

**3rd Sunday of Advent - Year C
(Gaudete Sunday - (Joy Sunday))**

**Rose Advent Candle
16th December 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."

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE

2nd Rite of Reconciliation:

Monday 17th December at 7.30pm:

St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown

Tuesday 18th December at 7.30pm:

Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow

Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm:

St Thomas More Catholic Church, Ruse

Thursday 20th December at 7.30pm:

Mary Immaculate, Eaglevale

1st Rite Reconciliation (St Thomas More Catholic Church Ruse):

- **Saturday 22nd December:**

11.00am - 12noon

5.00pm - 5.30pm

- **Monday 24th December (Christmas Eve):**

11.00am - 12.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Monday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

(Please note change in time)

6.30pm: Children's Christmas Pageant & Carols

7.00pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

11.30pm: Christmas Carols

12 Midnight: Christmas Mass

Tuesday 25th December (Christmas Day)

8.30am: Christmas Carols

9.00am: Christmas Day Mass

Readers for Christmas Masses:

Christmas Vigil Mass: 1st Reader: Dominic Robinson

2nd Reader: Claire O'Brien

Midnight Mass: 1st Reader Cody Benes

2nd Reader: Maria Feher

Christmas Readers cont'd

Christmas Day: (9.00am)

1st Reader: Freda Miranda

2nd Reader: Jim Writer

WELCOMING MESSAGE FROM FR TONY

Dear Parishioners,

I welcome you in celebrating our Family Mass today.

At this time of Advent let us prepare to remember the First Coming of Jesus at Christmas. It is also a time to prepare ourselves for His Second Coming when he has promised us the fullness of our salvation.

I thank you for joining us in prayer and celebrating the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist, please join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments after Mass.



Fr Tony

Diary Dates:

- **St Thomas More Catholic Primary School** Wednesday 19th December End of School Year Mass at 10.00am (at the school)
- **2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Christmas** on Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm
- **Retiree's Social Group** gathering after the 9.00am Mass, Thursday 20th December (*parishioners and friends over 55 are more than welcome*) come along for a chat, a cuppa and a good laugh

Parish Birthdays for this week:

15th: Alan Scott

17th: Jordan Hobbins

21st: Jeff Cross

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Ronald Dawson (R.D.), Anthony Jabbour (R.D.), Dominic Pereira (Anniv), Daniel Karr, Peter Pereira, Dr Ken Saw, Thomas Scott-Dolby, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, Mary Writer, Jim McKenzie, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Frank Keevers, Laurie Keevers, Chris Wagstaff, John DeVillie, Keith Gomes and Maria and Graziano Cabonara and for anyone else whose Anniversary occurs at this time.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Maurya Hutton, Hector Bernardino, Elaine Hoffman, Colum Brennan, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, 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, Sioli Tupola, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

**OUR PLACE OF WORSHIP AND PRAYER NEEDS
SOME TENDER LOVING CARE (TLC):**

Recently we have noticed that there has been damage to our property (Church, Parish Hall and Church grounds) and breakages to various items. If you notice any broken or damaged property or items, it is of **utmost importance** that you notify either Fr Tony or the Parish Office ASAP. This is so as to keep things in their proper order and usage to help us in our Worship and Prayer. **Thanking you in anticipation and God Bless.**

PARISH PIETY STALL: Have for sale St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards \$7.00 per packet of 10 cards. **There are also plenty of gift ideas for Christmas presents.**

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CANNOT COME TO MASS? Members of our parish community visit parishioners and bring communion every week to those who are ill or elderly so are unable to come to Mass. Sometimes, it may be that someone could benefit from a lift. Please encourage them to contact our parish office either to arrange communion to be brought to them or to organize transport.

"AWAKEN": Daily Advent & Christmas Reflections 2012 are also available for **80c** per copy from the Piety Stall. **Bishop Peter Ingham recommends that every home of every parishioner in our Diocese have one of these books.** The book contains short daily reflections from the beginning of Advent all the way to the Epiphany primarily for personal use. The daily reflections are written by Fr Graham Schmitzer, St Hilda Scott OSB, Fr Ronan Kilgannon and Ms Michelle Vass (Spiritual Director at Douglas Park). It contains beautiful religious artworks from our rich Catholic history for which Fr Sean Cullen is providing short descriptions.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY - ASSIST A STUDENT SCHEME -Year 2012. The Scheme can be promoted with friends and members of the family and colleagues at work. For those who may want another brochure or missed out on one they are available in the stands at the back of the church. **Thank you from St Thomas More Catholic Church St Vincent de Paul Conference.**

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Jesse Tree is in the back of the Church. Please take a tag (or two) and buy a present appropriate for the age and gender of the child on that tag. We also ask that you **don't** wrap the presents to make the sorting easier.

For those parishioners who can't get out to buy a gift, we will leave blue Vinnies envelopes at the base of the Jesse Tree and a cash donation will be gratefully accepted. The envelope can be put in the collection plate or given to Father Tony or the office. **Thank you for your generosity to the needy in our area.**

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.

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME: Will now be shown on **Channel 11 at 5.30am every Sunday** and repeated on the Aurora Channel on Foxtel during the week. This program benefits those who are isolated from the usual parish celebration: through age, distance, illness or imprisonment. If you know someone who enjoys this program or is in a situation that prevents them attending Mass, please let them know of this programming change.

JOURNEY MAGAZINE - DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER: This edition is now available on the tables at the entrance of the Church. This edition includes Bishop Peter's statement on the Royal Commission, an exploration of the problem of evil and suffering, winning artwork from the student Christmas exhibition, and a complete list of Christmas Mass times for parishes within the Diocese.

Parish Rosary Statue: During the Christmas Season and School holidays. The Rosary Statue will not be going to Parishioners homes until February 2013. I take this opportunity to thank the Parishioners who had the Rosary Statue in their homes during 2012. I wish them and their families a joyful Christmas and God's Blessings. Saying this great prayer the family Rosary every day will always bring peace in the family - The family prays together stays together.

Thank you and God Bless Fr Tony

READERS FOR MASS FOR DECEMBER 2012:

Vigil Mass: Louise Phillips and James Munro
9.00am Mass: Noel Laming & Sinisita Filitoga

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

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Help needed
9am Mass: Karenne Harvey

FLOWERS: Maree

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

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am Mass: Sunday 16th December (3rd Sunday of Advent - Rose Sunday): Parish Family Mass: assistance and donations would be greatly appreciated.

ADVENT PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, each year you make us glad as we look forward to the birthday of your Son.

May we who joyfully receive him as our redeemer confidently face him when he comes to be our judge.

For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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Thank you and God Bless Fr Tony

READERS FOR MASS FOR DECEMBER 2012:

Vigil Mass: Louise Phillips and James Munro

9.00am Mass: (2nd & 9th): Chris and Claire O'Brien

(16th & 23rd): Noel Laming & Sinisita Filitoga

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

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Vicki Horne

9am Mass: Chantal Berbari

FLOWERS: Francesca Chow

CHURCH CLEANER'S: Group 2: Cathy Bye, Barry Daley, Eugene Wasko, Kathy Donachie & Arthur Michelutti

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am Mass: Sunday 16th

December (3rd Sunday of Advent - Rose Sunday): Parish Family Mass: assistance and donations would be greatly appreciated.

ADVENT PRAYER

Father, in the wilderness of the Jordan
you sent a messenger to prepare people's
hearts

for the coming of your Son.

Help me to hear his words and repent of my
sins,

so that I may clearly see the way to walk,
the truth to speak, and the life to live for Him,
our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**



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