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CATHOLIC CHURCH - DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

St. THOMAS MORE PARISH, RUSE
WELCOMES YOU
Parish Priest: Fr Michael Healy

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**
27th SEPTEMBER 2020

FIRST READING - Ezekiel 18:25-28.
A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord.
(R.) Thanks be to God
RESPONSORIAL PSALM
(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

SECOND READING -
Philippians 2:1-11.
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider

the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.
(R.) Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING -
Matthew 21:28-32.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a

pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
(R.) Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

PRAYER 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.



Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'
Matthew 21:31-32.



TUESDAY 29th SEPTEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

WEDNESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER
9.30am. - Mass.

FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER
9.30am. - Mass.

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER
Saturday Vigil for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
6.00pm. - Mass.

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER
27th 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.



Don't forget

**Next Sunday
October 4, 2020**

Spring Forward
Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday
October 4, 2020



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Secretary: Mrs Carmel Munro
TUESDAY - FRIDAY
9.00am - 3.30pm

Parish ☎: 4628 2967
Email: ruse@dow.org.au
School ☎: 4625 6561

STEWARDSHIP
**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not.

The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked.

What service is God calling me to do?

Which son am I more like?

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

4th OCTOBER 2020
**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

First Reading:
Isaiah 5:1-7.

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Second Reading:
Philippians 4:6-9.

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Reading:
Matthew 21:33-43.

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

HUMOUR CORNER

JOE KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE THINGS AT HOME

Joe had asked Bob to help him out with the deck after work, so Bob just went straight over to Joe's place. When they got to the door, Joe went straight to his wife, gave her a hug and told her how beautiful she was and how much he had missed her at work.

When it was time for supper, he complimented his wife on her cooking, kissed her and told her how much he loved her.

Once they were working on the deck, Bob told Joe that he was surprised that he fussed so much over his wife.

Joe said that he'd started this about six months ago, it had revived their marriage, and things couldn't be better.

Bob thought he'd give it a go. When he got home, he gave his wife a massive hug, kissed her and told her that he loved her. His wife burst into tears.

Bob was confused and asked why she was crying.

She said, "This is the worst day of my life. First, little Billy fell off his bike and twisted his ankle. Then, the washing machine broke and flooded the basement.

And now, you come home drunk!"

ST. TERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS



St Teresa of the child Jesus was born at Alencon, France in 1873. She entered the Carmelite convent of Lisieux at a young age and was recognised for her humility, simplicity and confidence in God. She died of tuberculosis in 1897, at the age only 24.

Her autobiography, 'The Story of a Soul', was published after her death-she also left many letters, poems, religious plays and prayers. Teresa was canonised in 1925 and in 1997, Pope John Paul II declared her the thirtythird Doctor of the Church; the youngest person and only third woman to receive this title.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



27th September 2020

(World Refugees & Migration Day)

World Day of Migrants and Refugees The 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated today 27 September. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is "Forced like Jesus Christ to flee". #WDMR2020

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

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL: Last Weekend: 19/20 September – To support the Retirement and Health of Clergy and Local parish Ministries. Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Your donation to this appeal will enable me to provide a dignified retirement for our diocesan clergy and ensure that our parish communities stay connected during this time of pandemic. While I acknowledge the pressure that some households are facing at this time, if you are in a financial position to give, I would be very grateful if you would consider giving generously to this appeal.

Bishop Brian Mascord

Take a moment to consider a donation. Donations can be made by credit card, EFT, cheque or money order. Please visit www.dow.org.au/giving to find out more. Call (02) 4222 2446 to make a donation over the phone.



PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS'S TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND WOULD LIKE to congratulate the Holy Communion Candidates:



May you always know the Peace of Jesus, the Light of His Love and the joy of His LIFE.

For your First Communion Day May God give you.... For every storm, a rainbow, For every tear, a smile, For every care, a promise, And a blessing in each trial. For every problem life sends, A faithful friend to share, For every sigh, a sweet song. And an answer for each prayer.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM UPDATE: We are celebrating the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, there will be 4 Candidates at each Mass up to and including next weekend (3rd/4th October).

CONFIRMATION is scheduled for early November. The Information and Enrolment Form/s have been given out and had to be returned by Friday (25th September).

DO YOU WISH TO ATTEND A WEEKEND MASS?
You cannot just turn up for Mass as previously!!

YOU HAVE TO REGISTER WITH THE PARISH OFFICE BY the FRIDAY BEFORE THE WEEKEND MASSES.

As we are celebrating First Holy Communion next weekend, it is essential that you ring the Office during Office working hours, to book a place. We are unable to accommodate more than 70 in our church, and it will not be possible to admit parishioners who have not pre registered.

Please arrive early for Mass (at least 15 minutes beforehand). Church doors are locked as Mass begins, No collections are taken up at Mass. Usual Parish Collection donations can be placed in the baskets provided on the table at the Church entrance door.

If you are elderly (70 years +) or not feeling well, the ruling states that, (for your own safety) YOU MUST STAY AT HOME. After entering the Church for Mass, your hands will be sanitized and your temperature taken. (This is obligatory) then a Monitor 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)

No Holy Water fonts, No Votive Candles, No Offertory Procession, no Sign of Peace, Holy Communion (in a single file) must be Received in the hand.

You are to sanitize your hands again as you leave the Church and Nobody will be permitted to socially assemble in the courtyard before, during and after Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: All the people who have died in this current pandemic, the recently deceased and whose anniversaries that occur at this time: Michael Hennessy, Fr Anthony (Tony) Daly), Bernard Hoffmann, John Read, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Ladislav Feher, Beryl Ford, Jim McKenzie, Bobby Cameron, Marguerite (Marg) Davis, Maree Laming, Jay Jablonskis, Deborah Rix and Maurya Hutton. **May they Rest in Peace**

PLEASE PRAY FOR: For the many sick in our Parish Community including: Katy Carolan, Jan Vaughan, Peter Gabas, Ron Fredericks, Kathleen Sidebottom, Kerry Walker, Jessica Nilsson, David Jabour, Dennis Jabour, Samantha Glover, Shirley Starr, Kenny Wilson, Antonio David, Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Steve Foreman, Luke Van Der Burg, Briega Glover, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Betty Berthon, 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.

WE WELCOME into our Christian Community: **Madeleine Blake Sheedy** who was Baptised last weekend.

BAPTISM: If you wish for your child to be Baptised in our Parish, please contact the Parish Office during Office Hours, so that a suitable date can be organized for the celebration. Due to COVID-19 we are currently having only 1 Baptism per Sunday.

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. **Parishioner's Birthdays this coming week:** 1st Oct: Manuel Herrera

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. If you have any questions about the form, please contact the CDF Wollongong: Trevor Kellam at trevor.kellam@dow.org.au

VINNIES APPEAL: Your St Vincent de Paul Conference was unable to run the Winter Appeal in 2020 due to 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 or call 13 18 12 to make a secure donation. All donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S:

3rd Oct: Group 2: Cathy and Michael Bye, Kathy Donachie and Barry Daley

10th Oct: Group 3: Christine Foreman, Chris Charlton and James and Carmel Munro

2021 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR'S: Are for sale from the Parish Office for the bargain price of \$9.00 each. These make terrific Christmas Presents.

THANKYOU: Parishioner's and Visitor's to our Parish Masses during the week and weekends, who help with the santising of their seats plus the many areas that are touched eg: door handles, the Lectern, Sactuary etc.

WISHING ALL OUR PARISH SCHOOL CHILDREN: A very happy and safe holiday in readiness for Term 4.

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>

AROUND THE DIOCESE:

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.

THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG WEEKLY PODCAST: The Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast – 'The Journey' – 27th September. We hear from Fr Mike Delaney and words from Mother Hilda's story etc. Uploaded every Friday for free download – go to www.jcr.org.au

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Marriage Enrichment Weekend 20-22 November 2020 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Book online at www.wvme.org.au Alternatively contact Christine & Terry on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wvme.org.au

REQUEST FOR PRAYER FOR CATECHIST MINISTRY IN THE DIOCESE: Please keep in your prayers the work of Scripture Teacers, the children they teach in state schools and their families. If you would like to know more about the ministry, please go to www.ccdwollongong.com

YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE: Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong has launched LIVE -Check it out at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdC-Q7-OVY>. great way. To get in touch with the NET team and be part of this, simply follow the "CYMW" Facebook page or by Instagram at "wollongongnetteam".

PRAYER RESOURCES for INDIVIDUALS and FAMILIES: these include daily prayers and readings, prayer services, the Sunday Office commentaries, homilies and reflections as well as Gospel based activities and resources to support personal and family prayer. Go to: liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray and follow the prompts to access.

FAITH CIRCLES: free small group resource: Is available to download at www.faithcircles.dow.org.au or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.

CatholicCARE- Have you thought about becoming a foster carer? Needed is foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. For more information please either call 0418 783 956 or email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au> .

