



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

## Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - 5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022

### Pastoral Insight

About 40 years ago in the first half of the 1980s there was a Rector, at the then St Patrick's Seminary, Manly, who had an enormous reservoir of "home-spun wisdom". His name was Father Grove Johnson. Born in 1920, he reached a great age but is now deceased.

He was born in Yeppoon, Queensland, and studied in Rome for many years as a teenager and as an adult. He loved Australian culture, Church culture and Italian culture. In reference to Rome and to Italy more generally, he once remarked: "Love the city, love the people, love the food, love the language."

He shared the following home-spun wisdom with the seminarians:

"There's the man who knows, and knows that he knows, and he's ok. Then there's the man who doesn't know, and doesn't know that he doesn't know, and he's a complete ass."

Not specific about the context but it sure got the students thinking.

### Season of Lent

Lent began a few days ago on Ash Wednesday. The Opening Prayer was as follows:

Grant O Lord that we may begin with holy fasting  
this campaign of Christian service,  
so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils,  
we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.

These weapons are prayer, fasting and holy charity.

**Project Compassion Boxes** available from the chapel and entry areas at The Oaks and Oakdale

### Parish School of Religion (PSR)

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

Somewhat unfortunately, demand was not strong enough to launch a PSR. But we'll have another go next year. With regard to spiritual formation, the most important decision that parents can make is to bring their children to Mass. And the children will then most surely develop in their knowledge of the faith. There are some primary-school children in our own parish who know the *Hail Holy Queen* and are able to recite it without hesitation. The parents are really doing a wonderful job.

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## Sacrament of Penance Programme

Please give books to the attendants after Mass this weekend. If they have been completed with care and accuracy, they will receive the parish stamp on the front cover and returned to the children the following weekend. The books that have stamps will also have a little leaflet contained within for parents to complete. It will provide a choice to the ceremonies available for First Confession.

There will be a departure this year from the traditional practice. In past years, parents have also been strongly encouraged to also make a confession at the same ceremonies as they children.

However, when making their confession, the adult penitent and the priest are invariably very close together when communicating. With the virus still circulating, it's more prudent at this time to have children only during these ceremonies. They sit further away and are generally more relaxed.

Adults, however, are still encouraged to make a heartfelt confession on a Saturday morning from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM in the chapel. In this setting, the penitent and the priest are sitting at least a metre apart or separated by a screen. As a parish, we need to be vigilant and extra sensitive to each other. Thanks for understanding

Parents and carers need to also assist the children in the examination of their consciences. Here's a sample of sins that might be committed by children:

Lying, stealing, cruelty to others, talking back to parents, disobedience, cheating, over-eating, envious of the possessions of other kids, resisting a bath when dirty, temper tantrums, being unbelievably precious, negligence to personal pets, pouting, being stubborn about going to Mass when other family members are going, hurtful words, ignoring little brothers and little sisters, impatience with others.

One of the objectives of the penance programme is for children to begin developing a moral framework which is in keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church. In the examination of conscience, parents and carers should dedicate time to the children in the days leading up to their first confession.

The idea is to help the children identify their sins without actually extracting a confession from them. The confession should be kept for the priest where it remains 100% confidential. The seal of confession is absolute.

Please ensure that the children are able to recite the Act of Contrition perfectly.

## *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.

## Sacrament of Confirmation for The Oaks and Camden

Planning to have the details for Confirmation Programme within a week or two. Can advise that because of the Bishop's heavy schedule, the actual ceremonies will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM, and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 10:00 AM, 12 Noon, and 2:00 PM.

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March ~ First Sunday in Lent

#### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

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

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March ~ Second Sunday in Lent Time

#### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	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	Eva and Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tony

Kind Regards

Father Michael

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Roster**

<b>6-Mar</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Special Minister</b>	<b>PC</b>
9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas				
5.00pm	John Roberts	Ken Potter	Jim Gallagher	Diane Kennaugh	Kerry Todd
8.00am	Mark Coleman	Kathryn Hampton	Warren Johnson	Lucy Aquilina	Cheryl/ .Kathryn
10.00am	James McFarlane	Nada Simich	Toni Sillis	Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Brad McAllister
5.00pm		Joseph Hanson	Joseph Hanson	Samantha Vergara	Elizabeth

*Position Vacant - St Mary's Towers*

St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre are looking for a kitchen hand or cook or someone prepared to work in either of these positions. We are particularly looking for someone Monday to Friday but also someone who is flexible with their time, for some weekends. Generally, shifts are 9 am to 2.00 pm. If you would like to work with a friendly, enthusiastic team and love to prepare food (no formal qualifications needed), then please send your resume to Amy at amy.parish1976@gmail.com  
Own transport to Douglas Park is essential.