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CATHOLIC CHURCH - DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A
8th NOVEMBER 2020

FIRST READING -

Wisdom 6:12-16.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her.

Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.

Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates.

Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary. to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**

4. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **(R.)**

SECOND READING -

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died,

to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING -

Matthew 25:1-13.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.



Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not

be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

REFLECTION - by Fr Michael Tate.

Israel was often portrayed as a bride in Jewish scriptures. So, the question was: 'When would the Bridegroom – the Anointed One of God, the Christ – appear?' Jesus' warning is to the attendants of the bride: 'Be alert, be vigilant, be prepared.' Some (the five foolish attendants) did miss the moment: the earthly ministry of Jesus of Nazareth.

But his warning is also for the Catholic Church which is the new Bride of Christ. We are the attendants to the Bride and the imperative applies to us also: Be alert, be vigilant. Be prepared for the eruption, the intervention of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom, into our history, into our moment of time.

For example, is Christ coming to meet us in the modern movements which demand to hold authority accountable, or which press for just recognition of women? We can foolishly remain in the dark or we can wisely try to throw light on these questions. Only then we will be able to discern whether indeed it is the Lord who is approaching.

We could pause to pray that we be ready when the Bridegroom responds to the ancient prayer: 'Come, Lord Jesus!' *mtate@bigpond.com*



'Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'
Matthew 5:11-13.



MASS TIMES

TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

FRIDAY 13th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

SATURDAY 14th NOVEMBER
Saturday Vigil for
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A
6.00pm. - Mass.

SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER
THIRTY-THIRD 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.



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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Like the sensible bridesmaids in today's parable, good stewards make sure that they, and whatever gifts are theirs to share, are ready to serve when the Master calls.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

15th NOVEMBER 2020
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

First Reading:

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31.
Give her a share in what she has worked for.

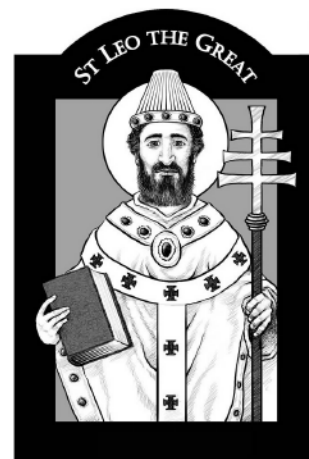
Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6.
The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 25:14-30.
Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

ST. LEO THE GREAT



St Leo the Great was the pope for twenty years from the year 440.

During his pontificate he defended Rome from the barbarian conquerer, Atilla the Hun, by convincing him to accept tribute from the city rather than sacking it.

St Leo's greatest triumph as pope came from the acceptance of

his dogmatic letter, which taught that Jesus Christ is one Person, in whom both human and divine nature are permanently united. Almost one hundred of his letters and sermons still survive; he was declared a doctor of the church in 1754.

HUMOUR CORNER

THE IRISH FATHER AND HIS SON

An Irishman took his son to the bar on his birthday to buy him his first drink.

The father bought his son a stout, but he didn't like it and didn't want to drink it. The father decided to drink it for him and ordered an ale instead. He didn't like it either. So, the father drank it and ordered him a cider.

Lager, cider, cream ale... he didn't like any of them, so the father drank them and ordered whiskey instead. He didn't like any of the Irish whiskeys the father ordered, so the old man drank them and decided to give up.

By the time they left the bar, the father was so drunk he could barely push his son's stroller home.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



8th November 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

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 (12noon) BEFORE THE WEEKEND MASSES.

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). Holy Communion (in a single file) **must** be Received in the hand **Nobody** will be permitted to socially assemble in the courtyard before, during and after Mass.

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND: This collection is taken up on Good Friday but due to COVID-19, it will now be held in our Diocese as an online collection next weekend (15th November (World Day of the Poor)

<https://www.dow.org.au/giving/holy-land-collection/>

NOVEMBER: The Month of the Holy Souls: Is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead. Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: sacramental confession, eucharistic communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions. (Norms 15,7) *There is a Sacred Space set up with the Book for the Deceased. If you would like to have your loved ones included please print their names clearly on: the envelope provided in your Planned Giving Envelopes, or on an envelope/paper and either hand to Fr Michael, put in the collection baskets (at the entrance to the Church) or the Parish Office or just email the Parish Office ruse@dow.org.au. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. And may the Souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace Amen*

CONFIRMATION: Please keep in your prayers the 32 Candidates, their families and the Sacramental Team as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation is on Saturday 21st November 2020.

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.

WE WELCOME into our Christian Community: *Aria Anne Kayem* who was Baptised in our Parish last weekend.

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S:

14th Nov: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Kathy Donachie, Barry Daley and Michael Bye

21st Nov: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community

We are in urgent need of Church Cleaner's. Due to COV-19 one of our Cleaning Groups has dropped down to only 1 Parishioner, this is a lot for only 1 person and another Group hasn't been coming.

If you have a spare ½ hour approximately every 6 weeks during the week or Saturday morning, please consider joining this Parish Ministry. Please contact the Parish Office for more details. Thanking you in anticipation.

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 Birthday this coming week:

10th: Faye Faamau, 11th: Maryanne Fredericks and

12th: Elaine Hoffmann

Parishioner's Wedding Anniversary this coming week:

12th: Kristine and Bill George (43 years)

THANKYOU: Parishioner's and Visitor's to our Parish Masses during the week and weekends, who help with the sanitising of their seats plus the many areas that are touched eg: door handles, the Lectern, Sanctuary etc. **To the Parishioner's who have kindly donated: sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and face masks.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR: For the *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Chris Hayes, Tresora Wyer, Trish Spackman, 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, Briege 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.

PRAYERS: Please continue to keep in your prayers those who are preparing and sitting for the Higher School Certificate, those who are unwell and those who "just" need prayers.

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS: Are available for sale from the Parish Office, during Office Hours. We have plenty of stock available.

VINNIES APPEAL: www.vinnies.org.au/donate or call 13 18 12 to make a secure donation. All donations of \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

2020 World Mission Appeal: For more details and/or to donate please either Freecall: 1800 257 296 or email: catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia

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.

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: <https://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
Thank you once again for your continued support of our Parish of St Thomas More, Ruse.

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 OF WOLLONGONG

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' – 8th November: Uploaded every Friday for free download – go to www.jcr.org.au

MACRAMÉ IN THE MORNINGS: CatholicCare is committed to ensuring the welfare of the elderly people within our local area, and we have been so pleased with the response to our, macramé lessons at Lake Side Golf Club. There is only Tuesday 24 Nov available. Please come along for

this free macrame class including morning tea with some friends or on your own. Contact Jane on 0417 018 152 or Melissa on 0400550627 to reserve your spot.

MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE REQUIRES CASUAL CLEANERS FOR 2021: Successful applicants will need to be: fit, able to handle tasks involving lifting and carrying, and be able to work independently, and also harmoniously in a team environment. *Please call, John Ransom, for further information, on: 0435 857 690.*

YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE: Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong 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 plus a lot more. 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.

FORMED: Would you like to nurture your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting Darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au or helen.bennett@dow.org.au.

PRAYER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY:

Remember those, O Lord, Who in your peace have died, Yet may not gain love's high reward Till love is purified.



With you they faced death's night, Sealed with your victory sign. Soon may the splendour of your light On them for ever shine.

Your love is their great joy; You will their one desire; As finest gold without alloy Refine them in love's fire.

For them we humbly pray: Perfect them in your love. O may we share eternal day With them in heaven above.

Amen