

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C

13th December 2015



THE YEAR OF MERCY (commenced last Tuesday 8th December 2015 to 20th November 2016)

YEAR OF MERCY: In the Diocese of Wollongong Bishop Peter Ingham will open the Holy Door of St Francis Xavier's Cathedral Wollongong today (Sunday 13 December), 10:30am - 12:00 noon. Full details and parish resources for celebrating the Year of Mercy are available on the Diocesan website at <http://www.liturgydow.org.au/year-of-mercy.html>.

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.

“Anyone who welcomes you, welcome me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me”.
Matthew 10:40



WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND VISITOR'S TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND:
I would like to welcome you to our Parish Special Family Mass in preparation for Christmas. I thank you for joining us in prayer and celebrating the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. Please join us in the parish Hall for refreshments after Mass.
Fr Tony
Parish Priest.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE:

Saturday 19th December: 4.00pm – 5.30pm
Thursday 24th December: 11.00am – 12noon

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE:

Thursday 24th December:
6.30pm: Christmas Carols and Children's Christmas Pageant
7.00pm: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
11.30pm: Christmas Carols
12.00: Midnight Mass

Friday 25th December: Christmas Day
8.30am: Christmas Carols
9.00am: Christmas Day Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS TIMETABLE:

Thursday 31st December:
6.00pm: New Year Vigil Mass – Mary, Holy Mother of the Church
Friday 1st January 2016:
9.00am: New Year's Day Mass – Mary, Holy Mother of the Church

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS: If you require *Gluten Free Hosts* for Holy Communion please see Fr Tony *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 either let Fr Tony or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967. We have 2 Acolyte's and Fr Tony who take Communion to the ill/elderly and/or housebound.

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community *Flynn Alwyn Williams* who was Baptised last weekend.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Maree and Noel Laming, Betty White, Rita Jowsey, Anna Kovac, Bernie Smith, Jeannie and George Nicholson, Stevie Dilen, Bill Eccleston, Candice Walker, Chris Noyce, Ethan Craig, Leo Cornwell, Doreen Monckton, Mary Smith, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Tina Ting, Beryl Purcell, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Natalie Dwyer, Tomas Laming and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Peter Pereira, Ivo Pereira, Kelly Betherly, Peter Allen Daly, Mary Writer, Jim McKenzie, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Maurya Hutton, Bernard Hoffmann, Marcia Rae, Imelda Zamprogno and Maria Cabonara. May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Parishioner Birthday for this week:

13th: Russell Goodall

14th: Aggie D'Sa

Giovanni Cabonara

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

14th Dec: Brian and Chris O'Brien (41 years)

If any Parishioner/s would like to have their Birthdays and or Wedding Anniversaries included in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 or ruse@dow.org.au

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

Tickets are on sale this weekend at all Parish Masses. The Raffle will be drawn after the 9.00am Mass in the Parish Hall today. The winners will be in the Parish Bulletin next weekend. **Thank you to everyone who supported this Parish Fundraiser.**

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY (Kindergarten to Year 6 inclusive): At the Sunday at the 9.00am Mass during School Terms.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: Christmas Appeal: Thank you to the many Parishioners, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Ruse Public School and St Patrick's College, Campbelltown for your generous support to this Year's Christmas Appeal. During 2015 we have been encouraged by your support of the Winter Appeal, Recruitment Drive, Assist a Student weekend, the Jesse Tree and much more. Many of our members are involved in several Parish Ministries but our encouragement really comes from your generous support.

There are many need families in the Ruse/Airds area but with your help we have been able to make a difference. Please be assured, these families are very grateful and it helps them to know that the St Thomas More Catholic Community is thinking of them.

We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.
Ruse/Airds/Kentlyn/Wedderburn St Vincent de Paul Conference

READERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES 2015:

Christmas Vigil Mass: 1st Reader: Angela Truong

: 2nd Reader: Julie McKenzie

Midnight Mass: : 1st Reader: May Michelutti

: 2nd Reader: Carmel Munro

Christmas Day Mass: 1st Reader: Christine Foreman

: Jim Writer

We are still looking for Reader's for New Year's Day Vigil Mass and New Year's Day. Please put your name on the clipboard on the main table at the entrance to the Church.

PARISH PLANNED GIVING: Planned Giving is essential to the running costs of the Parish Did you know that you can contribute in several ways.

- Weekly Envelopes,
- Direct Debit from your Bank Account
- Direct Credit by electronically transferring funds (EFT) from your Bank Account direct to the St Thomas More Church Account.
- Irregular contributions

(The Direct Credit facility is new and means that you control when you contribute but you need to join the Planned Giving Program to ensure that your contribution is recognized in our Finance System.)

If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program please contact the Parish Office on 46282867 or e-mail: ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org.au. Thank you.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00 each, many interesting articles for your perusal.

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

FEBRUARY 2016 MINISTRY TRAINING DATE CLAIMERS!

Acolytes and Adult Altar Servers: 13 February 2016, 10am - 4pm, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: 13 February 2016, 10am - 1pm, Sacramental Preparation Coordinators and Team Members (Special In-Service): 20 February 2016, 10am - 1pm. **The training days will be held: Xavier Conference Centre Ingham and Wilson Rooms, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong.**

PARISH ROSARY STATUE:

The purpose of the Ministry is to increase prayer within our Parish. Parishioners involved in this Ministry are prepared to open their home for fellow parishioners to join them in saying the Rosary. *If you would like to join this prayerful Ministry please phone Bev on: 4625 0659*

PARISH DIARY DATES:

Wednesday 16th December: 7.00pm (note time change)

Parish Finance Council meeting in the Parish Centre

Thursday 17th December: 9.30am (after the 9.00am morning Mass) Retiree's Social Group gathering (Retiree's over 55 are most welcome)

Wednesday 23rd December: 7.00pm – 9.00pm Choir practice for Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass – 9.00am), ***all singers are encouraged to attend***

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 19th Dec: Bertha Barbari and Maureen Molland

9.00am Mass: Sunday 20th Dec: Fay and Junior Faamau

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Winnie Cameron and Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Catherine Minogue and Annette Read

READERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

(Could the 2nd Reader please read also the Prayers of Intercession)

Vigil Mass: Saturday 19th Dec: Bill George and Louise Phillips

9.00am Mass: Sunday 20th Dec: Jim Writer and Marion Cross

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Louise Phillips and Bev McKenzie

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Jacqui and Marion Cross

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

Saturday 19th Dec: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community

Saturday 26th Dec: Group 5: Ruse Samoan Divine Mercy

USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 19th Dec: Help needed

9.00am Mass: Sunday 20th Dec: Gwen and Brian Harris

Vigil Mass: Saturday 26th Dec: Carmel Munro

9.00am Mass: Sunday 27th Dec: Barry Daley

FLOWER ARRANGERS FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

19th Dec: ***FLOWER ARRANGERS NEEDED (for Christmas)***

26th Dec: Melanie Webb and Elaine Hoffmann

The Christmas Novena

Begins on Thursday, 17 December. At this point, the Advent focus shifts to the Christmas story and the Virgin Mary. These days serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth. GNYLC 42. This is the best time to hold carols services and to begin to sing Christmas carols in the liturgy.



