



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 18TH/19TH MARCH 2023

From Saint Augustine

"Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, kindles the true light of chastity."

Laetare Sunday

Question: What Is Laetare Sunday?

Most Catholics today are used to the Mass being conducted in English, and they hardly ever think about the fact that Latin remains the official language of the Catholic Church. But occasionally, Latin reasserts itself, as it does in the case of Laetare Sunday.

Answer: Laetare Sunday is the popular name for the Fourth Sunday in Lent. *Laetare* means "Rejoice" in Latin, and the entrance antiphon begins "*Laetare, Jerusalem*" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem").

Because the midpoint of Lent is the Thursday of the third week of Lent, Laetare Sunday has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration, on which the austerity of Lent is briefly lessened. And on Laetare Sunday, the violet vestments and altar cloths of Lent are set aside, and rose ones are used instead when available. Flowers, which are not encouraged during Lent, may be placed on the altar. Traditionally, the organ was never played during Lent, except on Laetare Sunday.

Laetare Sunday is also known as Rose Sunday or Refreshment Sunday, and it has a counterpart in Advent which is Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, when violet vestments are exchanged for rose ones.

The point of both days is to provide us encouragement as we progress toward the end of each respective penitential season.

Sacrament of Penance Programme 2022/2023

Early indications are that the large and overwhelming number of parents/carers have done remarkably well in preparing their children for their first confession.

Please now further assist the children in forming their consciences. This can be a bit tricky. The idea is that adults assist children in knowing their sins, but to refrain from saying them until with the priest in confession.

Children, therefore, should be able to confess about three sins without becoming vague and dreamy. Upon making their confession, they'll then be issued a penance and asked to say the Act of Contrition.

Thanks to all who have committed to their children's spiritual formation. Very good investment from parents/carers and a wonderful expression of love. Those families who have yet to pick up their completed and stamped workbooks, please collect from the attendants at each Mass this weekend.

Please collect a leaflet after Mass to confirm the ceremony to which the children have been assigned.

Confirmation ~ The Oaks and Camden

Reminder that the Confirmation programme for 2023 begins on the weekend of 1st/2nd April. The Timeline will be distributed, providing all the details on a 'week by week' basis. Parents/carers are required to be committed and motivated. Wonderful time for the children and an enriching time for the families.

St Aloysius, The Oaks

Auction

Saturday 1 April 2023 in St Aloysius Hall, The Oaks at 11:00 AM

Details were provided in last week's Weekly Message. Please feel free to ring the St Paul's parish office if more information is required.

More Humour

Q: Why did Adam and Even spend time everyday doing arithmetic?

A: They were told to be fruitful and multiply.

St Clare's Church

Church has been designed to seat 400 adults. Floor plan has been drafted and revised according to recommendations from the parishioners who – following an open invitation – volunteered to be on a church committee. The floor plan should be finalised before the end of the month.

Sunday 19th March – 4th Sunday of Lent

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 18th March

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda & Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo

Sunday 19th March

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

19 th Mar	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	John Roberts					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	John Roberts	Jim Gallagher	Wal Glynn	Robin Roberts	Chris Keun	Kerry
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Kimberley Logue	Glenn Crawford	Cheryl Carroll	Lisa McFadzean	Cheryl/ Kathryn
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Brad McAllister	Joseph Hanson	Michael Reardon	Peter Grizelj	Brad
Sun 5.00pm		Samantha Vergara		Sharon Picken	Dianne Garland	Craig

Sunday 26th March – 5th Sunday of Lent

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 25th March

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria & Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

Sunday 26th March

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

Diocesan News

Get connected with what is on around the diocese. Conscious that with many messages to choose from to put in your bulletins every week, we are continuing to include a short message near the top of the message suggestions that captures an opportunity for the faithful to stay connected with what is happening around the diocese.

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:

<https://dow.sh/stayingconnected> or

visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to parishes weekly.

For our Faithful Departed: Joan Ryan, Carmen Spiteri, Barry McMahon, Michelle Martin, Merle Arnold, Brian Jenkins, *who died recently.* Janelle Clifton, Matthew Dunn, Elizabeth Thurn, Helen Jamieson, Benito Sabellano, George Cepak, Faye Humphries, Lillian Grech, Dayne Mackie, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time.* Cath Bourke, Barry Myles, Rino & Assunta Zanatta, Pasquale Zanatta, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Mary, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Louis & Victoria Gauci, *RIP.*

We Pray for those who are unwell: Marie Dunn, Darryl Ellis, Glenn Murphy, Olivia Toole, Michael O'Sullivan, Myra Dozzi, Des Grissell, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael