

## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



YEAR C  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### 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"*

*Our Parish is wheelchair friendly. We have ramps going into the Church and into the Parish Hall. Please let your family and friends know. "Anymore who welcomes you, welcomes me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Matthew 10:40*

**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS:** If you require **Low Gluten Hosts** for Holy Communion please see Fr Michael **before** Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Can you please supervise your children in the Church courtyard and Chelsea House (Parish Hall). They are **not** permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church and Chelsea House (Parish Hall), the surrounding trees and the garden in the courtyard. Supervision is your responsibility. **We cannot accept liability for a child hurting themselves if they engage in these activities.**



**ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO OUR PARISH SUNDAY MORNING MASS ARE INVITED** to Refreshments after Mass in Chelsea House (Parish Hall). Come and share a cuppa, catch up with friends or make new ones. Looking forward to seeing you all in Chelsea House.

**PASCHAL PRECEPT:** Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (6<sup>th</sup> March) and Trinity Sunday (16<sup>th</sup> June) unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. **All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT** will be celebrated on Thursdays during Lent commencing at 7.30pm: Thursday's: **14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April.**

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES** are available from the all the tables at the Entrance to the Church. Project Compassion, through Caritas Australia, is the Catholic Church's annual appeal to fund projects in developing countries and when natural disasters strike overseas.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** the Children, their families and the Sacramental Team who are currently preparing for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED and the ANNIVERSARIES THAT OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Kyle Miller (R.D.), Marie White (Betty) Anniv, Beryl Ford, Marica Drakopoulos, Fr Tony Daly, Christine Hope, Gabriel Newell, Naomi Gomes, Diane McCrorey, Peter Hampton, Kim Watson, Maree Laming, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Pedro Santos, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The **many** sick in our Parish Community including: Fr John Whitty, Roge Beshoy(baby), Maureen Hennessy, Elaine Hoffmann, Ellen Healy, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

**IF ANY PARISHIONER/S** 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 WEEK:**  
9<sup>th</sup>: **Bob Rawson and Brian Wyer**  
10<sup>th</sup>: **Kerry Hennessy**  
15<sup>th</sup>: **Cathy Bye**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2019** is held during the Sunday 9.00am Mass during School Terms. This is for School Aged Children (Kindergarten up to and including Year 6). If you would like more information or would like to join this Parish Ministry, please contact Joanne on 042 180 2132.

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME 2019** is held in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) on Tuesdays during School Terms 9.30am – 11.30am. Mums, Dads or Carers come along with the children. Come for cuppa and a chat while the children play, do craft, read stories, and many more activities. Gold coin donation. **All are most welcome**

**PARISH MINISTRIES:** If you would like to become involved in any of our Parish Ministries please see Fr Michael or contact the Parish Office. **We have many Parish Ministries that are looking for more Volunteers. Eg: Church Cleaner's, Ushers, etc. Thanking you in anticipation.**

**PARISH BULLETIN ADVERTISING:** If you would like to advertise your Business on the back cover of our Parish Bulletin, either single or double business card size please either speak with Barry Daley or contact the Parish Office for more information.

**PARISH COLLECTIONS IN THE CHURCH:** We depend on your generosity to make ends meet for the support of our Parish. **If you are not part of our Parish Planned Giving Program, then please consider joining.** If you are new to our Parish, please consider joining

**PARISH MAINTENANCE:** Like anywhere, from time to time little things need 'doing' in the Church, Parish Hall, toilets etc. It's good to keep on top of things. If you happen to notice kneelers need mending, or anything that is need of repair, please write in the Maintenance book on the main table at the entrance of the Church or phone/email the Parish Office.

## DIARY DATES TO NOTE:

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm** St Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting in the Parish Centre  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm** Parish Finance Council meeting in the Parish Centre  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm** Stations of the Cross  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Retiree's Social Group Gathering **after the 9.30am morning Mass**, in Chelsea House  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April: Parish Grounds working Bee** in preparing our Church grounds etc for Easter. More details to follow

## PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

### • USHERS

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro**  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Brian and Gwen Harris**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Chantal Berbari**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman**

### • READERS:

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: James Munro and Raquel Villareal**  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: David Minogue and Marian Cross**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Marisel King and Carmel Munro**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Marian Cross and Karen Battour**

### • EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Winnie Cameron and Julie McKenzie**  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Faye Faamau and Mavon Vaughan**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Trish Newman and Bertha Berbari**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Catherine Minogue and Bev McKenzie**

### • POWERPOINT OPERATOR'S:

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Joshua Star**  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Chantal Berbari**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris**

### • CHURCH CLEANERS:

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community**  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Group 5: Samoan Divine Mercy Group**

## ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

To keep up to date with the happenings in our Parish Primary School, please take home the latest copy of their School Newsletter.

**ENROLING FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020:** Enrolments Close Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Please contact the School Office for details: 4625 6561  
**SAVE THE DATE: SCHOOL FETE: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019.** More details to follow.



## MOUNT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE, VARROVILLE:

**Where to from here? Friday-Sunday 22-24 March.**

Presenter: Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD Cost: \$300  
We will spend time trying to find God in the midst of this crisis and *seek a way forward to become a more humble, open, transparent and Christ-centered Church.*

**Praying with The Doctors: St John of the Cross, St Teresa of Avila and St Therese of Lisieux. Tuesday – Wednesday 26-27 March** Presenters: Fr Aloysius Rego, OCD and Mr Geoff Stumbles Cost: \$135. *Through gaining an understanding of these Carmelite mystics, can we relate to what they are teaching and locate our experience within their writings?*

**Contemplating the Creative Process Friday-Sunday 29-31 March.** Presenters: John Charadia and artist tutors Cost: \$300. *Through practical experience in creating artistic forms we will reflect on the spirituality of the creative process.*

**For further information please contact Carla: on (02) 8795 3400 or email: [retreats@carelite.com](mailto:retreats@carelite.com)**

## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG 2019 GATHERING:

An invitation is extended to the faithful of the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong to attend the **2019 Diocesan Gathering on Saturday 30 March 2019 from 11am-3pm to be held at St John the Evangelist Parish Hall, Campbelltown.** The Gathering is an opportunity for people from across the Diocese to reflect on the issues raised in the Plenary Process in our Diocese, hear the experiences of a selection of Local Animators and next steps in the process of listening and discernment.  
**RSVP:** [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) or 4222 2403 by Wednesday 27 March for catering purposes (light lunch provided)

## FORTY DAYS

Lent is a time to renew the gift of our vocation, and a time for us to listen more deeply to God's call. Have we been resisting the invitation to consider a vocation? Start a conversation. **Please contact the Vocations Team at [priesthood@dow.org.au](mailto:priesthood@dow.org.au)**

## REMEMBERING • HEALING • RECONCILIATION

**APPIN MASSACRE MEMORIAL CEREMONY Sunday 14 April 2019 Cataract Dam Picnic Area 11am-3.30pm**  
Hosted by The Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group and the Aboriginal Communities of Macarthur. For further information, contact Uncle Ivan Wellington 0447 581 306 or Sr Kerry 9605 1838.

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND 26 – 28

**APRIL 2019** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville  
Relationship enrichment for married couples. Bookings online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

## PILGRIMAGE: LANDS OF ST PAUL:

Fr Christopher Sarkis will be leading a 10-night pilgrimage as Chaplain to the Lands of St Paul, following the path of his missionary journey. Visiting Athens, ancient Corinth, Meteora, Philippi, Thessaloniki, Patmos and Ephesus, with an optional extension to Malta where St. Paul was shipwrecked on his way to Rome where he was martyred. It departs 15 July 2019. For further information contact Harvest Journeys Freecall 1800 819 156 or email: [info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com) or [www.harvestjourneys.com](http://www.harvestjourneys.com)

*The Eucharist...is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.*

*Evangelii Gaudium (2013) 47*