



24th February 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.**

**Eric Genuis Concert at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Ruse, 7 March 2019, 7pm.** A rare opportunity to listen to a pianist of exceptional talent who brings with him a world class violinist, cellist and soprano playing in our parish church. The 'Opera House' is coming to our parish! All original compositions together with powerful testimonies outlining the inspiration behind each piece with true stories of life transformations destined to make a deep impression upon all who hear them. A message of hope for all. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession; \$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at [www.ericgenuistour.com](http://www.ericgenuistour.com). A parish event not to be missed. Your support will support our parish.  
*With kind regards, Fr Michael.*  
**Tickets are available for sale at our Parish Office during Office hours.**

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2019:** Please mark your diaries  
**The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Parent/Carer Information & Enrolment Evening:** This **Monday 25 February 7.00pm in the Church.** (Child/ren must be a Baptised Catholic and in Year 3 and above)  
**Confirmation:** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019  
**First Holy Communion:** 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019  
More details to follow regarding times etc for the Sacraments for this year.

**MASS TIMETABLE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY (6<sup>th</sup> MARCH):**

**9.30am: Mass and Ashes**

**11.30am: Mass and Ashes at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT:** Will be said on Thursdays during Lent commencing at 7.30pm: Thursday's: **14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April**

**SIGN UP FOR 2019 LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS NOW!**

Lent begins on Wednesday, 6 March. As usual, during Lent, small groups will gather throughout our Parish to follow the Diocese of Wollongong's 2019 Lenten program "TRUST". Lenten groups are a great way to meet other parishioners and to prepare for Easter. **Now** is the time to sign up to either host or join one of the groups meeting. **Sign up sheets are in the church, or contact the Parish Office for more details.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED and the ANNIVERSARIES THAT OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Beryl Ford (R.D.), Monica Drakopoulos (R.D.), Fr Tony Daly (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv), Christine Hope, Gabriel Newell, Naomi Gomes, Diane McCrorey, Peter Hampton, Kim Watson, Maree Laming, Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton, Pedro Santos, Deborah Rix, Mary Writer, John Read, Alice Harris, Ladislav Feher, Bobby Cameron, Bernard Hoffmann and Maria Cabonara.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** The *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Fr John Whitty, Roge Beshoy (baby), Maureen Hennessy, Elaine Hoffmann, Ellen Healy, Patricia McInerney, Helen Rawson, Betty Berthon, Brenda Baker, Moria Harris, Jessica Cartwright, Betty Byrne, Rosa Santos, Aimiti Seufatu, John Hill, Rita Jowsey, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Beryl Purcell, Jeannie and George Nicholson and Mary Fredericks.

**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](mailto:ruse@dow.org.au)  
**Parishioner's Wedding Anniversary for this week:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> March: Adale and Elwyn Spencer (61 years)**

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Christian Community **Harrison Low** who was Baptised last weekend.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2019:** Is held during the Sunday 9.00am Mass (during School Terms). This is for School Aged Children (Kindergarten to and including Year 6). If you would like more information or would like to join this Parish Ministry, please contact Joanne on 042 180 2132.

**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH PLAYTIME 2019:** This is held in Chelsea House (Parish Hall) on Tuesdays (during School Terms) 9.30am - 11.30am. Mums, dads or any Carers come along with the children. Come for cuppa and a chat while the children play, do craft, read stories, and many more activities. Gold coin donation. **All are most welcome**

**PARISH ROSARY STATUE:** If you would like to have the Parish Rosary Statue in your home during 2019, **please phone Bev on: 4625 0659**

**CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** Great value for only \$2.00 each (please pay in the red letterbox on top of the Catholic Weeklies).

**PARISH DIARY DATES:**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February: 7.00pm** Parents/Carers Information and Enrolment Evening for Reconciliation in the Church (see main notices for details)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March: 6.30pm** Baptism Preparation Class in the Parish Centre

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm** Parish Ladies Group meeting in the Parish Centre

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March: 7.30pm** Parish Pastoral Council meeting in Chelsea House (Parish Hall)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March: 7.00pm** ERIC GENUIS CONCERT in the Church (see notices for details)

**PARISH ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:**

• **USHERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Chris Reddy**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Barry Daley**

• **READERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Annette Read and Pauline Menzies**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Maryse Parisi and David Minogue**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Raquel Villareal and James Munro**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Samoan Community**

• **EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Bev McKenzie and Bertha Berbari**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Annette Read and Julie Writer**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: James Munro and John Greene**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Loretta and Lafitaga Tuigamala**

• **POWERPOINT OPERATOR'S FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Joshua Star**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Vigil Mass: Chantal Berbari**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March: 9.00am Mass: Gwen Harris**

• **CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Group 3: Christine Foreman, Christine Charlton, James and Carmel Munro**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Faye Faamau, Colleen Jablonskis, Rosa and Manuel Herrera**

**PARISH MINISTRIES:** If you would like to become involved in any of our Parish Ministries please see Fr Michael or contact the Parish Office. We have many Parish Ministries that are looking for more Volunteers. **Thanking you in anticipation.**

**PARISH BULLETIN ADVERTISING:** If you would like to advertise your Business on the back cover of our Parish Bulletin, either single or double business card size please either speak with Barry Daley or contact the Parish Office for more information.

**PARISH PIETY STALL:** Please come and support our Parish Piety Stall, there are many items for sale.

**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

**PARISH MAINTENANCE:** Like anywhere, from time to time little things need 'doing' in the Church, Parish Hall, toilets etc. It's good to keep on top of things. If you happen to notice eg: kneelers need mending, or anything that is need of repair, please write in the Maintenance book on the main table at the entrance of the Church. You can either write in the book or phone/email the Parish Office, if you are aware or notice anything that is in need of repair.

*Special thanks to the 6 parishioners who assisted with the Working Bee last weekend. Also to the gentlemen who also gave of his time and talents during the week.*

**PLENARY COUNCIL 2020-We Want to Hear from You**

The closing date for submissions to the Plenary Council is almost here - 6 March. There is no limit to how many submissions you can make, and all topics are on the table. No submission is too big or too small, whether it be about our local parish or the broader Church. The Spirit speaks to us all. We want to hear from you! Leaflets are available on all the tables at the entrance to the Church for more information.

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** To keep up to date with the happenings in our Parish Primary School, please take home the latest copy of their School Newsletter.

**MOUNT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE, VARROVILLE:**

**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10.30am - 4.00pm** "Laudato Si, Mi' Signore" A Prayerful and interactive encounter with creation. This retreat will encourage you to bend your knees and pray in solidarity with all creatures. **Presenter:** Fr Michael Dyer.

**Friday-Sunday 22-24 March: Where to from here?**

**Presenter:** Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD Cost: \$300

We will spend time trying to find God in the midst of this crisis and seek a way forward to become a more humble, open, transparent and Christ-centered Church.

**For further information please contact Carla: on (02) 8795 3400 or email: [retreats@carelite.com](mailto:retreats@carelite.com)**

**ONE DAY RETREAT "A TASTE OF SILENCE"** St Mary's Towers

Retreat Centre, Douglas Park. Saturday 9 March and Sunday 11 August. Cost \$90 for presentation, lunch and spiritual direction session. (\$60 BYO lunch). This day retreat seeks to provide a taste of the experience of silence and how we are called to live from that silent place deep within, through all the activities of our day. Download the Form from Website: <http://towersretreat.org.au> or RSVP Ph:4630 0233 or Email [contact@towersretreat.org.au](mailto:contact@towersretreat.org.au)

**SOLEMN DEDICATION OF THE NEW ROSEMEADOW CHURCH:**

Bishop Brian Mascord will consecrate the new *Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church* in Rosemeadow (Demetrius Road) on Friday 8 March 2019 at 7:30pm. The parish community and parish priest of Rosemeadow, Fr Christopher Sarkis, has extended a general invitation to all who would like to attend. An indication of your attendance would be greatly appreciated to help with catering following the Mass. RSVP to parish office on 4628 1385 or [rosemeadow@dow.org.au](mailto:rosemeadow@dow.org.au).

**"Instead of death and sorrow, let us bring peace and joy to the world".**

