



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

PALM SUNDAY ~ 1ST/2ND APRIL 2023

Author Unknown

As we move into the solemn ceremonies of Holy Week, we call to mind:

God did not promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain.
But he did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for our way.

St Aloysius, The Oaks

Auction 10:30 AM

Saturday 1 April 2023 St Aloysius Hall, The Oaks 10:30 AM

People who are interested in bidding can register in the hall from 10:00 AM

Masses this Weekend 1st/2nd April

Bit of a change. Fr Victor has covid and is isolating until midweek. Father Bernard Gordan VG will be the celebrant for the Vigil at Camden.

Due to the unavailability of Father Victor, a Communion service has been scheduled for Saturday morning 1 April. Owing to Father Michael being committed to the auction at The Oaks, confessions has needed to be cancelled with apologies. Confessions can be made as indicated in the Holy Week schedule.

Father Michael will be the celebrant for the 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM Masses at Camden. Not sure about the 9:00 AM at The Oaks. Might still be Father Michael. Who knows?

Donation of Palms

Gratitude is extended to our parishioners from Camden and The Oaks who were able to donate palms. Always appreciated. The sprinkling of palms is one of the most special parts at the beginning of the Mass of Palm Sunday.

With people raising the palms, the words in the missal are:

“Almighty ever-living God, sanctify + these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exaltation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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Confirmations ~ The Oaks and Camden

Registration and the Timeline will be distributed this week, 1st/2nd April. Candidates will need to have been baptised and celebrated their first confession.

Good Friday Appeal

The appeal for the Holy Land will take place as usual at the 3:00 PM Passion. It is at this sacred ceremony across the universal church that a collection is taken each year to support the ministry and livelihood of the Franciscans – as the custodians – in the Holy Land and preserve the sacred buildings.

In recent years, a most beautiful contemporary church was built at Magdala. Just google Church in Magdala. It's quite stunning as the window behind the sanctuary looks out onto the Sea of Galilee.

Contributions from around the world are greatly necessary and appreciated, including our own.

Parishioners who won't be able to attend the 3:00 PM Passion on Good Friday can still collect an envelope from the magazine table and deposit into the normal collection bags over the Easter weekend.

Sacrament of Penance Back-Up Programme

The programme will begin on the weekend of 22/23 April. Children will need to be able to recite the Our Father and the Hail Mary before the programme begins. This could possibly be negotiable but before the first confession, these foundation prayers of our Catholic faith must be known. The Act of Contrition can be learnt during the course of the programme.

Solemn Ceremonies in Holy Week ~ Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday

The Sacrament of Penance Wednesday 5 th :	9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, and 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper	Camden and The Oaks at 7:00 PM
Good Friday: Stations of the Cross	Oakdale 9:00 AM, Camden 10:00 AM
Good Friday: Passion	Camden 3:00 PM
Easter Vigil	Camden 5:00 PM
Easter Sunday	Oakdale 8:00 AM, The Oaks 9:30 AM
Easter Sunday	Camden 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM Camden 5:00 PM

Sacraments of Penance, Confirmation and FHC

Transitioning

As a new initiative last year, the programme for First Holy Communion required children to know the words of the Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Act of Contrition. This was a remarkably successful initiative. Overwhelmingly, the children had learnt these prayers and were quite rightly feeling a real sense of accomplishment. And parents were also – and quite appropriately – feeling really pleased and satisfied with their children.

Accordingly, for the 2023/2024 Penance Programme, children will now also be required to know the words of the **Our Father** and the **Hail Mary** as an entry requirement. Why? The reasons go deeper.

There are four parts to the Sacrament of Penance – Sorrow, Confession, Absolution and Penance.

The biggest difficulty experienced by too many children (not a majority but a substantial number, nonetheless) over the past week of First Confessions is that they still don't know these foundation prayers of our Catholic faith.

So presuming sorrow – and after the penitent (being the child) makes a confession of sins – the priest issues a penance, normally in the form of prayers, before then giving absolution.

And if the penitent is completely unable to say the words of the Our Father and Hail Mary, then the penance invariably becomes more like some kind of 'fairy floss' version, and without any real substance. Even for children, this sacrament should be a genuine experience of God's mercy that involves meaningful penance.

The reality is that the children are very different in terms of readiness. Some are excellent, making a good clear confession and then reciting the Act of Contrition with precision and confidence.

Most children were ok. But there were some who weren't quite ready. This is why the process for entry into the Penance Programme needs to include a knowledge of prayer – so as to contribute towards the preparation and readiness of the children.

Confirmation: The ability to recite these prayers will also be a condition for entry into the Confirmation Programme from 2024.

More Humour

Q: What did God do to cure Moses' headache?

A: He gave him two tablets.

Free Technology Training for Seniors

CatholicCare, will partner with St Benedict's Oran Park and CEDoW to help with the technology that you may be struggling with. Bring in your device, either your phone, laptop or tablet and the students will assist you with becoming more confident in downloading apps, sending messages or even using google maps. Beginning Tuesday 9 May, the course will run for 5 weeks. Bookings essential – contact Jane Hollier, CatholicCare on 0417 018 152 or janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au.

Sunday 2nd April – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 1st April

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

Sunday 2nd April

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

2 nd Apr	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Pat O'Flynn					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Ray Cusack	Wal Glynn	Wal Glynn	Chris Keun	Angelina Vecchio	Kerry
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Kimberley Logue	Kimberley Logue	Lorraine Phillips	Maryann Ace	Cheryl/ Kathryn
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Maureen Grisdale	Helen Lanyon	Kylie Crnek- Georgeson	Peter Grizelj	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	John Marchand	Samantha Vergara	Maria Kosiak	Jacinta Abernethy	Simon Abernethy	Eugene

For our Faithful Departed: Helen Murphy, Joan Ryan, Carmen Spiteri, Barry McMahon, Joan Walsh, Michelle Martin, Merle Arnold, Brian Jenkins, *who died recently.* George Paparo, Francesco & Antonina Costa, 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