

2nd Sunday of Lent
Year C
24th February 2013

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."



The Parishioners of our Parish would like to congratulate Fr Tony on his 10th Anniversary to the Priesthood this Wednesday (27th).

MASS ATTENDANCE:

As you are aware the Mass times for Sunday:
Vigil - Saturday at 6.00pm and
Sunday - at 9.00am.

Mass starts promptly at these times. To fulfill your obligation you need to be in attendance at the beginning of the Mass and the Final Blessing.

It is very distracting to those who are already in the Church to have people coming in late.

The Mass begins with the sign of the Cross and Welcome, which then leads to the Penitential Rite, the Liturgy of the Word (Readings) and the Gospel.

We then move to the Profession of Faith and Prayers of Intercession. This then prepares us for Celebrating the Eucharist (that is the receiving of the Body and Blood of Christ) and ending with the final prayer and Blessing.

To fulfill your obligation of Mass attendance you need to be present for all of the parts of the Mass.

PARISHES PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE BY WORKING TOGETHER – YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED

For people who were unable to attend the parish sessions but wishing to give their feedback about discussion questions and activities in the Workbook, please access the website of the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong: www.dow.org.au or email your responses to netty.broekman@dow.org.au.

Lent: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year (CCL97, 1251f). **Lent** is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised.

HOUR OF PRAYER AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will be every Friday during Lent beginning with the Hour of Prayer at 6.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm in the Church.

Parish Birthdays for this week:

24th: Pina Raco
26th: Deb Radzieta

Anniversary for this week:

27th: Fr Tony's 10th Anniversary for his Ordination to the Priesthood

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2013
(Enrolment for all Sacraments will require the presentation of a Baptism Certificate)

FIRST RECONCILIATION
(Children Year 3 and above)

Classes will commence this week beginning today (Sunday 24th Feb) and conclude week beginning Sunday 17th March.

Second Rite of Reconciliation will be on Thursday 4th April and Friday 5th April from 4.00pm – 5.30pm. Details will be given at the lessons.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
(Children Year 3 and above who have made their First Reconciliation)

Parent/Carer's Information Night (Parents and Carers only)
Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm – in the Parish Church

Classes will commence week beginning Sunday 28th April and conclude week beginning Sunday 19th May.

Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be on Sunday 2nd June (more details to follow)

CONFIRMATION
(Children in Year 6 and Above who have made the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion)

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday 10th August (more details to follow)

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community:
Colum Brennan, Len Donoghue, Kelly Berthaly, Mary Fredericks, Jean Nicholson, Mary Pace, Ken Smith, Zanaba Liban, Lorraine Evans, Sitani Nasio, Tina Boyd, Kevin Hardinge, Gino Stephen, Iris Stephen, Beryl Purcell, Gloria Eggert, Barbara DeVillie, Jill Lovell, Salesi Kaufusi, Rita Bingham, Sam Sheather, John McCann, Ken Churchill and Giovanna Cancellieri.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Alphonse Zammit (R.D.), Bishop Douglas Warren, Stephen Vaz, Sioli Salas, Robin Platt, Mary Writer, Phillip Conroy, Maurya Hutton, Jim McKenzie, Ronald Dawson, Anthony Jabbour, Dominic Pereira, Peter Pereira, Bernard Hoffman, Deborah Rix, Pat Purcell, Alice Harris, Genie Lynch, Frank McKay, Frank Keevers, Laurie Keevers, John DeVillie, Keith Gomes and Maria Cabonara and for anyone else who's Anniversary occurs at this time.

REQUIEM MASS: For Aphonse Zammit will be this Tuesday 26th February at 11.00am at St Bede's Appin.

PARISH CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is available for children who attend school from Kindergarten to Year 6 during the 9.00am Mass during the School Terms in the Parish Hall.

Diary Dates:

- **Wednesday Prayer Group** meet every Wednesday in the Parish Hall after the 9.00am Mass
- **Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross (during Lent)** every Friday from 6.30pm in the Church
- **St Vincent de Paul Society** meeting Tuesday 26th February at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre **new members are most welcome**
- **Retiree's Social Group** gathering on Thursday 28th February after the 9.00am Mass in the Parish Hall
- **Baptism Preparation Class** on Monday 4th March at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre
- **Parish Ladies Group** meeting on Monday 4th March at **7.30pm** (please note new time) in the Parish Centre new members are most welcome

PARISH LADIES GROUP: Would like to invite all ladies (over 18) to join them at the Campbelltown Catholic Club Cube on Saturday 11th May to see Marina Prior and The Aust Tenors. The cost is \$40.00 per head. **We need to know numbers and payment as soon as possible please.** This can either be given to Maureen Molland or handed in at the Parish Office. Please put your name down on the clipboard at the entrance of the Church. This will be an enjoyable night by all.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Enrolment Applications for 2014 – Applications forms are now available from the School Office and are due back by Wednesday 10 April 2013. The application form has to be returned with the supporting documentation including Birth Certificate, Immunisation record, Proof of Residence (eg. electricity/phone bill) and Baptism Certificate. Enrolment Interviews will be held with Fr Tony and Mr Paul Croker (School Principal) early in Term 2. If you have any queries in regard to 2014 Enrolment Applications please make contact with the school office on 4625 6561 or email info@stmtdow.catholic.edu.au.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: "Open Day" Session – Thursday 14 March 2013 9am to 11am for new families. This year the School are planning to offer an Open Day session for *prospective new families* who are considering seeking a Catholic Education pathway for their child at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School. **The Open Day will be held on Thursday 14 March 2013 from 9am to 11am.**

The Open Day session will begin with a presentation by the Principal about the features, programs and policies of the school at 9am in the school hall. This will be followed by "tours" of the school "hosted" by our Year 6 Captains and School Leaders.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Please take home a copy of our Parish School newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening.

POPE BENEDICT'S RESIGNATION – Bishop Peter's Statement and further information is available at www.dow.org.au and an excellent summary about the process for electing a new Pope is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/beysm2d>

LENTEN PASTORAL LETTER: CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF NEW SOUTH WALES: "Sowing in Tears: Response to the Royal Commission booklet is available for every family. Please take home your copy; they are available at the entrance of the Church on all the tables.

MEET THE FRANCISCANS: You are invited to hear Barry Blake of St Francis of Assisi and Fr Norbert Pittorino OFM tell the story of St Francis of Assisi and what the Franciscans are doing in our world today. On next Saturday 2nd March, Mass at 2.00pm followed by DVD's and talks at St John the Evangelist Campbelltown. Please come along.

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, poppers and/or fruit for their visit to Reiby Detention centre for the 4th Saturday of the month it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to everyone for your support it is greatly appreciated.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT EVENINGS FOR YEAR 7 2014: Mount Carmel Catholic High School:

Tuesday 26th February at 7.00pm in the Champagnat Centre, at the school. (Enrolment packages will be available on the night)

St Gregory's College:

(Sunday 24th February: College Open Day from 10.00am – 2.00pm)

Wednesday 27th February at 7.30pm in the Brother Luke Hall at St Gregory's College (Enrolment packages will be available on the night). The School also offers 3, 5 & 7 day boarding

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Joe and Christine** for two weeks, commencing **Monday 18th February until Sunday 3rd March**. The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. Parishioners are welcome to say the Rosary with the family on Mondays at 8.00pm. **Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return following fortnight.**

READERS FOR FEBRUARY 2013:

Vigil Mass: Steven and Anthony Robinson
9.00am Mass: Maryse Parisi and Vella Andrews
(Could the 2nd reader please also read the Prayers of the Faithful)

READERS FOR MARCH 2013:

Vigil Mass: Bill George and Louise Phillips
9.00am Mass: (3rd & 10th) Freda Miranda
(17th & 24th) Jim and Therese Writer

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
9am Mass: Gwen and Brian Harris

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 1: Syro-Malabar Indian Community

