



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 Camden and The Oaks

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Pastoral Insight

- Have you ever thought about the value of the parish to you and to your family?
- Have you ever reflected upon the many memorable occasions of the parish church in your life?

These are important questions that are deserving of serious thought. The parish church – along with parochial churches like St Joseph the Worker – are the sacred places in which we come into each other's company as like-minded people. It is within the parish church that our lives are sanctified.

Many parishioners will recall with great affection the 25 years from 1984 to 2009 that brought people together in the refitted building at Smeaton Grange. While that experience has long since departed, the collective memory remains for all the right reasons.

So as we move into the future with so much positive anticipation, it's extra helpful to have a clear and enlightened understanding of the reasons for our parish.

The United States National Conference of Bishops spoke of the parish in these terms:

The parish is where the church lives. Parishes are communities of faith, of action and of hope. They are where the gospel is proclaimed and celebrated, where believers are formed and sent to renew the earth. Parishes are the home of the Christian community; they are the heart of our church.

Immaculate Heart of Mary ~ this weekend 25th/26th June



The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a devotional name used to refer to the Catholic view of the interior life of Mary, Mother of Jesus, her joys and sorrows, her virtues and hidden perfections, and, above all, her virginal love for God the Father, and her maternal love for her Son, Jesus. Truly beautiful feast!

The Oaks ~ Special Meeting ~ Thursday 7 July 6:00 PM

Meeting not too far away. After paying serious money for consultancy work, a presentation will be provided followed by an opportunity for discussion.

Joint Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) ~ Camden & The Oaks

Thanks to all who have expressed interest. Have one parishioner from The Oaks so far and would like a second. PPC meets once every two months or according to need. Meetings are followed by fellowship for those who are interested. Term is for three years but could possibly be extended to 2027 when the next renewal programme is scheduled. Membership to the PPC is not expected to cause any suffering.

Confirmation Programme

Parish personnel, teachers, clergy have done everything genuinely possible to help the parents and carers help their children over the duration of the preparation process.

As the old adage goes, however, a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

On Friday 24th and Saturday 25th, about 140 children will be confirmed by Bishop Brian. In terms of meeting the requirements of the programme including the completion of books, the following has been observable:

- A reasonably good number of children have been exceptionally well prepared – a tribute to their parents/carers.
- The majority of children have been reasonably prepared – thank you.
- A small but not insignificant number of children would have benefited from more dedicated attention from the adults – parents are encouraged to re-evaluate their priorities in life.

Spiritual formation is vitally important. It provides a relationship with God that forms the bedrock of happiness in our adult years.

Adults and children need to be aware of the difference between pleasure and happiness. Pleasure will delight the senses but this experience fades quickly. And over time, the single addictive pursuit of pleasure will invariably result in an inner restlessness and even spiritual emptiness.

In contrast, happiness nourishes the soul. It derives from qualities of sacrifice, service and humility, and from the practice of holy charity and deeds of mercy.

Most of all, happiness results from a prayerful and continuous relationship with God. When we move towards becoming the kind of people God calls us to be, then prospects for personal happiness are much greater. It brings to us an inner peace and contentment.

These are the reasons why spiritual formation is so important. And when parents/carers embrace this responsibility with love and commitment, they are investing in the future happiness of their children.

Improvised Mid-Week Mass Timetable

Clergy in-service has been scheduled for this coming week. The following will apply:

Camden	Saturday 25 th	Because of Confirmations, no Mass or confessions. Tuesday 28 th to Saturday 2 nd July - Masses as usual.
Narellan Vale	Friday	Mass at 8:00 AM. Adoration from 7:30 AM. No Masses on Wednesday 29 th & Thursday 30 th

Sacrament of Penance ~ Backup Programme.

After last weekend, the number of families in the programme has jumped to about 30, indicating the FHC programme will be rather large from September onwards. This year's back-up penance programme can no longer take new families.

After Masses this weekend, holy cards and 'help sheets' will be distributed. The presence of children at Mass is essential. Thanks.

Catholic Enrichment for Adults ~ Next Meeting 6 July

Only a few days ago, quite an enjoyable evening was shared among about a dozen people who are looking more seriously into their relationship with God and their pathway through life. Next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 6 July at 7:00 PM.

If not having attended so far, please advise parish office if still interested. An open invitation still applies although there will need to be a 'cut-off' after this coming meeting for this year's programme. Still, plenty of opportunities in later years.

Sunday 26th June ~ Immaculate Heart of Mary

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 24th

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Andrew	Jo

Please note:

On Saturday 25th June, there are Confirmation ceremonies at 10:00 AM, 12 Noon and 2:00 PM. They will not interfere with our weekend Masses but our Confirmation ceremonies do require the participation of so many of our musicians, choristers and vocalists. Accordingly, the Vigil will be a quiet Mass without music for this weekend only.

Sunday 26th June

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Andrew	Leslie / Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Cheryl
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig

25 th June	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
9.00am	No Mass					
5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Brian Jenkins	Wal Glynn	Trish O'Flynn	Diane Kennaugh	Kerry Todd
8.00am	John Charadia	Kathryn Hampton	Warren Johnson	Lorraine Phillips	Lisa McFadzean	Cheryl/Kathryn
10.00am	Mark Coleman	TBA	TBA	TBA		Brad M
5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Samantha Vergara	Joseph Hanson	Margaret Thornton	Brian Jenkins	Craig

Sunday ~ 3rd July ~ 14th Sunday in ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Andrew	Belinda and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo/Tracey

Sunday

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

For our Faithful Departed

Danuta Mirecki, Pam Simonds, Fr Whitty, *who died recently*. Daniel Perinich, Zeljko Nimac, Michael Thornton, Veronica Sargeant, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Michelle Rooney, Tom Rooney, Cath Burke, Mary, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll. *RIP*.

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