



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

FOURTH SUNDAY EASTER - 7TH/8TH MAY 2022

From Pope Francis ~ Empty Nets

The Gospel on the Third Sunday of Easter was about how the disciples – after the Resurrection of Jesus – were unsure of their future and returned to the former occupation as fishermen. Jesus tracked them down at a time when they had been fishing all night but caught nothing. They had empty nets.

The Pope suggested that Peter was disheartened and sought to return to his former life.

“And what does Jesus do?” Pope Francis recounted. “He returns again to the shore of the lake where he had chosen Peter, Andrew, James and John. He does not reproach them but calls the disciples tenderly: ‘children.’”

“Then he invites them, as before, to cast their nets again, courageously. And this time the nets are filled to overflowing,” said the Pope.

“It can happen to us, out of tiredness, disappointment, perhaps out of laziness, to forget the Lord and to neglect the great choices we have made, to be content with something else.

“For example, we do not devote time to talking to each other in the family, preferring personal pastimes; we forget prayer, letting ourselves be wrapped up in our own needs; we neglect charity, with the excuse of daily urgencies.”

“But, in doing so, we find ourselves disappointed: with empty nets, like Peter.”

“Brothers, sisters, when our nets are empty in life, it is not the time to feel sorry for ourselves, to have fun, to return to old pastimes. It is the time to start again with Jesus, to find the courage to begin again, to set out with him,”

Confirmation Programme

The Confirmation programme is now a little smaller than originally expected. About 90% of enrolment forms were returned last weekend with the mandatory offering of \$25. Thanks. The remaining 10% are now presumed to have voluntarily withdrawn. The Bishop’s Office will be notified this coming week to be advised that five ceremonies will no longer be required.

For the 90% who have now confirmed their registration and commitment to Mass, books can be collected this week. Please first see Father Michael after Mass near the baptism font to collect the ‘help sheet’ and then venture to the parish meeting room to collect a personalised book. The first chapter needs to be completed this week, and parents and carers need to be especially mindful of completing their own reading on page 3.

If attending Mass at Oakdale or The Oaks, please notify the parish office today before 1:00 PM.

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Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au

Mother's Day

Part of the Final Blessing from our Baptism Ceremony:

May God, the source of life and love, who fills the hearts of mothers with love for their children, bless the mothers of these newly baptised children. As they thank for a safe delivery, may they find joy in the love, growth, and holiness of the children.

May all our mums be blessed in an extra loving and affectionate way on this day.

Parish Renewal Programme 2022

LAUNCHED THIS WEEKEND

This weekend is the launch of our special Parish Renewal Program, the first since 2016. As we resume a more normal parish life after the COVID-19 dominated last two years, the Program is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a member of our St Paul's community.

We encourage you to be actively involved – read the materials, listen to the speakers, and follow the Program with weekly updates through parish website, email and SMS. Reflect, pray and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends and fellow parishioners. At all Masses next weekend, we will welcome Stephen Littleton from Parish First who will be assisting the parish with the Program.

PARISH FORUM

A special Parish Forum is a key part of the Program. We will discuss our current and future priorities, and it is a great opportunity to make your contribution to the discussion. We will have four timeslots – as we want to provide the best opportunity for as many parishioners as possible to attend.

The Forums will be held immediately after each Mass on the weekend of Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May. The Forums will run for 45 mins and for extra convenience will be held in the church. We urge you to attend the session that suits you best.

Parish Pastoral Council

As part of our renewal programme, a new PPC will be formed in coming months. Among the various objectives of the PPC is to simply enjoy fraternity with other parishioners. Meetings are about once every two months, though membership to sub-committees may also require a presence at other smaller meetings. Please consider your own suitability and the amount of time you may have available for active membership.

Sunday 8th May ~ Fourth Sunday in Easter

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

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| Camden | 5:00 PM | Father Michael | Maria and Sarah |
| Oakdale | 5:00 PM | Father Victor | Jo |

Sunday

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| The Oaks | 9:00 AM | Father Victor | Leslie / Nicole |
| Camden | 8:00 AM | Father Andrew | Choir |
| Camden | 10:00 AM | Father Michael | Eva & Darko |
| Camden | 5:00 PM | Father Victor | Tony |

| 8 th May | Acolyte | Lector | Lector | Special Minister | Special Minister | PC |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 9.00am | Enzeigh Thomas | | | | | |
| 5.00pm | Ray Cusack | Jim Gallagher | Wal Glynn | Angelina Vecchio | Margaret Thornton | Kerry Todd |
| 8.00am | John Charadia | Deanna David | Glenn Crawford | Maryann Ace | Kathryn Hampton | Cheryl/ Kathryn |
| 10.00am | John Marchand | Oscar Marimbe | Meaghan Marchand | Kylie Crnek-Georgeson | <i>Volunteer required</i> | Raphael |
| 5.00pm | <i>Volunteer required</i> | Judith Madsen | Brian Jenkins | Dianne Garland | Samantha Vergara | Lo Cascio family |

Sunday 15th May ~ Fifth Sunday in Easter

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

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| Camden | 5:00 PM | TBA | Belinda and Tasha |
| Oakdale | 5:00 PM | TBA | Jo |

Sunday

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| The Oaks | 9:00 AM | TBA | Leslie / Nicole |
| Camden | 8:00 AM | TBA | Maria and Cheryl |
| Camden | 10:00 AM | TBA | Choir |
| Camden | 5:00 PM | TBA | Craig |

For our Faithful Departed

Fr Whitty, Shirley Shipp, Guido Pace, Beryl Bliim, John O'Grady, Emma Patty, Lilian Grech, *who died recently*. Ilenka, Alfred Simiana, Hans Stomber, Vicki Maree O'Brien, Tina Pereira, Martha Pires, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Pat Friend, Mary, Nere & Patrick Walton, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll. *RIP.*

We Pray for those who are unwell
Pam Simmonds, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Father Michael