

**7th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year A
23rd February 2014**



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"

DATES OF PARISH SACRAMENTS FOR 2014:

Wednesday 4th June: Parent/Carer's Information night for **Confirmation** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 6 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be Celebrated on Saturday 26th July at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 6th August: Parents/Carers Information night for **First Holy Communion** (for Catholic Baptised Children in Years 3 and above who have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation) **7.30pm in the Parish Church:**

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be Celebrated on the weekend of 13th /14th September.

LENT 2014

Ash Wednesday: 5th March
Stations of the Cross will be every Friday evening during Lent commencing at 7.30pm in the Parish Church

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Thursday 17th April:
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 18th April:
Stations of the Cross
The Passion of the Lord
Evening Prayer of Divine Office

Saturday 19th April:
Easter Vigil Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

Sunday 20th April:
Easter Sunday Mass (Resurrection of the Lord)

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARISHIONERS

If anyone knows of any parishioner who would like a visit from Father Tony, or is ill and/or unable to come to Mass, housebound or in hospital. **Could a family member or friend please contact Fr Tony on 4628 2967 or speak to him in person after/before Mass to arrange a suitable visiting time.**

GLUTEN FREE ALTAR BREADS: If you require Gluten Free Hosts could you please see Fr Tony before Mass so as they are available for you at Holy Communion

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Please pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Charles Dows, Stuart Eldridge, Bishop Douglas Warren, Mary Writer, Frank McKay, Genie Lynch, Bernie Blackstock, and Maria Cabonara. **May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and May perpetual light shine upon them.**

SICK LIST: Please pray for the *many* sick in our Parish Community: Beryl Purcell, Candice Walker, Carmel Welsh Ellen Healy, Graham Wagg, Jack O'Sullivan, Ken Churchill, Leonie Lovell, Maree Laming, Melanie Blessing, Phillip Mills, Tina Boyd and Tomas Laming .

PARISH BIRTHDAYS for this week:

22nd: Michael Barbari

24th: Pina Raco

26th: Debra Radzieta

ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION:

27th: Fr Tony (11 years)

WE WELCOME: Into our Christian Community: **Joshua Christophe Inkster, Brendan Clarke and Max Kenneth Barry Tatham** who were Baptised last weekend.

ST THOMAS MORE RETIREE'S SOCIAL GROUP:

Dear Parishioner's, The Retire Social Group would like to invite Senior Parishioner's (over 55) to join us in the Hall after the 9.00am Mass this Thursday 27th February for a **cuppa, chat and a laugh.** We would like to welcome more Retired Parishioners.

Hope to see you soon Fellow Retiree's

JOIN A WEEKLY PARISH LENTEN GROUP THIS

YEAR: Our 44-page weekly program (with an accompanying CD Resource) is a six-week Lenten preparation resource primarily for small groups and families. See the sign-up sheets at the entrance of the Church if you would like to attend and/or host a group that will be running ENCOUNTER in our parish. The books are \$3 each and will be given out 1st meeting. The Triple CD is available for \$5.00.

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK for 2014: 6 minute meditations on the Passion according to Matthew. This "Little Black Book" is your companion for Lent. They are available for \$3.50 each.

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: If you are interested in joining this Parish Ministry please come and see Fr Tony for more information. There is a workshop today (Sunday) at 10.15am in the Church (for about ½ hour). Anyone is more than welcome to attend.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Is during the 9.00am Sunday Mass and is for children in kindergarten up to and including Year 6, during School Terms. If you would like to find out more about this Parish Ministry, be a helper or Teacher, please contact either Christine on 4626 7475 or the Parish Office on 4628 2967.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Great value for only \$2.00 please don't forget to **buy** your copy.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: Find out what is happening in our Parish Primary School, please take home a copy. They are on the tables at the entrance of the Church.

2015 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT FOR ST THOMAS

MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Forms are available at the Parish School Office. For enquiries please contact the School Office on 4625 6561.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN

DAY AND OPEN EVENING: *This* Wednesday 26th February.

An Open Day session will be 9.15am-10.45am and Open Evening session from 7.00pm-8.00pm. These sessions will begin with a Principal's talk in the School Hall and then 'tours' of the school led by the Year 6 leaders and Coordinating Team Staff Members.

YEAR 7 -2015 INFORMATION EVENINGS:

Tuesday 25th February: *Mt Carmel Catholic High School*

Please phone the School Office on: 9603 3000 for time etc

Wednesday 26th February: *St Gregory's College*

Please phone the School Office on: 4629 4222 for times etc

For information for *St Patrick's College* please phone the School Office on: 4629 2999 for date, time etc.

BISHOP PETER WANTS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE: Young people (from ages 12 and up) and those involved with young people (eg parents, teachers, clergy, youth ministers, catechists) are invited to complete a survey on what works and what is needed for Catholic youth:

<http://tinyurl.com/dowyouth>.

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY: Bishop Peter would like to invite and encourage **all** parishioners and other interested people to gather and participate in the continued development of Parishes Working Together and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan. **To be held on Saturday 1st March from 10.00am – 2.00pm (includes lunch) at: St Mary's Star of the Sea College Hall (Harbour St, Wollongong).**

This is also a time for parishes and agencies to share their own initiatives as we seek to live our call as "Bearers of Christ's Love", please contact Darren on 42222463 or Darren.McDowell@dow.org.au for further information. RSVP is essential to Helen Bennett via email Helen.bennett@dow.org.au by Wednesday 26th February 2014.

It is very important that as many of our Parishioners attend as possible.

PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO EXPLORE POPE

FRANCIS' JOY OF THE GOSPEL WITH ELIO CAPRA & A WEEKEND WITH PICTON PARISH: Friday 14th March to and including 16th March. Please see flyer on noticeboards for more information. Contact details are: Parish Office on 4683 2230, Margaret on 4681 8321 or Lesley on 4681 8944.

CATHOLIC CARE ST PATRICK'S DAY RACING FUNRAISER:

Sat: 15 March, Kembla Grange Racecourse, tickets on sale now. Book ASAP avoid disappointment.
Ph: 42271122 Email: chiaram@catholiccare.dow.org.au
Web: www.catholiccare.dow.org.au

All monies raised will assist the Family and Sibling Support (Sibs) program - helping siblings of kids with a disability

EXPLORING MATTHEW'S GOSPEL: In our Parish Hall on Thursday 20th March from 9.30am – 1.00pm. As we listen to Matthew's Gospels this year, Matthew presents Jesus in his own unique way. During this session you will explore the rich themes found in this gospel. Registration is essential please contact Darren on cfl@dow.org.au or 4222 2463. Morning tea is provided and BYO lunch.

READERS: March

Vigil Mass: 1st/8th: *Phil and Pam Kenyon*

9.00am Mass: 2nd/9th: *Brian and Claire O'Brien*

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

USHER'S FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

Vigil Mass: *Carmel Munro*

9am Mass: *Helen Rawson and Chris Reddy*

FLOWER'S FOR NEXT WEEKEND: *Melanie and Elaine*

CHURCH CLEANER'S FOR NEXT WEEK: Group 5:
Samoan Divine Mercy Group

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.00am SUNDAY MASS:

16th March: *Maureen Molland, Maryse Parisi, Catherine Minogue, Yvonne Reddy, Julie Writer and Parents/Carers of Years 1 and 5 from St Thomas More Catholic Primary School*

PARISH ROSARY STATUE: *The Rosary Statue will be in the home of Eddie and Debbie for 2 weeks commencing Monday 17th February to Sunday 2nd March. The family will be saying the Rosary on the Monday's at 6.00pm.* The address is on the main notice board at the side of the Church. **Please collect the statue from the Church on the weekend and return it the following fortnight.**

When you pray the Rosary in your home you are still a community at prayer. Have you considered celebrating praying the Rosary at home and inviting other parishioners to share this special time with you? Those interested in having the Rosary Statue (and/or would like more details) can contact the parish office on 4628 2967 to arrange a suitable time you and your family would like to have our Parish Rosary Statue in your home.

Parish Diary Dates:

Sunday 23rd February: at 10.15am in the Parish Church there will be a meeting for Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion Acolyte's and Senior Server's.

Tuesday 25th February: St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting at **7.30pm** (please note change in time from now on) in the Parish Centre (new members are most welcome)

Thursday 27th February: Retiree's Social group gathering after the 9.00am Mass, all Retiree's over 55 are most welcome (come along for a good laugh and chat) in the Parish Hall

Saturday 1st March: Diocesan Assembly from 10.00am to 2.00pm (please read bulletin notice)

Monday 3rd March: Parish Ladies Group meeting from 7.30pm in the Parish Centre (all ladies come along for a cuppa and a chat and see what this fun Parish Ministry is all about).

