

4th Sunday of Easter
17th April 2016
Year C
THE YEAR OF MERCY

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter or Good Shepherd Sunday is a special day for everyone in our parish. We celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We ask that we may be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit as we carry on the mission of Jesus, our good Shepherd. Let us pray for one another that we may be strengthened in our Christian vocations as married and single people, priests, deacons, and religious. May our youth listen to God's call and be encouraged to respond generously.

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"

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS (ALTAR BREAD): If you require *Gluten Free Hosts* for Holy Communion please see the Acolytes before Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Melanie Blessing, Liban (Wako) Family, Maree and Noel Laming, Rita Jowsey, Brian Harris, 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, and Mary Fredericks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Falmata Liban Wako, Fr Anthony (Tony) Daly, Betty White, Ladislav Feher, Sharon Michelutti, Genie Lynch, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Mary Writer, Deborah Rix, Josephine and Frank McKay, Bernard Hoffmann, and Maria Cabonara. *May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.*

FATHER TONY'S PONTIFICAL FUNERAL MEMORIAL CARD: We have Fr Tony's Memorial Cards available for you to take home. They are available on all the tables at the entrance of the Church.

WELCOME INTO OUR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY: *Evelyn Joan Maree Antony* who was Baptised last Sunday.

Parishioners' Birthday for this week:

16th: *Michael Bye*
21st: *Eddy Radzieta*

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

20th April: *Melanie & Kevin Webb (25 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

SACRAMENTAL DATE FOR 2016:

Confirmation: Saturday 3rd September 2016 (more details to follow).
If you have any enquiries regarding any of the Sacraments please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO

MASS: We have Members of our Parish Community who visit parishioners and bring Communion every week to those who are ill or elderly so are unable to come to Mass. Please encourage them (or a family member) to contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during Office Hours.

MESSAGE FOR READERS: The current Reader's roster finishes at the end of June and I have decided that it is time I gave someone else the opportunity to co-ordinate this Ministry. It is a rewarding role in the Parish *and an essential one*.
If you are interested please give your name to Carmel at the Parish Office (4628 2967) or to me (4625 7744) and I will be in touch. Regards *Julie*

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am SUNDAY

MORNING MASS: The roster is due to run out and we are looking for more volunteers. Please put your name down on the clipboard on the table at the entrance of the Church. If you would like to find our more information regarding this Parish Ministry please phone: phone Cathy on: 4625 5449.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY MINISTRY: Are currently looking for Teacher's/helpers, if you would like to be a member of this Parish Ministry please phone Joanne on: 0421802132. This Parish Ministry runs during School Terms (Kindergarten to and including Year 6).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SACRAMENTAL TEAM:

The programs for Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation are Parish based and are facilitated by volunteers, comprising teachers from our primary school and parishioners. Helpers are needed for First Communion classes. Classes are limited to 12 students with a parent and are run over a four week period, with each class lasting a maximum of 50minutes. Ideally we have at least two people team-teaching each class, with an admin person to assist. If you are able to assist, please contact Kim Sami, the First Communion Program coordinator, on 0414894911, for further information. *Thank you in anticipation.*

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH 30TH

ANNIVERSARY: The parish will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Church's opening at a special Mass in June (date and Mass time will be confirmed). If any parishioner would like to join the organising committee, please email your details to the office on ruse@dow.org.au and indicate which area you would be able to assist with please - music, liturgy, fundraising, hospitality etc. Also, any memorabilia that is available from the early days would be appreciated, and will be included in the memorial booklet being prepared. *Thank you in anticipation.*

PARISH LADIES GROUP MOTHERS' DAY RAFFLE: The Parish Ladies Group will be holding a Mother's Day Raffle at all Masses *from* next weekend (23rd/24th April). Tickets are \$1 each, and will be drawn on Mother's Day following the 9am Mass. *Please support this raffle, all proceeds are used to help with upkeep of our Church.*

APPIN MASSACRE MEMORIAL CEREMONY: Today **Sunday 17 April 2016 Cataract Dam Picnic Area 11am-3.30pm.** Hosted by Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM: AIRS 17 APRIL: This week Fr Richard Healey has a reflection on the Gospel of John for the fourth Week of Easter; Sr Hilda Scott's Wisdom from the Abbey asks us to play God's Song and Bruce Downes *The Catholic Guy* lets us know what happened if we are using the wrong sort of Map" This week's show is also full of great Catholic / Christian music too, so tune into PULSE 94.1 FM on Sun at 11am or go to www.jcr.org.au to listen anytime you like.

Anzac Day - Monday 25th April: We will celebrate with a liturgy at 9am in the forecourt, followed by Mass at 9.30am. Stay and enjoy a cuppa and Anzac Biscuits afterwards.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS GATHERINGS

Please note that the first round of PPC Regional Gatherings will occur on: Tues 26th April, 7:30-9:30pm, at St John the Evangelist Parish Hall Campbelltown. These gatherings provide an excellent opportunity to share the good news of what is happening in our parishes and learn about some of the resources on offer to assist in continuing to grow and enliven our communities. Specifically these gatherings will focus upon the Parish Self-Review and Improvement process and the 2016 National Church Life Survey. Registration for these gatherings is much appreciated and can be directed to Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au or 4222 2403 **by Friday 22 April.**

MASS FOR 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF CARDINAL JAMES FREEMAN: Wednesday 27 April 11am in the Crypt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Fr John Sullivan and Bishop Peter Ingham, as former secretaries of the late Cardinal, will celebrate a special Anniversary Mass. All are welcome to attend.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE POPE'S NEW EXHORTATION ON THE FAMILY? Pope Francis has published a new papal document (Apostolic Exhortation) called, *Amoris Laetitia, 'The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family'*. It is available to

download on the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website at www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre April Retreats: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville. Phone: 02 8795 3400 email: retreats@carmelite.com www.carmeliteretreats.com.au
Mercy & Creation: A Creative Embrace: May 6 @ 610 pm – May 8 @ 1:30 pm. Presenters: Darren McDowell and Fr Greg Burke, OCD. Cost: \$230.00 (concessions available)

PARISH ROSARY STATUE:

For next Monday, the Parish Rosary Statue will be in the Home of Freda and Wilfred and will be said on Mondays at 11.00am. Their address is on the main noticeboard. If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home, please phone Bev on: 4625 0659

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday 21st April: 9.30am Retiree's Social Group gathering in the Parish Hall (after the 9.00am Mass)
Tuesday 26th April: 7.30pm St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting in the Parish Centre (new members are most welcome, or come along to the meeting to see the good works of the Conference)
Monday 2nd May: 7.30pm Parish Ladies Group meeting in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 3rd May: 7.00pm Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre
Tuesday 3rd May: 7.30pm Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Parish Hall

PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd April: Maureen Molland & Bev McKenzie
9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th April: Catherine Minogue & Karenne Harvey
Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: James Munro & Louise Phillips
9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Annette Read & Julie Writer

READERS FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd April: James Munro & Gabby Menzies
9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th April: Chris & Brian O'Brien
Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: Louise Phillips & James Munro
9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Feyise and Tess Writer

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS:

Saturday 23rd April: Group 3: Brian O'Brien, Christine Foreman, James and Carmel Munro
Saturday 30th April: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Fay Faamau, Rosa & Manuel Herrera & Colleen Jablonskis

USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:

Vigil Mass: Saturday 23rd April: Carmel Munro
9.00am Mass: Sunday 24th April: Christine Foreman
Vigil Mass: Saturday 30th April: Help required
9.00am Mass: Sunday 1st May: Chris Reddy & Helen Rawson

