



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 29TH/30TH JANUARY 2022

Pastoral Insight

From Pope Francis:

Even the best families need support, and it takes a lot of patience to support one another. But such is life. Life is not lived in a laboratory, but in reality. Jesus himself experienced a family upbringing.

Our words can do much good and also much harm; they can heal and they can wound; they can encourage and they can dishearten.



Sacrament of Penance Programme

The programme resumes this weekend. Parents and carers are needed to bring their children to Mass and to complete a brief questionnaire afterwards. The answers to the questionnaire will help to shape the remainder of the programme.

More details will be provided in coming weeks to assist in the administering of the programme. Parents and carers need to be motivated and especially committed to Mass.

Over the past two years the sacramental programmes have evolved so as to remain compliant with Directives from the NSW Department of Health and the Premiers Office. It's not always so easy.

In any instances where a family member has contracted the virus and needs to isolate, please email the parish office in advance. Thanks.



Funerals this Week in the Parish Church at Camden

Tuesday 1 February	Lynette Gail Christopher	11:00 AM
Wednesday 2 February	Kevin Lawler	10:30 AM
Friday 4 February	Rick Dunstan	12:00 PM

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**ST. PAUL'S
CATHOLIC PARISH
CAMDEN**

**ST. ALOYSIUS
CATHOLIC PARISH
THE OAKS**

**ST CLARE'S
CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
NARELLAN**

**ST JOSEPH
THE WORKER
CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
OAKDALE**

Parish School of Religion

For Catholic Children in Government and other Non-Catholic Private Schools

Up until the arrival of pandemic two years ago, about 25 catechists visited many state schools in our parish to share our Catholic faith with children who in some instances might otherwise have very little connection with our local parish. Even then, however, it was still not possible to attend every school and some children were without the help and tuition from the Scripture teachers.

With the arrival of the pandemic and then the lockdown, most of our catechists – especially those who had retired from the secular workforce – had decided that after many years of dedicated teaching, the time had come to retire. And under the new challenges raised by the transmission of the wretched virus, such decisions from our catechists were quite reasonable and very understandable.

So in the place of catechists visiting the government schools, a new initiative has been conceived and will be trialled this year.

Within each of the four terms, there will be a four-week block of classes in our Heritage Hall for families who would like their children to have a little extra knowledge and guidance about the faith. Dates and times are now being drafted and will be announced in next week's Weekly Message.

For example, the 40-minute classes might be scheduled as follows:

Monday	3:30 PM	Kindergarten	4:30 PM	Year One
Tuesday	3:30 PM	Year Two	4:30 PM	Year Three
Wednesday	3:30 PM	Year Four	4:30 PM	Year Five
Thursday	3:30 PM	Year Six		

- In Term One, the content will include many references to the Season of Lent
- In Term Two, the content will include many references to the Season of Easter
- In Term Three, the content will include references to some of the great Feasts and Teachings of our Faith
- In Term Four, the content will be quite flexible but point towards the Season of Advent.

If there's no interest, then this initiative will eventually be withdrawn. But it's big singular advantage over the customary practice of commissioning the catechists to visit the government schools is that it's open to all the children.

The idea of a **Parish School of Religion** is in its infancy, and it's really quite impossible to forecast an outcome. It depends almost entirely upon the extent to which families with children in the non-Catholic schools wish for their children to receive spiritual and intellectual formation in the ways of the faith. So we'll soon be inviting parents and carers for a response.

BTW, this initiative will not be offered this year at The Oaks and Oakdale. But these children are very welcome to be a part of what's happening at Camden. If quite a few people from The Oaks and Oakdale are interested, then the programme could be offered in the hall at The Oaks from 2023.

For those coming to Camden, it might be possible for mum to drop off the kids at the Heritage Hall, go do a little shopping and then collect them afterwards.

Sunday 30th January ~ 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Belinda and Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Cheryl
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tony



Sunday 6th February ~ 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda and Jen
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Richard	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Victor	Steve and Damian
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny and Tasha

From The Diocese ~ Get Connected

Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith.

A simple way to stay informed and connected is to invite the faithful to subscribe at <https://dow.sh/stayingconnected> to receive regular stay connected updates or visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to parishes weekly.

Kind Regards

Father Michael