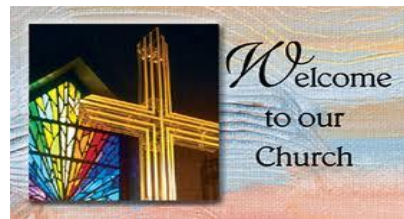




For some Christians the Feast of the Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity and our time.
We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.



Prayer of Welcome

Lord, our God, source of life, you reveal yourself in the depths of our being drawing us to share in your life and love.
Bless each of us as we respond to your Spirit's invitation to open wide the doors to Christ. Make the doors of our hearts, our homes and communities wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out all envy, prejudice and pride. Let us hasten to welcome the stranger, and so welcome your Son. We make this prayer in his name, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

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"

Our Parish is wheelchair friendly. We have a ramp going into the Church and one going into the Parish Hall. Please let your family and friends know.
"Anyone who welcomes you, welcome me and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Matthew 10:40"

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS: If you require *Gluten Free Hosts* for Holy Communion please see Fr Tony *before* Mass and they will be available for you at Holy Communion.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE IN OUR PARISH: Who is ill/or unable to come to Mass and would like to have Holy Communion please either let Fr Tony know or phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967.

EUCCHARISTIC FAST: *Those who receive holy communion are to abstain for one hour beforehand from all food and drink with the exception of water and medicine. This does not apply to the elderly (anyone 60 years and over) and the sick and those who care for the elderly and the sick, or to priests celebrating a second or third Mass on a given day. (Also if you attend additional Masses on the same day (Vigil, morning/day/evening Masses) you are able to Receive Holy Communion at each Mass you attend without the obligation of the Fast.*

It is most strongly recommended that the faithful receive holy communion in the course of a Eucharistic celebration. CCL 918-919

SICK LIST: Please pray for the *many* sick in our Parish Community including: Doreen Monckton, Mary Louise Smith, Nathan Bethally, Freda and Wilfred Miranda, Tina Ting, Tony Nolan, Fr David Catterall, Ann Webster, Beryl Purcell, Carmel Welsh, Ellen Healy, John Donnelly, Ken Churchill, Maree Laming, Marie Moore, Natalie Dwyer, Scott Chesney, Tomas Laming, Mary Fredericks and Reno Zamprogno

Please pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Jim McKenzie, Maurya Hutton and Maria Cabonara. *May eternal rest grant to them O Lord and may perpetual lights shine upon them.*

Birthdays for this week:
4th Jan: Nathanael Robinson, 5th Jan: Marcus Astruc
6th Jan: Edmund Pew, 7th Jan: Chris Vine and Catherine Robinson and 10th: Julie Writer

Wedding Anniversaries for this week:
4th Jan: Daphne & Edmund Pew (57 years)
5th Jan: Rosalie & Chris Vine (46 years)
5th Jan: Tresora & Brian Wyer (52 years)
7th Jan: Gwen & Brian Harris (48 years)
7th Jan: Rosa & Manuel Herrera (54 years)

PARISH POWER POINT CREATIONS:
We are still in need of help to set up a Power Point Creation Team. If you have experience in creating Power Points (you are the person we are looking for). Training and support will be given. Please phone the Parish Office on 4628 2967 for more details. Please consider being a member of this Parish Ministry. These are created in keeping with the Mass/Liturgy themes and overall liturgical rubrics of the Church

PARISH ROSTERS:
Parish Rosters are available collection for the Cleaners, Refreshments after Mass, and Flower Arrangers. If you are a member of these Parish Ministries your roster is available from the main table at the entrance of the church.

THIS WEEKS CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Many interesting articles to read, great value for only \$2.00. Please purchase your copy from the back table at the main entrance to the Church.

MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE: The Wisdom of Teresa
Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2015, Presenter: Fr Paul Maunder, OCD
Cost: \$220 (concessions available), Where: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW, 2566
Contact: 02 8795 3400, email: retreats@carmelite.com
www.carmeliteretreats.com.au. Divine Friendship: spiritual guidance in prayer, holiness and mission from the writings of St Teresa of Avila.

YOUTH SUMMER SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION 2015 – A GREAT SUMMER RETREAT!
What are you doing this summer? A week long retreat for young people wanting to grow in faith and share the Christian challenge with others. Theme: "Let Your Light Shine" 1 Peter 3:18. Includes lectures and seminars, prayer, music, loads of fun and new friends. Held at Bathurst (11-18 January 2015). Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community for over 25 years. For ages 16-35. For more information see www.summerschool.org.au.

RETIRED STAFF AND PARTNERS of Catholic Schools and the Wollongong Catholic Education Office: Eighth Annual Social Gathering, 12 noon Friday 13 February 2015 Wollongong Golf Club, Corrimal Street. Retired Staff (and Partners) of Catholic Schools and the Catholic Education Office in Wollongong or other Catholic Dioceses are invited to attend an informal lunch/social at Wollongong Golf Club, Corrimal Street, Wollongong to renew acquaintances with former colleagues and their partners. For more information and/or confirmation of attendance please contact: John Tubridy: 4228 4474 jtubridy@optusnet.com.au; Kate Quinn: 4234 1254 or Mel Condon: 4232 2795

New Year's Prayer
As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

EXTRADORDINARY MINISTERS' OF COMMUNION FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:
Vigil Mass: 10th Jan: Trish Newman and James Munro
9.00am Mass: 11th Jan: Helen Rawson and Julie Writer

Vigil Mass: 17th Jan: Bertha Barbari and Winnie Cameron
9.00am Mass: 18th Jan: Fay Faamau and Junior Faamau

READERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:
(Could the 2nd Reader please read also the Prayers of Intercession)
Vigil Mass: 10th Jan: Andrew James and James Munro
9.00am Mass: 11th Jan: Barry Daley and Christine Foreman
Vigil Mass: 17th Jan: Bev McKenzie and Julie McKenzie
9.00am Mass: 18th Jan: Chris Vine and Rosalie Vine

CHURCH CLEANERS' FOR NEXT WEEK
Saturday 10th Jan: Group 6: Tongan Youth Group

Saturday 17th Jan: Group 1: Syro –Malabar Indian Community

USHERS' FOR NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:
Vigil Mass: 10th Jan: Vicky Horne
9.00am Mass 11th Jan: Chris Reddy and Helen Rawson

Vigil Mass: 17th Jan: Maureen
9.00am Mass: 18th Jan: Karenne Harvey

FLOWER ARRANGERS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKENDS:
Saturday 10th Jan: Christine Gomes
Saturday 17th Jan: Francesca

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 9.00AM MASS: This will be returning in February. Thank you to the many people who are members of this Parish Ministry and also to the Parish Ladies Group who continue to support this Parish Ministry.

Fr Tony's Christmas Thank you Message



I would like to personally thank the many people who contributed to the Christmas Celebrations of our Parish. The Acolytes, The Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, The Sacristans, the Flower arrangers, The Grounds people, the Cleaners, the Readers, the many Musicians, the helpers and participants, the Ushers/Greeters, the Powerpoint creators and those who worked the Powerpoint during the Masses and the Parish Counters. Fr Tony Daly

