

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B
4th November 2012

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."

YEAR OF GRACE, YEAR OF FAITH

While planned independently of each other (the Year of Grace is an initiative of the Australian Catholic Bishops in response to local issues, while the Year of Faith announced by Pope Benedict is a call to the universal Church) both have as their goal a renewal of faith in Jesus Christ. The Year of Grace invites us into a spiritual journey of encountering Christ afresh in our lives through prayer, reflecting on the Scriptures, celebrating liturgies, repenting of our failures and listening to the voice of the Spirit. The Year of Faith (commenced on 11 October) calls us into a deep renewal of our faith through retracing the history of our faith, studying the Catechism, praying the Creed and seeking to be an active witness of what we believe. These two impulses of the Holy Spirit complement each other and provide opportunities for us to discover and nurture the gifts of 'grace' and 'faith' at work in our lives.

FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER: All the Masses will be offered for the deceased relatives and friends of all our Parishioners. We will record all the names that have been given in the Parish Book of Remembrance, set up in the sacred space. **Please** notify either Fr Tony or Carmel in the Parish Office should you wish to include deceased relatives and/or friends in the Book of Remembrance.

NOVEMBER is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead, once only, by visiting a church on 2nd *November and praying the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.* Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the *Pope's intentions (Norms 15,7)*

Please keep in your prayers all the students who are finishing their Higher School Certificate Exams this week and to those who are to commence their University/similar exams.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Elaine Hoffman, Colum Brennan, Barbara Milanta, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, Marilyn Fabry, Kay Burton, Mary Pace, Alphonse Zammit, Ken Smith, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Marcia Davis, Jack O'Sullivan, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Tina Boyd, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVillie, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Phillip Conroy, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, Amy Jablonskis, Sioeli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

Parish Birthday for this week:

5th: Antonia Santos & Ann Webster

Wedding Anniversary for this week:

7th: Janos and Hedy Toth (25 years)

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community **Mark Christopher Neville, Linkin James Neville** and **Griffin McCarthy Egtberts** who were Baptised last weekend.

Diary Dates:

- **Baptism Preparation Class** Monday 5th November at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Ladies Group** Monday 5th November meeting at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Liturgy Meeting** Wednesday 7th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre (see notice below)
- **Retiree's Social Group** gathering after the 9.00am Mass, Thursday 8th November (**parishioners and friends over 55 are more than welcome**) come along for a chat, a cuppa and a good laugh
- **Catechist's Annual Mass** Saturday 10th November at 10.30am at St John Vianney's Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow
- **St Vincent de Paul Society** meeting Tuesday 13th November at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre, **new members are most welcome**, come along and see the good works of St Vincent de Paul
- **Parish Finance Council meeting** Wednesday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

PARISH LITURGY MEETING: This Wednesday night (7th) at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, we will be discussing, the Special Mass (16th December), Advent and Christmas. Reader's, Sacristan's, Powerpoint, Choir etc groups **are encouraged to attend.**

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS NEEDED: This Parish Ministry is held during the 9.00am Mass during School Terms. Currently we have 3 ladies who are members of this Ministry. We need a few more members so we are able to continue this Ministry at all 9.00am Masses (during the School Terms). For more information please phone Christine on: 4626 7475. Thank you to those who will give of their time for the Children's Liturgy, all the information is provided.

SAMOAN DIVINE MERCY GROUP: Invite Parishioners to join them in their Devotional Prayers in the Church from 1.00pm to 3.30pm every Sunday afternoon. For more information phone Maria 9603 5106 or 0404 929498. If you would like to help with donations of chips and/or poppers for their visit to Reiby Detention centre for the 3rd Sunday of the month it would be greatly appreciated.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Newsletter is available on all the tables at the entrance of the Church. Please take one and find out what is happening in our Parish Catholic Primary School.

PARISH PIETY STALL: Have available for sale St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards \$7.00 per packet of 10 cards. Get in early while we have plenty of stock. Come and see Bertha and John for any assistance.

REMINDER TO READERS: *Please check your roster so that you know when you are to read and therefore be prepared and present to do so. There have been many masses during the year when readers have not been there and replacements have to be found at the last minute. If you are unable to read, please find a replacement or contact Julie on 4625 7744. Remember to, to carry the book in the entrance procession and place it on the Lectern from the side. Many thanks*

CLAIM THE DATE – Stamp Club Auction – Wednesday 12 December : Proceeds to St Vincent de Paul

The Campbelltown Stamp Club will be holding an auction of collectables (stamps and bric-a-brac) on Wednesday, 12 December in the church hall. The proceeds of this auction will be kindly donated by the Club to the Ruse St Vincent de Paul Conference. Please support this venture. More details later.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS – Christmas 2012 edition: Is available for all parishioners, please find your copy on the tables at the entrance of the Church.

NAGLE CENTRE, CAMPBELLTOWN URGENT REQUEST: The Nagle Centre in Iolanthe St, is in urgent need of volunteers to work in the Kitchen – day kitchen coordinators are needed also. The kitchen is open for breakfast and lunch Monday to Friday 8.30am – 2pm. Training and orientation is provided. For more information please phone the Manager at the Nagle Centre Jan St John on 4628 2928. The Nagle Centre is a special work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. The Nagle Centre kitchen provides a place for people to eat and chat, a safe haven from the street, shelter from outdoors.

VATICAN II CONFERENCE – AN EVENT OF GRACE To mark 50 years since the second Vatican Council, our Diocese is gathering for a screening of the recent national e-conference featuring keynote speakers Bishop Michael Putney and Sr Maryanne Confoy RSC. Topics will include "Vatican II: A new relationship with God" and "The Baptismal call to holiness – a call to personal and communal ministry." There will be opportunity for local sharing and discussion. Please note in your diary **Saturday 17 November from 10.00am to 3.00pm, Chevalier College, Bowral.** BYO Lunch, Morning Tea provided. Cost: Gold coin donation. **Please RSVP to Jane Edwards on 4253 0899 or jane.edwards@woll.catholic.org.au**

MENALIVE DIOCESAN WEEKEND FOR MEN IS SOON! – REGISTER NOW. At times living out your faith can be pretty tough and most of us need help. It is a full day Saturday (go home Saturday Night) and again Sunday, finishing at lunch time. Come along and be inspired and encouraged to renew your faith and rediscover God's purpose for your life. If you are a man over 15 up to 85+ consider this: on **Saturday, 17 to Sunday 18 November.** Experienced leaders from Brisbane will be running a menALIVE weekend for the Wollongong Diocese. Hosted by the West Wollongong Parish it will be held in the Parish school hall, 2 Powell Street, West Wollongong. For further details and registration forms contact Jeff 0422 000 623 or Vince 0413 126 095.

RCIA TEAM & COORDINATOR GATHERING: Wednesday, 28 November, 7.30pm - 9pm, in our Parish Hall. All those involved in initiation ministry are invited to attend this round of gatherings focusing on resourcing and implementing the vision developed through the review process that occurred over the past nine months. Please **RSVP Helen Bennett on 4253 0934 or helen.bennett@dow.org.au by Monday, 19 November**

READERS FOR MASS FOR NOVEMBER 2012: (there is now a revised Reader's Roster due to the change in Sunday Mass times):

Vigil Mass: *Bev McKenzie and Bill George*
9.00am Mass: *(11th) Barry Daley and Michael Bye (25th) Maureen Molland and Christine Foreman*

(Could the 2nd reader please also read the Prayers of the Faithful)

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
9.00am Mass: Cathy Bye

FLOWERS: Melanie and Elaine

CHURCH CLEANER'S: Group 3: Brian O'Brien, Christine Foreman, James and Carmel Munro and Pauline Menzies.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am Mass: Sunday 18th November: Carmel Munro, Helen Rawson, Christine Foreman and Rita Jowsey.

**GOD IS CALLING!
ARE YOU LISTENING?**

Remember that God is never "too busy" to hear from you. Don't be "too busy" for him! There are some daily Catholic prayers such as the Our Father and the Rosary that take only minutes to say, yet their benefits can last a lifetime!

*Catholic prayers can do wonders for your soul. God gives us joy and strength through prayer. You can get a great sense of peace in good times and consolation in bad, from them. Our Lord wants to give us the good things we ask for in accordance with His will. **The more we pray the more we can grow in His grace.***

A Stewardship Prayer

Lord God,
you alone are the source of every good gift,
of the vast array of our universe, and the mystery of each
human life.
We praise you and we thank you for your great power and
your tender, faithful love.
Everything we are and everything we have is your gift,
and after having created us you have given us into the
keeping of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
Fill our minds with his truth and our hearts with his love,
that in his Spirit we may be bonded together into a
community of faith, a parish family, a caring people.
In the Name and Spirit of Jesus, we commit ourselves to be
good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us,
to share our time, our talent and our material gifts as an
outward sign of the Treasure we hold in Jesus.
Amen.