

5th Sunday of Easter

Year C

28th April 2013

EASTER TIME: *The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one 'great Sunday' (Athanasius). These above all others are the days for the singing of the Alleluia. The Sundays of this season rank as Paschal Sundays... (GNLYC 22-24)*

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."

DEATH AND FUNERAL OF BISHOP WILLIAM MURRAY:

Bishop William Edward Murray, Emeritus Bishop of Wollongong, died peacefully at 5.10pm last Sunday, 21 April 2013, at the Little Sisters of the Poor Nursing Home, Randwick. Bishop Murray, the Second Bishop of Wollongong, served the Diocese faithfully from 1975 to 1996.

Reception of the Casket and Vigil Mass for Bishop Murray will be held in **St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Wollongong (36 Harbour Street)**, at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 30 April 2013. Mass of Christian Burial for Bishop Murray will be held at the **Cathedral at 11.00 am on Wednesday, 1 May 2013**. Following the Mass, Interment will take place in the burial site adjacent to the Cathedral. We join in prayer that Bishop Murray will now enjoy fullness of life in the presence of our Risen Lord.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2013

(Enrolment for all Sacraments will require the presentation of a Baptism Certificate)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

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

Classes I begin today (Sunday 28th April) at 3.00pm in the Parish Hall and conclude week beginning Sunday 19th May. **The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be held on Sunday 2nd June 2013 at a Special 11.00am Mass. More details will be given at the Preparation Classes.**

CONFIRMATION

(Children who are in Year 6 and above, who have been Baptised and have made the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion).

(The Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday 10th August 2013) (More details to follow).

WE WELCOME back our parish school children who will resume school this coming week for term 2 for 2013

PARISH BIRTHDAY FOR THIS WEEK:

27th: Kristine George

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community Kalan Beau Nau, Khai Jack Nau and Brodie Jack Nau who were Baptised last weekend.

PRAY FOR THE SICK:

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

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED:

Bishop William Edward Murray (Emeritus Bishop of Wollongong (Died Sunday 21st April 2013), Mary Writer (Anniv), John Snell (R.D.), Joseph Rodrigues, Limita Rodrigues, Stephen Vaz, Nypha Vaz, Carlos Carvalho, Cecil Moylan, Anthony Smithson, Emily Wauchop, Michael Seufatu, Frances Ihlein, Caroline D'Mello, Ladislav Feher, Stephen Vaz, Sioeli Salas, Robin Platt, 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 DeVille, Keith Gomes and Maria Cabonara and for anyone else who's Anniversary occurs at this time.

DO YOU 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 who could benefit from a lift. Please encourage them to contact our parish office (4628 2967) either to arrange communion to be brought to them or to organize transport to Mass.

THANKYOU: To the many Parishioners who help with keeping our Parish Church a place of welcoming and worship. If you have some spare time during the week and would like to help in anyway please come and talk with Fr Tony or phone on 4628 2967 or email ruse@parish.woll.catholic.org. Any help would be **beneficial** for our Parish Church.
Please think seriously how you are able to help.

Diary Dates:

- **Parish Ladies Group** meeting Monday 6th May at 7.30pm **new members are most welcome**
- **Retiree's Social group gathering** in the parish hall on Thursday 9th May after the 9.00am Mass
- **St Vincent de Paul Society** meeting Tuesday 14th May at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre **new members are most welcome**

PARISH HALL – TEA TOWELS AND TABLECLOTHS: If anyone has taken home the tea towels and/or tablecloths from the Parish Hall could they please be returned ASAP.

This would be greatly appreciated as many are still missing.

Thank you to the people who wash/iron and return them.

PRIESTHOOD – GOD IS CALLING: Look around at Mass today, look around the school, look around the neighbourhood. The next priests to inspire and support our faith communities are among you. What may stir their hearts are words of affirmation from you. If you witness young men involved in prayer and with a love for our faith and community, take a moment to thank them for their engagement, "I think you would make a good priest." When was the last time you affirmed someone in that way? For a young single man reading this, what is God whispering in your heart? Start a conversation with your local Parish Priest Fr Tony Daly on 4628 2967 or Fr Richard Healey, Vocations Director, on 0401 621 591, priesthood@dow.org.au.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Don't forget to take your copy home, great value for **only \$2.00**. Some articles of interest are: Pope's G-8 troubleshooter cardinals who will help to steer the Barque of Peter, CWL celebrates a rich history and Ex-PM draws biggest crowd to luncheon, plus many more articles of interest.

DIVINE MERCY: Every Sunday the Samoan Divine Mercy prayer group begins at 1.00pm in our Parish Church. All parishioners are most welcome. For more information please phone Maria on 9603 5106 or 0404929498. 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 please leave them either in the Church kitchen or at the Parish Office during working hours.

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME: The Catholic program "Mass For You At Home" will be broadcast throughout Australia in both city and regional areas on Channel 11 on Sunday mornings at 5.30am. The website for Mass For You At Home is <http://www.mfyah.com.au/>.

CATECHIST CRAFT MORNING at CCD Resource Centre (Micah House), 35a Cordeaux Street, Campbelltown this **Thursday, 2 May, 2013 from 10.30am to 12noon**. This is a chance for Catechists to meet other Catechist in the Diocese in a fun way, exchange ideas and explore the Resource Centre for things that will help in your important ministry with children. There is no cost involved and morning tea is provided. **Please RSVP by Monday, 29 April to Mrs Cindy Oliver on 4640 8550 or email cindy.oliver@dow.org.au**

THE ROAD TO PENTECOST / INPUT SESSIONS. An invitation is extended to Parishioners from around our Diocese to attend the Road to Pentecost faith formation and spirituality sessions as we prepare for Pentecost. The sessions run on **Thursday evenings 2, 9, 16 and 23 May from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at the new Diocesan Offices, Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St Wollongong** and will focus on personal openness to God's grace as we participate in the mission of the Church. For bookings please contact Vince Fitzwilliam 0413 126 095 or Jude Hennessy 4222 2407 / jude.hennessy@dow.org.au

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: The Parish Rosary Statue will be in the home of **Jim and Marie** for two weeks, commencing **Monday 29th April until Sunday 12th May**. The address is on the Main notice board at the side of the Church. The family will be saying the Rosary on **Mondays at 4.00pm**.

Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.

READERS FOR APRIL 2013:

Vigil Mass: Catherine and Dominic Robinson
9.00am Mass: Brian and Claire O'Brien
Pearce Nelson and Sarah Wright

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

READERS FOR MAY 2013:

Vigil Mass: James Munro and David Minogue
9.00am Mass: 5th & 12th: Tim Logue and Michael Bye
19th: & 26th: Maureen Molland and May Michelutti

USHER'S for next weekend:

Vigil Mass: Maureen Molland
9am Mass: Karenne Harvey

FLOWER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Francesca

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 4: Maureen Molland, Leesha Bell, Fa'aiu Faamau, Linda Tino and Tino Maugututia

Scripture

It must be said that CHRIST himself 'is present in his word, since it is he who speaks when Scripture is read in Church.' Indeed, the 'liturgical celebration becomes the continuing, complete and effective proclamation of God's word. The word of God, constantly proclaimed in the liturgy, is always a living and effective word through the power of the HOLY SPIRIT. It expresses the Father's love that never fails in its effectiveness towards us.' The Church has always realised that in the liturgical action the word of God is accompanied by the interior working of the Holy Spirit who makes it effective in the hearts of the faithful.

Verbum Domini (2010) 52.

GROW WITH GOD

Grace is a gift from God that enables us to live more fully in union with Him. It strengthens our desire to choose good over evil. It also helps us to manage difficulties in our lives better. When we feel humility, compassion, forgiveness we're putting others' needs before our own. These are signs of God's graces working within us.

When we let Him work through us, we help Him to do the same for others. We can show His love for others in how we treat them and in how we pray for them.

LET GO WITH GOD

Still, God hasn't promised any of us a "Rose Garden" in this life. Sometimes we feel more like we're in the Garden of Gethsemane where Our Lord prayed in deep agony the night before His Passion. Remember though that when misfortunes or tragedies hit us, we can withstand them better with God's help. And with day-to-day problems, Catholic prayers can help turn mountains back into molehills.

