnews?nid=50>

**NATSIC SUNDAY:** This week is the start of NAIDOC week with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (NATSIC). Let us

celebrate and pray as a community. To read some great stories please go to: <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2020-atsi-sunday.html>. Follow the link to live stream the NATSIC Mass from St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Adelaide.

**THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG WEEKLY PODCAST:** The Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast - 'The Journey' - 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Listen in this week for as we break open the Sunday Gospel reading with Fr Mark de Battista and hear from our new presenter Pat Keady from the Emmanuel Community and hear about the upcoming national Catholic Men's Conference online. There are some great short talks from some of Australia's best Catholic presenters. Uploaded every Friday for free download - go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au)

**DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG MASS ONLINE:** For all of the online Mass options - please visit the Dow website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>. Members of the faithful are urged to keep holy the Lord's Day by making an act of Spiritual Communion (**below**). **Mass for You at Home** is available across the Ten Network on Sundays at 6.00am and any time on Ten Play. **Daily Mass on demand** is available at CathNews YouTube channel

**CatholicCare:** We're always here, if you ever need... These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email [intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au)

**FAITH CIRCLES:** is available free to download at [www.faithcircles.dow.org.au](http://www.faithcircles.dow.org.au) or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

**YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE:** Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong has launched LIVE- check it out: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdC-Q7-OVY>.

**FAITH RESOURCES FOR USE AT HOME:** There are some new adult online faith formation opportunities available on the Diocesan website - go to the new Section on Dow Website. Visit: [www.dow.org.au/covid-19/nourish-your-faith-at-home](http://www.dow.org.au/covid-19/nourish-your-faith-at-home).

**PRAYER RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES:** Go to: [liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray](http://liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray) and follow the prompts to access.

**PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen*

