

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A



22nd December 2019

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, welcomes 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 Chelsea House (Parish Hall). They are not permitted to climb the brick walls, the hand rails both leading into the Church and Chelsea House (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.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION and MASS TIMETABLE: Reconciliation: Tuesday 24th December: 10.00am - 12noon

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS TIMETABLE: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: (5.30pm Christmas Carols and Children's Pageant) 6.00pm Mass Midnight Mass: (11.30pm Christmas Carols) 12midnight Mass Christmas Day: (8.30am Christmas Carols) 9.00am Mass New Year's Day: 9.30am Mass

READER'S FOR CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DAY: Christmas Eve: Julie McKenzie and Ian Star Midnight Mass: May Michelutti and Carmel Munro Christmas Day: Feyise and Tess Writer New Year's Day: Bev McKenzie and Marian Cross

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DAY: Christmas Eve Vigil: Julie Writer and Bev McKenzie Midnight Mass: Faye Faamau and Bertha Barbari Christmas Day: Catherine Minogue and Mavon Vaughan

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:

A very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas to all our Parishioners and every good wish to our Parish Families for a healthy and prosperous New Year. Happy Christmas to all. Fr Michael



THANK YOU: To the many Parishioners in the various Parish Ministries: for the giving of your time and talents which enhances Our Parish Liturgies and beautifies the Parish Church and Grounds. If you are interested in joining one or more of our Parish Ministries you are most welcome. The Parish is always looking for more Volunteers eg: to list a few: Reader's, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Church Cleaning, Choir, Powerpoint Creator's and Operators, Sacristan's, Children's Liturgy, Catechists (Teacher's and Class room helpers), Sacramental Team, Parish Counter's, Baptism Preparation, St Vincent de Paul, Parish Ladies Group, Refreshments After Mass and the many more Parish Ministries. This is another Way to become involved in the Parish, meet new friends etc. Please either see Fr Michael, any member of the Parish Pastoral Council or contact the Parish Office.

PARISH LADIES GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Congratulations to The following winners: Phil Barrington, Gwen Harris, Annette Read, Loretta Tuigamala and Solo. The Raffle raised \$1,000.00. Half of the funds collected will be donated to the St Vincent de Paul Bushfire Appeal. We would like to wish all our Parishioners and visitors to our Parish a very Holy and Blessed Christmas and the very best for the coming year. Thank you for supporting these Parish Fundraisers.

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. Parishioner's Birthday this coming week: 23rd: Christel Kohler 24th: Daphne Pew and Abigail Minogue 26th: Jim Writer

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The recently deceased and the Anniversaries that occur at this time: Jim McKenzie (Anniv), Mary McInerney (Anniv), Ev McInerney (Anniv), Fr Tony Daly, John Read, Mary Writer, Bobby Cameron, Alice Harris, Deborah Rix, Bernard Hoffmann, Maurya Hutton, Ladislav Feher and Maria Cabonara

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The many sick in our Parish Community including: Mary Dolan, Frank Byron, Sean Scanlon, Kellie Brandes, Brian Harris, Francisco Carmona, David Minogue, Daphne and Edmund Pew, Luke Van Der Burg, Briegle Glover, Steve Foreman, Fr John Whitty, Elaine Hoffmann, Ellen Healy, Patricia McInerney, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

RUSE ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE: Your St Vincent de Paul Conference 2019 has finished in a very busy manner. Much has been achieved and many families helped but none of this could have occurred without the support of our wonderful Parishioners. We are encouraged in our work by your generous support for the Assist a Student and Winter Appeals and especially your response to the Jesse Tree. We must especially thank the Parish Ladies Group for the later. The toys received this year have been of high quality and will brighten Christmas for many families in our community and in local refuges. Our supporters throughout the St Thomas More Parish are too many to acknowledge in this brief note but we thank you all! God bless and Merry Christmas on behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Ruse/ Airds Conference.

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S ROSTER: ends at the end of December. If you would like to join this very important Parish Ministry or continue, it would be greatly appreciated. You are appreciated by all who come to worship in our Parish. Please put your details down on the Clip board on the main table at the Entrance to the Church. Thanking you in advance.

ADVERTISING ON THE BACK COVER OF THE PARISH BULLETIN: If you would like to advertise your Business on the back cover of the Parish Bulletin please see/contact either Fr Michael, Barry Daley (Chairman Parish Finance Council) or the Parish Office. A business card size is \$275.00 (includes GST) or double business card size is \$550.00 (includes GST) this cost covers advertising for 12 months.

PARISH PIETY STALL: Looking for that last extra special Christmas gift, come and look at the Piety Stall, there are many gift ideas etc. 2020 Columban Calendars are still available.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00 (to be placed in the red letterbox)

PARISH COLLECTIONS IN THE CHURCH: We depend on your generosity to make ends meet for the support of our Parish. If you are not part of our Parish Planned Giving Program, then please consider joining. If you are new to our Parish, please consider joining. You can join by the envelope system or Direct Debit. There are forms on the table at the main entrance of the Church. For more information, please either contact the Parish Office or see Fr Michael.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 2020: For Baptised children in Year 3 (in 2020) and above. The Parent/Carer Information and Enrolment Evening is Monday 24th February 2020 at 7.00pm in the Church. Information for First Holy Communion and Confirmation will be available early next year.



1st CANDLE - (purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE - We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE - (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION - God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE - (pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY - The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE - (purple) THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE - The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE - (white) "CHRIST CANDLE" - The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO SHOW-Airs 22nd December: Tune into LIFE 101.0 or 98.5 or to go www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au to ensure that you never miss a show, it can be sent to you each week as a Podcast via email - for free.

THE RELICS of much-loved Carmelite Saint, St Therese of Lisieux plus her parents, St's Louis and Zelig Martin are coming to Australia for a national tour in 2020. They are coming to Varroville for a visit from 22 January until 1 February 2020, when the official tour begins. The relics will be in the Parish Church at Our Lady of Mt Carmel. From Sat 25 January until Tuesday 28 January 2020 for public veneration and all are most warmly invited to attend.

Wishing all our Parish School Children, their families and Teacher's a very happy, restful, Holy and Blessed Christmas and the very best for 2020.

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

USHERS

Saturday 28th December: Vigil Mass: Carmel Munro Sunday 29th December: 9.00am Mass: Christine Foreman 2020:

Saturday 4th January: Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne Sunday 5th January: 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy

READERS:

Saturday 28th December: Vigil Mass: Stephanie Roux and Carmel Munro Sunday 29th December: 9.00am Mass: Maureen Molland and Andrew O'Halloran

2020:

Saturday 4th January: Vigil Mass: Kerry Hennessy and May Michelutti Sunday 5th January: 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley and Julie Writer

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Saturday 28th December: Vigil Mass: Winnie Cameron and Bev McKenzie Sunday 29th December: 9.00am Mass: Catherine Minogue And Julie Writer

2020:

Saturday 4th January: Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland and Bev McKenzie Sunday 5th January: 9.00am Mass: Mavon Vaughan and Julie Writer

POWERPOINT OPERATOR'S:

Saturday 28th December: Vigil Mass: Chantal Barbari Sunday 29th December: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris 2020:

Saturday 4th January: Vigil Mass: Joshua Star Sunday 5th January: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris

CHURCH CLEANERS:

Saturday 28th December: Group 6: Tongan Community 2020: Saturday 4th January: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Kathy Donachie, Eugene Wasko and Barry Daley

