



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 The Oaks and Camden

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pope Francis:

If we want it to be Christmas, the Birth of Jesus and the gift of peace, let us look to Bethlehem and contemplate the face of the Child who is born for us! And in that small and innocent face, let us see the faces of all those children, everywhere in the world, who long for peace.

Christmas Crib ~ 800th Year Anniversary

Start of Nativity Scenes

The Nativity scene now recreated in town squares, shopping centres and churches worldwide was originally conceived by St. Francis of Assisi.

Much of what scholars know about Francis comes from “Life of St. Francis,” written by the 13th-century theologian and philosopher St. Bonaventure. Francis was born into a merchant family in the Umbrian town of Assisi, in modern-day Italy, around 1181. But Francis rejected his family wealth early in his life and cast off his garments in the public square.

In 1209, he founded the mendicant order of the Franciscans, a religious group that dedicated themselves to works of charity. Today, Franciscans minister by serving the material and spiritual needs of the poor and socially marginalized.

According to Bonaventure, Francis in 1223 sought permission from Pope Honorius III to do something “for the kindling of devotion” to the birth of Christ. As part of his preparations, Francis “made ready a manger, and included hay, together with an ox and an ass,” in the small Italian town of Greccio.

One witness, among the crowd that gathered for this event, reported that Francis included a carved doll which cried tears of joy and “seemed to be awakened from sleep when the blessed Father Francis embraced Him in both arms.”

This miracle of the crying doll moved all who were present, Bonaventure writes. But Francis made another miracle happen, too: The hay that the child lay in healed sick animals and protected people from disease.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS, CHRISTMAS TIME

Closing 12 Noon Thursday 21st. Reopening on Wednesday 27th at 9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PROGRAMME

Programme paused until 27/28 January 2024.

Saturday/Sunday 23rd/24th December ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father Victor

Musician/Vocalists

Maria & Sarah
Jo

Sunday

The Oaks 9:00 AM
Camden 8:00 AM
Camden 10:00 AM
Camden 5:00 PM

Father Victor
Father Michael
Father Michael
Father Victor

Nicole
Choir
Trent
Craig

24 th Dec	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Pat O'Flynn					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	TBA	Anthony McElhone	John Roberts, Trish O'Flynn	Diane K, Sharon Picken	Elizabeth
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Albino				
Sun 8.00am	TBA	Deanna David	Rebecca Ward	Kathryn Hampton	Cheryl Carroll	Cheryl/ Kathryn
The Oaks 9.00am		Carol Ann Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Joseph Hanson	Maria Kosiak	Kylie Crnek- Georgeson	Maria Debrincat	Eugene

DETAILS OF CHRISTMAS MASSES 2023

	Church	Celebrant	Musicians
Christmas Eve 5:00 PM	Oakdale	Fr Victor	Jo
Christmas Eve 6:30 PM	The Oaks	Fr Victor	Nicole
Christmas Eve 5:00 PM	Camden	Fr Michael	Maria and Rachael
Christmas Eve 7:00 PM	Camden	Fr Michael	Craig, Brian, Colin, Sally
Christmas Eve 9:00 PM	Camden	Fr Victor	Eva and Sarah
Midnight ~ Carols from 11:30	Camden	Fr Victor	Choir
Christmas Morning 9:00 AM	Camden	Fr Michael	Ilona and Bill

Please be mindful that the normal Sunday morning Masses at both parishes on this Sunday the 24th still apply as these will be for the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**.

Saturday/Sunday 30th /31st December ~ Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo
Sunday			
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Tony

For our Faithful Departed: Marcia Apap, Giacomo Favot, Terrence Belleville, Des Grissell, Kerry Hudson, Virginia Mackie, *who died recently*. Rino & Assunta Zanatta, Pasquale Zanatta, Michele Furlanetto, Robert Sinclair, Laurence & Alex Rooney, Sam Fenech, Dorothy Dunn, Margaret Thurn, Thurn family, Sutton family, Dunn family, Brett Gray, Peter Cox, Dayne Mackie, Joseph Zoric *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Cath Bourke, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Maria Irwin, Barry Myles, Mary and Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Louis & Victoria Gauci, *RIP*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:
 Anne Lonsdale, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Marie Dunn, Wayne Fletcher, Betty Aquilina, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael