



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 19TH/20TH FEBRUARY 2022

Pastoral Insight

From the book 'Wrestling with God' by Father Ronald Rolheiser. He writes:

What I am about to write may not make me popular among many of my contemporaries, but I want to state here unequivocally that our culture's severing of the nonnegotiable tie between sex and marriage is just plain wrong. It's also naïve.

I once attended a conference on sexuality where the keynote speaker, a renowned theologian, suggested that churches have always been far too uptight about sex. She's right about that. We're still a long way from integrating sexuality and spirituality in a healthy way.

However, she went on to ask, "Why all this anxiety about sex? Who's ever been hurt by it anyway?" A more sober insight might suggest, "Who hasn't been hurt by it?" History is strewn with broken hearts, broken families, broken lives, terminal bitterness, murders and suicides within which sex is the canker.

Admittedly, our churches have never produced a fully healthy, robust theology and spirituality of sex, though nobody else, secular or religious, has either. However, what Christianity has produced, its traditional morality and ethos, does give us a fair and important warning to our culture. Don't be naïve about sexual energy. It isn't always as friendly and inconsequential as you think!

Sacrament of Penance Programme

Parents and carers need to be especially mindful that in two weeks' time the workbooks will need to be returned for examination.

By this week, the children should also be largely accomplished in reciting the Act of Contrition. By next week, the adults should also be able to recite the Act of Contrition.

Please continue to complete all activities in each chapter of the book according to the timeline. Parents and carers also need to read the 'Parents' Pages'.

If there are any difficulties, the adults are most welcome to ring the parish office and help will be provided. Thanks.

Funerals in the Parish Church at Camden

Friday 18 February	Patricia Byrne	12:30 PM
Wednesday 23 February	Barry Cravigan	10:30 AM

26 John Street (PO Box 7) Camden NSW 2570 (02) 4655 8797 camden@dow.org.au
59 Holdsworth Drive, Narellan Vale NSW 2567 (ring Camden) camden@dow.org.au
5 /15 Merlin Street (PO Box 169) The Oaks NSW 2570 (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au
Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au

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

Reception of Holy Communion

The mask should be slightly readjusted so that upon receiving the host on the hand, the communicant can take one step to the side and – while still facing in the same direction – place the host directly on the tongue for consumption. The mask can then be re-fitted as normal.

Please be mindful that upon receiving Holy Communion on the hand, the communicant takes only **one** step to the side, and then consumes the host before turning away. The priest or special minister must be able to see the host being consumed. Thanks in anticipation.



Parish School of Religion (PSR)

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

Many children from Years 3 to Years 6, inclusive, have celebrated the sacraments in our parish since the beginning of 2019. Accordingly, their contact details are retained confidentially on parish records. These families will be sent invitations to enrol in the PSR. No cost.

If there is sufficient interest and demand, there will be a four-week block of classes each term. Families who enrol their children will be committing for one term only but will be welcomed and encouraged to recommit in successive terms.

Got no idea how this will turn out! But we've got to have a go at offering religious formation to all children in the parish no matter what school is attended.

Clarification

At one time or another, our parishioners would surely have noticed how the priest washes his hands at the Offertory. At this time, the parishioners are seated.

Then after drying his hands, the priest turns towards the people and says:

Pray my sisters and brothers that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father

Question: When is it the right time for people to stand – at the beginning of this prayer, or at the end?

If you said the beginning, then you're wrong. It is at the end of this prayer that – in the directions contained in the Missal – the people are instructed to rise and reply:

May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name
for our good and the good of all his holy church,

So please remain seated until you hear the word 'Father'. If some people stand when hearing 'Pray my brothers and sisters', please remain stubbornly seated until you hear the word 'Father'. Then rise.

Friday 25th February

Father Michael is committed to offering Mass to the children at St Clare's at 9:00 AM.
Father Victor is committed to offering Mass to the students at Magdalene at 9:30 AM.

Accordingly, Mass will be celebrated at St Clare's at 8:00 AM as usual.
A Communion Service will be held at St Paul's at 9:00 AM



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.



From The Diocese ~ Technology skills workshops

CatholicCare and the Being Connected network are teaming up to facilitate small group sessions aimed at assisting older Australians with improving their digital skills and knowledge. Sessions will be held at Campbelltown Catholic Club on Monday 7th & 14 march from 10am-12pm spaces are very limited. This is a great opportunity to learn new skills and connect with others. Morning tea will be provided and we encourage you to stay, purchase lunch from the club and continue the conversation.

For more information Jane Hollier, Parish and Community Liaison Officer 0417 018 152
janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au.

Note: all NSW Health Covid 19 guidelines will be adhered to.

Sunday 20th February ~ 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

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

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Victor	Maria C
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	TBA

Sunday 27th February ~ 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Stork	Maria and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent and Damian
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig

Kind Regards

Father Michael