



## Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 9 JULY 2023

‘How should we Pray!’ by St Augustine

Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.

### Father Allan Hartcher OFM

Father Paul Smith ofm is a Franciscan priest living at Maryfields, Campbelltown. Father Paul has been a brother Franciscan to Father Allan Hartcher ofm for many years. Within the past week he provided the following reflection of Father Allan:

*The most blessed time of my priesthood and Franciscan Life was when I was Administrator of what the Bishop [of Wollongong] then called “the Parochial District of St. Clare, Narellan Vale, Parish of Camden.” In those years I experienced the growth of a living community, which was enthusiastic and joyful. We had no church but we crowded into the auditorium of a former Masonic Bowling Club. Adults and children enjoyed the informality of it all, as well as some creative liturgy. The parents and children thought it a bonus to have a Friar as their Pastor, as well as other friars and Poor Clares visiting from “Maryfields”. The Church of St. Clare is yet to be built, but St. Clare’s School is filled with reminders of Franciscan tradition and ministry. The Motto of St. Clare’s School, Narellan Vale is: “A Great Flame follows a Small Spark”. (Allan Hartcher OFM)*

In recent months, Father Allan has been pleased to hear that plans for the Church of St Clare are in process!

Allan was a gentle man and true gentleman. A humble follower of Francis. A devotee of fine liturgy and traditional church music. A welcoming and kind pastor. He was a parish priest for all of his priestly life since 1959 until semi-retirement in 2014, aged then at 81 years of age. He had served in Franciscan parishes in every State of Australia, the last one being the Parish of West Tamar (Launceston TAS) for six years (2008-2013), which he offered to take on after retiring from Narellan Vale/Camden. May he rest in peace.

Kind regards  
Paul Smith OFM

The funeral for Fr Allan Hartcher will take place next Wednesday 12 July at 11.00am at St Francis of Assisi Church, Paddington.

There will be refreshments to follow at the parish before proceeding to Macquarie Park Cemetery for interment at 1.30pm.

For those unable to attend Allan Hartcher’s funeral next Wednesday at Paddington, the funeral will be broadcast on livestream. Those who wish to view the funeral can log in at just before 11am next Wednesday, 12 July, by going to: <https://www.FuneralVideo.com.au/FrAllan>.

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Meeting took place on Wednesday 5 July 2023. Consensus was reached that at the present level of giving from our parishioners – which has been projected into the next four years – the finances for the new church at St Clare's should be healthy enough to make the project financially successful, leaving only a minimal debt.

Essentially, the church has been designed according to contemporary architectural ideas, with strong references to liturgical guidelines. The church is intended to be quite devotional according to Catholic spirituality and yet contain a noble simplicity.

## CATHOLIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

Meeting this coming Wednesday evening, 12 July for an hour from 7:00 PM. All still invited. Topics still strongly related to the early church. Sessions are most interesting and quite conversive.

## Confirmation Ceremonies ~ Last Word

One of the truly lovely traditions of our parish is the willingness by parishioners to support special appeals with a noticeable generosity.

Well in keeping with this tradition, a decision was taken a few years ago to express gratitude to Bishop Brian with a "Thank Card" card and to then insert a few dollars. This was the case again a few weeks ago when Bishop Brian dedicated almost the entire weekend to our own parish with five ceremonies. And every candidate for Confirmation was made by the Bishop to feel extra special at the moment of their Confirmation.

But there was one problem. Have you ever looked for a "Thank You" card from the newsagents and tried to find one with a really appropriate inscription that's 'fit for purpose'?

The difficulty is that, generally, these inscriptions are dripping with 'gush and slop'. They're not the kind of remarks that would generally be extended from a hard-nosed parish priest to his Bishop.

Well the good news is that a card was eventually purchased with a lovely eye-catching indigenous picture on the outside and blank on the inside. A few more measured words were then provided to convey sincere thanks from both our parishes but avoiding any kind of insufferable sentimentality.

## RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

There's a small number of parishioners who like to receive Holy Communion on the tongue. If a big host has been consecrated, then after the 'Breaking of Bread' these hosts are generally larger and of a different shape than the normal smaller round host. It becomes easier to then place this host on the tongue. If wanting to receive Holy Communion in this way, it could be best to approach the priest.

### A LITTLE HUMOUR

Parish Priest: Did you like my homily on 'The Milk of Human Kindness'?"

Parishioner: Yes, but I wish it had been condensed!

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July ~ 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 8<sup>th</sup> July

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Rachael & Fabian
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tony

9 <sup>th</sup> July	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Mark Coleman					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Jim Gallagher	Toni Sillis	Sharon Picken	Wal Glynn	Elizabeth
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Albino				
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Kimberley Logue	Kathryn Hampton	Cheryl Carroll	Glenn Crawford	Cheryl/ Kathryn
Sun 10.00am	John Marchand	Meaghan Marchand	Oscar Marimbe	Peter Grizelj	Michael Reardon	Raphael
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Joseph Hanson	Judith Madsen	Dianne Garland	Samantha Vergara	Lo Cascio family

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July ~ 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 15<sup>th</sup> July

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

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July

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

## DIOCESAN NEWS

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:* Fr Alan Hartcher ofm, Yolande Herisson, Alana Vella, Cynthia Agius, Barry Deitz, Durda Vokovic, *who died recently*. Maree Deigan, Cath Burke, Drago Milosevic, Arthur Lang, Alma Reilly, Annunziata Zinghini, Eric Busby, Michael Busby, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Sabas Bolivar, Oliva Bolivar, msgr Pastor Bolivar, Maria Irwin, Carol Bannon, Michelle Rooney, Clare Maroussis, Cath Bourke, Barry Myles, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Mary, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Louis & Victoria Gauci, *RIP*.

*We Pray for those who are unwell:* Wayne Fletcher, Betty Aquilina, Kerry Hudson, Barbara Brodnik, Chris Yopp, Monica Tattam, Hector Balestri, Betty Thomas, Marie Dunn, 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**