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CATHOLIC CHURCH - DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR A
22nd NOVEMBER 2020

FIRST READING -

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17.

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

2. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING -

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one

man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING -

Matthew 25:31-46.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you

welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

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

REFLECTION - by Fr Michael Tate.

The eternal destiny of every human being of a certain maturity is determined by decisions made in relation to food and drink for the famished, clothing and housing for those without decent clothing or shelter, visiting those in circumstances which cut them off from life-giving contact with others (the sick and prisoners). Those who provide such assistance, in the words of Pope Francis, touch the wounds of Christ! A Christian can be fully conscious of this, but for non Christians it is possible to do so without any of our awareness or belief. Christ is completely incognito to them: 'When did we ever see you hungry and feed you ...?'. We know the doctrine of the Real Presence in the poor and marginalised. Woe betide those of us who ignore this fact of faith. We are on the way to a Hellish state of existence. That is equally possible for those who do not share our faith, but who ignore the plight of the marginalised and continue in a self-absorbed way. We could pause for a moment to pray that we, and many billions of non-Christians, may hear the invitation: 'Come you blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

mtate@bigpond.com



'And he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;"'

Matthew 25:33-34.



MASS TIMES

TUESDAY 24th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER
9.30am. - Mass.

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER
Saturday Vigil for
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B
6.00pm. - Mass.

SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B
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
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - YEAR A

When the Son of Man comes in glory, may we be among those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and clothed the naked. For Jesus tells us clearly that it is those who have demonstrated good stewardship by sharing their gifts with the less fortunate who will receive God's blessing and inherit the kingdom.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
29th NOVEMBER 2020
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

First Reading:
Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8.
Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

Second Reading:
1 Corinthians 1:3-9.
The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Reading:
Matthew 13:33-37.
Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

POPE CLEMENT I



Pope Clement I was a leading member of the church in Rome towards the end of the 1st century. He was one of the very first bishops of Rome – some lists name him as second in line to St Peter, while others claim he was third or fourth in line. Although little is known about Clement's life, the early Christian writer, Tertullian, wrote that Clement was consecrated by St Peter himself. His letter to the church at Corinth is one of the oldest Christian documents to be written since the New Testament. Tradition suggests that Clement was imprisoned by the Roman Emperor Trajan, during which time he led ministry amongst his fellow prisoners. He was later executed by being tied to an anchor and thrown into the sea.

HUMOUR CORNER

FINDING A HUSBAND

At a local coffee bar, a young woman was expounding on her idea of the perfect mate to some of her friends. "The man I marry must be a shining light amongst company. He must be musical. Tell jokes. Sing. And stay home at night!"

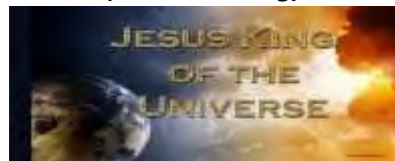
An old granny overheard and spoke up, "Honey, if that's all you want, get a TV!"

ENJOY YOUR DAY

A very good friend sent this to me. She got it from a very good friend of hers.

- If you marry the right person, everyday is **Valentine's Day**.
- Marry the wrong person, everyday is **Martyrs Day**.
- Marry a lazy person, everyday is **Labour Day**.
- Marry a rich person everyday is **New Year's Day**
- Marry an immature person, everyday would seem like **Children's Day**.
- Marry a cheater or liar, everyday will become **April Fool's Day**.
- And if you don't get married, everyday is **Independence Day!**

**Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE
(Christ the King)**



22nd 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 a 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.



CONFIRMATION: Congratulations to our 32 Parish Candidates who were Confirmed in our Parish this weekend.

"Remember that God is always with you and that you know that you have your family and God to turn to whenever you need help and guidance".

Thank you to Fr Michael, the Sacramental Team and families in preparing our Parish Candidates for this Sacrament.

Thank you also to the Sacristan, Organist and AV Operator for giving of your time for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

NOVEMBER: The Month of the Holy Souls: Is a special time to pray for the dead. *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. Amen*

BAPTISM: If you wish for your child/ren to be Baptised in our Parish, please contact the Parish Office during Office Hours, so that a suitable date can be arranged for the celebration. Due to COVID-19 we are currently having up to 2 Baptisms per Sunday (limited guests).

WE WELCOME into our Christian Community:

Finn Francis Henwood and Fletcher Stanley Jefferys who were Baptised in our Parish last weekend.

PARISH CHURCH CLEANER'S:

28th Nov: Group 3: Christine Foreman, Christine Charlton, James & Carmel Munro
5th Dec: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Faye Faamau, Colleen Jablonskis and Maria Hill

We are in urgent need of Church Cleaner's. Due to COV-19 one of our Cleaning Groups has stopped 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:

27th: *Vicki Horne*

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

PARISH READER'S: Thank you to the "fill in Reader's" during these uncertain/difficulty times, you are greatly appreciated. As some or maybe most of you are aware that our Reader's Roster for 2020 has not been strictly followed since Mass celebration came back with relevant restriction policies in place.

Also, please note that Christmas is fast approaching and we will need a special roster for Christmas Masses. Kindly let me know as well if you are available to read.

May: maalamiel@gmail.com

Thank you and God bless everyone! May

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.

2021 COLUMBAN ART CALANDAR: Are available from either the Parish Office (during Office hours) or from the Monitor's at all Masses. This makes a terrific Christmas gift at the bargain price of \$9.00 each.

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS: Are available for sale from the Parish Office, during Office Hours. We have plenty of stock available, available from the Monitor's (at all Masses).



"ADORE": Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2020:

We have copies available at \$4.50 each. These are available from the Monitor's at all Masses (and Parish Office during Office hours). This is an 88page pocket-size book containing short spiritually rich, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (29th Nov) through to the Baptism of the Lord (10th Jan).

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, Sactuary etc. **To the Parishioner's who have kindly donated: sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and face masks.**

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND: For further information and donations please go to: <https://www.dow.org.au/giving/holy-land-collection/>

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' – 22nd November: Uploaded every Friday for free download – go to www.jcr.org.au

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.

CatholicCare – Have you thought about becoming a foster carer? For more information please call 0418 783 956 or email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au>
CatholicCare: are always there, if you ever need. Also offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes etc. For more information please call 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au

A VOCATION VIEW: Our Lord, Christ the King: "He will separate the sheep from the goats." To be a shepherd is to tend the flock of the Lord, teaching them to hear His voice. If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au.



WE WELCOME: To our Parish Masses this weekend, Parishioners, visitor's and those that have been absent from the Church, especially during these difficult times of COVID-19. ***May God always be with you and keep you safe in the palms of his hands.***