



3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017

**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.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Can you please supervise your children in the Church courtyard and Parish Hall. They are not permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church **and** the 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.

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS FROM OUR PARISH:** We currently have 2 Acolyte’s who visit Parishioners and bring them Communion every Tuesday to those who are ill or elderly and unable to come to Mass. Please encourage them (or a family member) to contact either Fr Michael or the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** *The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will celebrated next Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 6.00pm Vigil Mass and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am Mass.* Please keep in your prayers the 56 children, their families and their Teachers.

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Parish Community: *Layla Brooke Achurch, Tully Anne Dowdell and Sybil Kathleen Wagstaff* who were Baptised last weekend.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr David Catterall, Helen Rawson, Eric Hughes, 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, Ellen Healy, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:** George Daley (R.D.), Danny Harper (R.D.), Bernard Hoffmann, Lena Pereira, Fr Tony Daly, Keith Gomes, Ladislav Feher, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris and Maria Cabonara. *Eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

**Belated Parishioner’s Birthday’s:**

22<sup>nd</sup>: Arthur Michelutti  
28<sup>th</sup>: Colleen Jablonskis

**Parishioner’s Birthdays this coming week:**

3<sup>rd</sup>: Neville Taylor  
4<sup>th</sup>: Dexter Harris & Peter Barbari  
7<sup>th</sup>: Maureen Molland

*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)*

**2016 NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY RESULT FOR OUR PARISH:**

**How People Relate to God: Personal Faith:**  
45% of attenders said they had experienced much GROWTH IN FAITH in the previous 12 months.  
43% spend time in PRAYER, BIBLE READING, MEDITATION every day or most days  
**IMPORTANCE of GOD in people’s lives:** “God is more important to me than almost anything else” 39% and “God is the most important reality in my life” 46%.

*These results are from the 140 forms (Adults) and 10 (Child forms) that were completed in November last year. Attenders could select up to 3 options so percentages may not add up to 100%.*

**PARISH LADIES GROUP: FATHER’S DAY RAFFLE:** We thank you for your generous and continuous support of our Parish fundraising - all funds will be going towards the “revamping” of our Parish Hall. The winner’s names will be published in the Parish Bulletin next week.

*Good luck to all and thank you once again.*

**PARISH LADIES GROUP: SAVE THE DATE: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October: Parish Ladies Group High Tea.** More details to follow.

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY:** Is held during the 9.00am Sunday morning Mass (during School Terms) and is for school aged children - Kindergarten to Year 6 (inclusive). If you would like more information on this Parish Ministry please contact Joanne on 0421 802 132.

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME:** Is held on Tuesday’s (during School Terms) from 9.30am - 11.30am in our Parish Hall. **Gold coin donation.** Parents/Guardians/Grandparents, if you have children including School aged and bubs, come for a chat and cuppa while the children enjoy playtime activities. If you have any enquiries please contact Catherine on 4627 1842.

**THE RETIREES SOCIAL GROUP:** Would like to invite senior parishioners (over 55) to join our group in the hall after 9.30am Mass (Thursday’s). We meet twice a month. **Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.**

**PARISH MAINTENANCE:** A reminder regarding the Parish 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.

**PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** We are always grateful to those who contribute through Planned Giving. It gives us a good basis of finance to plan Parish Apostolate. If anyone would like to join this method of contributions to Parish, please call Parish Office.

**PARISH PIETY STALL:** We have *ample new stock* available for sale eg: Baptism gifts, Rosary Beads etc. The Piety Stall is *open after the Sunday 9.00am Mass.*

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

**Save the date:**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October: St Thomas More School Shopping bus trip:** leaving the Church grounds at 7.00am. Numbers have to be in by Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Please take a flyer on the tables at the entrance of the Church, please take one or more. This is a most enjoyable fun day.

**Please take home a School Newsletter to keep up to date with what is happening. They are located on all the tables at the entrance to the Church.**

**PALMS INFO SESSION:** Calling for experienced professional, business or trades people. Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa seek skilled Australians to mentor local personnel. You will assist to improve and sustain organisations vital in reducing poverty. Learn more about how you will be supported through this exciting, life-changing opportunity, Thursday, 7 September 5:30pm-7pm Xavier Centre Conference room, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. RSVP [joey@palms.org.au](mailto:joey@palms.org.au) or call 9560 5333.

**POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON “SAME-SEX MARRIAGE”**

**ANNOUNCED:** The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include “same-sex marriage”. Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to [www.aec.gov.au/enrol/](http://www.aec.gov.au/enrol/) before the cut-off date of Thursday, 24 August. **To keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man, vote NO.**

**BISHOPS’ SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT ON THE**

**ECONOMY:** We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 24 September. The Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statement 2017 is titled: *‘Everyone’s Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy’*. For further details about the Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:** If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, **please phone Bev on: 4625 0659. “When you prayer the Rosary, you have our Lady’s hand in your hand. When you pray the Holy Rosary you have the power of God in your hand”.**

**PARISH DIARY DATES:**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September: 7.30pm** Parish Ladies Group Meeting in the Parish Centre  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September: 7.30pm** Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Parish Hall  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September:** Retiree’s Social Group gathering is after the 9.30am Mass. *(Any Retirees over the age of 55 are warmly welcome to join this group).* Gathering is held in the Parish Hall. (see notice)  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September: 7.00pm** Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September: 7.30pm** St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre

**PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

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

9<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: (First Holy Communion): Bev McKenzie & Maureen Molland*  
10<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: (First Holy Communion):*  
16<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Winnie Cameron & Bertha Barbari*  
17<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan & Catherine Minogue*

**READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

9<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: First Holy Communion: Bev & Julie McKenzie*  
10<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: First Holy Communion: Julie & Feyise Writer*  
16<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie & David Minogue*  
17<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman & Chelsea Gaut*

**USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

9<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: First Holy Communion: Vicky Horne*  
10<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: First Holy Communion: Brian & Gwen Harris*  
16<sup>th</sup> September: *Saturday Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro*  
17<sup>th</sup> September: *Sunday 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman*

**CHURCH CLEANERS’ FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September: *Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy Group*  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September: *Syro-Malabar Indian Community*

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER SUNDAY 9.00am MASS: Sunday**

17<sup>th</sup> September: *Group 3: Julie Writer, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy and Rosalie Vine*

**A PRAYER FOR FATHER’S**

**God our Father, We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.**

*We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.*

*We pray for our own Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; May they know that the **God of compassion** walks with them in their sorrow. We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen*

