

**2nd SUNDAY OF LENT  
YEAR C  
28th February 2010**

**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."*

**PASCHAL PRECEPT:** Catholics are obliged to receive holy communion at least once a year, between Ash Wednesday (17th February) and Trinity Sunday (30th May) Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. 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 baptised.

**2nd Sunday of Lent**

As Christians we are called to walk with those who are in need. This week's story introduces us to Teneille, from Derby in Western Australia. Limited job opportunities, low family literacy levels and poor health and housing are some of the issues affecting poor school performance amongst Indigenous children in the area. Teneille participates in a Caritas Australia-supported program that is empowering children to attend school, have healthy and nutritious food and improve the school performance amongst the area's children. Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion helps to work towards the goal of ensuring primary education for all children.

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes and give generously to the appeal this Lent. Your donations will allow Caritas Australia to reduce poverty and hunger in more than 35 countries around the world.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FR TONY:** The Parishioners of our Parish would like to congratulate Fr Tony on his 7th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood today (27th February).



**PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:**

Patricia Wells (R.D.), Italo Dal'Armi (R.D.), Luigi Zamprogno (Anniv), Joe Jurans, Aldo Amato, Frank McKay, Genie Lynch, Joe Vaz, Limita Rodrigues, Baptist D'Sa, Keith Gomes, Aguiar D'Cunha, Roy & Thomas Rodriguez, Ralph Petts, Jim McKenzie, Bill Curtis, Darren Todd & Maria Cabonara.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Please pray for the many sick in our parish community: Fr Allan Crawford, Fr Tony, Carole Obereigner, Kevin Moore, Maria Khan, Sam Sheather, Faye Vrins, Maree Lamont, Freda Miranda, Wilfred Miranda, Romeo Cruz, Bingham, Marion Hely, Amy Jablonskis, Savirio Gauniquio, Sioli Tupola, Imelda Zamprogno, John McCann, Carol Healy, Margaret Edgerton, Kim Daley, Nicole Crawford, Mary Price, Ken Churchill, Margaret Elphick, Peter Elphick, Giovanna Cancellieri and Martin Vince.

*Birthdays for members of our Parish Family for this week are: 27th: Mathew Cox, 1st Marxf: Zach Pilley & 5th: Jane Hill*

**WE WELCOME:** Into our Christian Community Ruby Meagan Thomas who was Baptised last weekend.

**DIARY DATES:**

- **Monday 1st March** at 8.00am Parish Ladies Group meeting in the Parish Centre
- **Wednesday 3rd March** at 7.30pm Parish Liturgy meeting (Easter) (Reader's, Commentator's, Singer's, Muscian's, Powerpoint, Children's Liturgy, Sacristan's, Flower arrangers etc) are all encouraged to attend
- **Thursday 4th March** meet after the 9.00am Mass then leave for Bingo at Tahmoor (contact Elaine for more details on 4625 9919)
- **Friday 5th March** at 7.30pm Stations of the Cross (every Friday evening during Lent)
- **Wednesday 10th March** at 6.00pm Baptism Class in the Parish Centre

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR OUR PARISH 2010**

**RECONCILIATION:** Thursday 11th March – 7.30pm  
**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** All Weekend Masses of 5th and 6th June (Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ)  
**CONFIRMATION:** Saturday 7th August – 6.00pm Vigil Mass  
**Parent Information night and preparation classes** for each of the Sacraments will be further advised.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION:** Please remember and keep in your prayers the children who will be making their First Reconciliation on Thursday, 11th March at 7.30pm.

**PIETY STALL:** Have plenty in stock of the "Little Back Book" available for \$4.00. This book contains six-minute reflections on the Weekly Gospels of Lent 2010.

**2010 LENTEN PROGRAMME...**

*Do You Love Me?*

The Lenten programme offers us...An invitation to explore and deepen our life of prayer in Jesus Christ!!! There are 3 Lenten Groups this year, on **Wednesday 3rd March (this week only) at 7.30pm** at Cathy and Michael Bye's home phone no:4625 5449 and the remaining **Tuesday's** of Lent at 7.30pm at Maree and Noel Laming's home phone no: 4627 2182 and the remaining **Wednesday's** in the Parish Hall after the 9.00am Mass phone no: 4628 2967. If you require a Lenten programme booklet for your personal use please contact the parish office during office hours. They are available at a cost of \$7.00.

**CATECHIST'S CALLING:** We are asking for your help. We are now a very small group. We teach scripture in 4 state schools in our parish. On Wednesday morning we go to Ruse and Kentlyn schools. On Thursday we attend John Warby school and Briar Rd in Airds and Woodland Rd school at St Helens Park. Our lessons go for 30 minutes- and of course time is needed to prepare the lesson. **THE CHILDREN NEED YOU – WE NEED YOU TO HELP US IN THIS MINISTRY OF SHARING GODS LOVE WITH THE CHILDREN. Please contact Fr Tony on 4628 2967 for enquiries.**

**PARISHIONERS – A TIME TO GET INVOLVED:** Being involved in one of our parish ministries or groups provides the chance to get to know some of the people you see across the aisles at Mass. Please contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 or see Fr Tony, for details about the many ways you can get involved. As parishioners have moved away, **we are especially** in need of People to help with **flower arranging, church cleaner's** (start up a new group and you decide when you wish to clean the church that best suites you) and **counter's**.

**VOLUNTEERS – WORKING BEE:**

Volunteers are required for parish Working Bees. A clipboard is now on the table at the entrance of the Church to record a Contact List. If you wish to volunteer to help maintain our Church grounds and buildings, could you please list your name, contact phone number, email address and time/s you are available. Thanking you in anticipation, this is another way in which you can give of your time, talent and treasure in Stewardship.

**TRADESPEOPLE:** To promote parishioners who may have local trades and are able to provide assistance with the Upkeep of the Church grounds and buildings – We request that all tradespeople who are parishioners please record your contact details (name, contact telephone and email address) and type of trade. The parish is also keen to advertise **your listing** in the parish bulletin. The tradespeople listed will be contacted for details .For further enquiries please contact the Parish Office during office hours ph no: 4628 2967.

**SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR EASTER 2009**

*CHOCOLATE PASCHAL LAMBS*

Available in Milk or White Cadbury's Chocolate (14cm long x 12cm high) Each lamb is beautifully packaged with a prayer card and explanation of the Lamb as the paschal symbol of Christianity. They are \$7.00 each and are available from the Parish Office during office hours. This is a fundraiser for our Church. These will make terrific Easter gifts.

**CLAIM THE DATE:** Friday 14th May 7.00pm for 7.30pm Parish Ladies Rainbow Fashions fashion parade fundraiser. So ladies please keep that date free and invite your friends. More details to come.

**WAY OF THE CROSS:** All are invited to join the Franciscans in making the Way of the Cross in the grounds of Maryfields, Narellan Rd, Campbelltown, on the 5 Sundays of Lent at 3pm.

**TAKE THE CHALLENGE – DO THE REFLECTION:** You are invited to take part in an on-line Lenten reflection using the lectio divina. Our Bishops will offer their own insights into the Gospels. The website is thereflection.vividas.com

**BORN FOR THIS:** From the earliest times, Christians have enacted the Stations of the Cross. "Born for This" is a modern theatrical interpretation of this ancient tradition performed by a cast of young people from the Diocese. This production will certainly bring this great story of faith alive for audiences throughout Lent 2010. Don't miss your chance to see this moving Way of the Cross as part of your Lenten journey. Please see the flyers on the notice boards at the entrance of the Church for dates in the Macarthur area. For further details please contact [www.dow.org.au/born-for-this](http://www.dow.org.au/born-for-this) or Jane Edwards on [jane.edwards@woll.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.edwards@woll.catholic.org.au) or 4253 0899

**CLEMENTE AUSTRALIA:** The Nagle Centre and the Australian Catholic University are offering a free university course for people who would like to learn more about themselves and the world in which they live. Information Session: Wednesday 3rd March 2010, The Nagle Centre, 22 Iolanthe Street Campbelltown. Evening meal provided at our Community Kitchen. To confirm attendance please ring Hazel or Jenny on 4628 2928

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2010: Sunday 7th March:** International Women's Day has been observed since 1911 as the day connecting all women around the world. The theme this year is "Empowering women to end poverty by 2015." Can it be done?

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** for married couples. Friday 19 to Sunday 21 March at Mulgoa, NSW. Bookings (02) 6379 1125 or (02) 4283 3435. Information [www.wvme.org.au](http://www.wvme.org.au)

**PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION:** The De La Salle Brothers are offering young men (20-35yrs) an incredible volunteer opportunity in the remote indigenous community of Balgo Hills in Western Australia. Spend 2 weeks (15-29 May) learning about the Brothers' life and work whilst helping young people in need. Applications close 29 March. For details please visit [www.delasallebrothers.com](http://www.delasallebrothers.com)

**ROSARY STATUE:** From the 1st March to the 7th March, the Rosary Statue will be in the home of Savirio & Maria, 66 Old Kent Rd, Ruse. Parishioners are invited to pray with the family on **Monday at 6.00pm**

**READERS FOR MASS FOR MARCH 2010:**

**VIGIL:**  
**8.00am:** Louise Phillips & Bev McKenzie  
**8.00am:** Chris O'Brien & Rachel Bartolo  
**9.30am:** Tony Billet & Pesio Aiga

**COMMENTATORS FOR MASS 6th & 7th March:**

**6.00pm:** Adriana Leslie  
**8.00am:** Trish McGill  
**9.30am:** Joline Aiga

**USHERS FOR MASS FOR 6th & 7th March:**

**6.00pm:** Vicki Horne  
**8.00am:** Karen & David Mahanay  
**9.30am:** Christine Foreman & Tina Boyd

**CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: Group 3: URGENTLY NEED HELPERS**

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS: Sunday 7th March: (after the 8.00am Mass)** Cathy Bye, Kellie Rickwood, Maria Hill & Winnie Vakauta