



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

15TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME ~ 9TH/10TH JULY 2022

Pastoral Insight for Parents and Youth

A few days ago on 6 July, the church celebrated the feast of Saint Maria Goretti. She was born in Italy in 1890 – the third of seven children – and spent her childhood in poverty helping her mother in domestic chores especially since her father had died when she was nine. She was a religious girl and much given to prayer.

In the year 1902, while defending her chastity against a man attempting to violate her, she preferred to die rather than give way, and was repeatedly stabbed with a knife. She was rushed to hospital where surgeons tried to save her. Shortly before dying she made it clear that she forgave her attacker and would pray for his repentance and that she wished to see him in heaven. She died on 6 July 1902.

Maria Goretti was canonised by Pope Pius XII in 1950 with her mother, brothers and sisters present which was a unique event in the history of the church.

By that time, her prayers for her murderer had long since been heard and answered. After serving eight years of unrepentant imprisonment, this man then had a complete change of heart. He was released after 27 years in jail and then begged for forgiveness from Maria's mother and then became a Capuchin lay brother. He gave evidence at the canonical enquiry about Blessed Maria and lived to see her canonized.

During the canonization ceremony, Pope Pius XII said in part:

To the Parents: Let fathers and mothers learn that they should bring up the children given them by God in a truly holy and steadfast manner and bring them up in the tenets of the Catholic faith so that when their virtue is endangered, they may, by the grace of God, emerge from the struggle unconquered, pure and unsullied.

To the Youth: Let those who are in the happy days of youth learn not to waste their energies on the transient empty pleasures of self-indulgence. Let them be on their guard against the temptations of sinful pleasures and the wretchedness of yielding to vice. Rather, may they strive vigorously to form their character in the way of Christian living, hard and rough though the way may be.

Farewell Father Andrew

After a period of about three months, Father Andrew Doohan from the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will be departing from The Oaks after this weekend. His final Masses as celebrant will be the Camden Vigil at 5:00 PM and the Camden Sunday Mass at 8:00 AM

Father Andrew has been on LSL and has been most helpful in assisting with Masses and baptisms especially when Father Victor was on holidays. Our best wishes are extended to Father Andrew and trust that this time of rest from full-time ministry will bring to him many blessings for the future. Thankyou Father Andrew.

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No Car Parking Thursday 14th July Camden

Our electronic sign will be installed this coming Thursday 14th July. The position of the sign will be in the garden where there are already two dated signs from many years ago. These signs will be removed. The specialists installing the new electronic sign will start work early morning and require complete access in order to bring electrical wiring across from the chapel. Thanks in anticipation.

Catholic Youth Ministry ~ Friday 2nd September

For the first time since 2019, the Diocese of Wollongong Youth Team is holding a youth festival on Friday 2 September 2022.

The festival will be a day filled with workshops, engaging activities, music, inspirational speakers and a spectacular evening plenary. The theme for the festival is 'Through the Valley'.

The age bracket is for teenagers in Years 9 to 12, and then – from 5:30 PM to youth 18+.

Registering and further information available from youth@dow.org.au

Spiritual Renewal

When it comes to a retreat, what matters most is the time set apart. Retreats offer people precious space to encounter God and to take stock of their lives. They offer the chance to step outside of a normal routine and into intentional spiritual practices such as prayer, reflection, and rest.

Even Jesus took time to retreat. The Son of God made a habit of withdrawing to deserted places: at the start of his public ministry, in times of grief, as big decisions loomed. He carved out space to renew his spirit. We would do well to follow his lead.

Christian communities offer a wide range of retreat options with various themes and formats. The duration may be a day, a weekend, a week or even longer.

St Mary's Towers at Douglas Park offers a large variety. There are some brochures on the magazine table but information is also available via the website towersretreat.org.au; contact@towersretreat.org.au or phone 02 46300233

Catholic Enrichment for Adults ~ Next Meeting 13 July

The meeting this coming Wednesday will be slightly shorter than usual. Need to start at 7:00 PM sharp in order to finish by 7:40 PM. This is the final occasion for people to register for this year's programme.

Sacrament of Penance ~ Backup Programme.

Final page of 'help notes' will be distributed this weekend. By this time, parents and children should all know the Act of Contrition perfectly. Please keep practicing if necessary. Books will need to be completed and returned to the attendants next weekend.

Books that have been satisfactorily completed will be stamped. Children will then be invited to continue in the programme towards their first confession.

Unfinished books will be returned to the candidates for completion.

The preference sheets for the ceremonies will be distributed, NOT this weekend, but the following weekend 16th/17th to the families whose children have completed the books satisfactorily.

Envelopes ready for collection

The envelopes for planned giving are now available for collection in the back of St Paul's Church, Camden. The envelope sets have been organised alphabetically by surname. Please collect your set when coming to the church. This new set is for giving from August 2022 to July 2023.

Sunday 10th July ~ 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 9th

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

Sunday 10th June

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

10 th July	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
9.00am	Mark Coleman					
5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Stephen Barrett	Toni Sillis	Sr Geraldine Kearney	Trish O'Flynn	TBA
8.00am	Mark Coleman	Maureen Grisdale	Warren Johnson	Denise Carney	Cheryl Carroll	Cheryl/ Kathryn
10.00am	James McFarlane	Helen Lanyon	Nada Simich	Michael Reardon	Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Rafael Z
5.00pm		Brian Jenkins	Judith Madsen	Margaret Thornton	Samantha Vergara	Lo Cascio family

Sunday 17th July ~ 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 9th

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda and Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo

Sunday 10th June

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

For our Faithful Departed

Heather Matthews, Heather Crosland, *who died recently*. Daniel Perinich, Zeljko Nimac, Michael Thornton, Veronica Sargeant, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Lewis family members, Ryan family members, Cath Burke, Michelle Rooney, Tom Rooney, Mary, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll. *RIP.*

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

Kind Regards

Father Michael