

1st Sunday of Lent
Year B



18th February 2018

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, welcome 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.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN OUR PARISH: Who is ill/or unable to come to Mass and would like to have Holy Communion please inform either Fr Michael or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. We currently have 2 Acolytes' who take Communion to the ill/elderly and/or housebound.

ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND ARE INVITED FOR REFRESHMENTS IN CHELSEA HOUSE (Parish Hall) (our first for 2018) after the Sunday 9.00am Mass. Come and see the updated renovations so far. We look forward to sharing a cup of tea/coffee and something to eat with you.

LENT 2018:

Stations of the Cross will be every Tuesday at 7.00pm during Lent in the Parish Church commencing this Tuesday 20th February.

PARISHIONER'S BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK:

18th: *Freda Miranda*
22nd: *Michael Berbari*

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

PARISH PIETY STALL: Please come and see what is available for sale.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2018: Is held at the beginning of the Sunday 9.00am Mass. This is for **School aged children** from Kindergarten up to and including Year 6. If would like more information or would like to join this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on 042 180 2132.

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME: Is held every Tuesday (during the School Term) from 9.30am - 11.30am in Chelsea House (Parish Hall). This is held during School Terms and is a gold coin donation.

Parents/Guardians/Grandparents, if you have children including bubs, come for a chat and cuppa while the children enjoy playtime activities including Bible Story time, songs, craft, outside/inside play and prayer time. If you have any enquiries please contact Catherine on 4627 1842.

PARISH LENTEN GROUPS 2018: Our Parish is having 2 Lenten Groups: Monday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, and Wednesday mornings after the 9.30am Mass in Chelsea House (Parish Hall). Parishioners are invited to join in with either of these groups. The books "Surrender" are \$5.00 each and are available at either the Lenten Groups or you are able to purchase the books from the Piety stall.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr Michael, Fr David Catterall, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Faleniko Tiatele, Maureen Wyer, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Elaine Hoffmann, Natalie Dwyer, Aimiti Seufatu, Robert Berthaly, John Hill, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Fr Tony Daly, Marj Esdall, Heidi Thompson, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, , Ralph Carmona, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.

May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual Light shine upon them.

MESSAGE TO THE PARISH READERS: A Readers Workshop has been organised for next Saturday 24th February from 9.30am to 11.30am (morning tea included). **All Readers are required/encouraged to attend.** For any enquiries and to **RSVP** (for catering purposes) please contact May on: 0413 077 824. I am looking forward to seeing you and thank you for dedicating your precious time to this Parish Ministry.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE: The Parish is looking for a volunteer who will be willing to work on a regular basis each week in an effort to keep the Church grounds and surrounds neat and tidy. Hours would be flexible and any handyman skills would also be beneficial as there sometimes small tasks that need doing but it is expensive to bring a tradesman in. If you are able to assist please contact the Office on 46282967 your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to the gentlemen who have been coming and cleaning/tidying up the Church grounds. The gift of your time is greatly appreciated.

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 eg: 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. You can either write in the book or phone/email the Parish Office, if you are aware or notice anything that is in need of repair.

BULLETIN INSERT: For this weekend covers the naming behind our Parish Hall (Chelsea House). Thank you to the Parishioner who gave of his time in preparing this, your gifts are greatly appreciated.

RECONCILIATION: Please keep in your prayers, the Teacher's, families and students who will be commencing their preparation for Reconciliation this week.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Please take home a copy of the latest School Newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening in our Primary School.

PROJECT COMPASSION (CARITAS AUSTRALIA): Is the annual awareness raising and fundraising campaign. It is the time where we can listen and respond to the voices of marginalised and vulnerable. Project Compassion 2018 is celebrating *A Just Future* for all in conjunction with the Year of the Youth. For more information visit: www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion. *In the baskets at the entrance to the Church there are either Project Compassion Boxes or envelopes to take home. The envelopes can be returned each week and placed in either of the collections at Mass. Please give generously.*

THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF MOST REVEREND BRIAN GREGORY MASCORD: Fifth Bishop of Wollongong, 7pm Thursday 22nd February at **WIN Entertainment Centre, Wollongong. The Diocese will be livestreaming the ordination from 6.45pm this Thursday 22 February for those that cannot attend on YouTube. The link for the livestream is www.livestream.dow.org.au.**

YEAR 7 2019 OPEN DAY/ENROLMENTS:
Sunday 18th February: St Gregory's College: Open Day Junior School (Kindergarten - Year 6): 9.15am - 10am, Senior School: (Year 7 -12) 10.00am - 1pm. **Wednesday 21st February:** Senior School Enrolment Evening (Year 7 2019) 7.30pm - 8.30pm in the Br Luke Hall in the Senior School. All enquiries to the School Office 4629 4222.
Saturday 24th February: St Patrick's College: Open Day 10am - 2pm (registrations essential). All enquiries to the School Office: 4629 2999
Monday 26th February: Mount Carmel Catholic College Year 7 2019 Information Night 6.45pm for 7pm start. Applications close Thursday 29th March. All enquiries to the School Office: 9603 3000.
Saturday 3rd March: John Therry Catholic High School: Open Day and Enrolment Session: 11am - 2pm. Enrolment packs for Year 7 2019 available and enrolments accepted from Monday 5th March - Friday 6th April. All enquiries to the School Office: 4645 8100.

Day of Prayer & Fasting for Peace: Friday, 23 February 2018 – First Week of Lent: The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana, has asked that we adopt the request of Pope Francis and mark a Day of Prayer & Fasting for Peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in South Sudan and in the whole world. Considering the protraction of the socio-political tensions and of the violence in both countries, the Holy Father encourages the whole Church to join him in this Day of Prayer to entrust in God the Father's infinite mercy, the conversion of hearts, especially of the leaders and all those involved in these countries. Let us join the Holy Father in this initiative and encourage the participation of our faithful in reflecting on this day of prayer and fasting.

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: *The Parish has a Parish Rosary Statue that Parishioners are able to home in their Homes and prayer the Rosary as a family.* If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry and have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home during 2018, **please phone Bev on: 4625 0659**

Diary Dates:

20th February: *12noon Catechist* meeting in Chelsea House (Parish Hall)
20th February: *7.00pm Stations of the Cross*
21st February: *7.30pm Parish Finance Council* meeting in the Parish Centre (1st for 2018)
22nd February: *Retiree's Social Group Gathering* after the 9.30am Mass in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) (all Retiree's over 55 are most welcome), come for a chat, laugh and a cuppa
24th February: *9.30am-11.30am Reader's Workshop* - see notices for details
27th February: *7.30pm St Vincent de Paul Conference* meeting in the Parish Centre (1st for 2018)

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

• **EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

24th February: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Bertha Berbari & Bev McKenzie*
25th February: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Catherine Minogue*
3rd March: *Saturday Vigil Mass: James Munro & Winnie Cameron*
4th March: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Annette Read & Mavon Vaughan*

• **READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

24th February: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro & Pauline Menzies*
25th February: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley & Maureen Molland*
3rd March: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Pauline Menzies & Julie McKenzie*
4th March: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Andrew Truong & Julie Writer*

• **USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

24th February: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Help needed*
25th February: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman*
3rd March: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro*
4th March: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley*

• **CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

Saturday 24th February: Group 3: Christine Foreman, James & Carmel Munro
Saturday 3rd March: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Faye Faamau, Rosa & Manuel Herra and Colleen (Amber) Jablonskis

A Prayer for Lent

Lord, please show me what I should give up for Lent And when I've given it up Remind me to pray to You instead To thank You To love You To hear from You Each and every day in Lent Amen

