



*Dear Parishioners at Camden and The Oaks*

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**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**

**St Paul Miki and His Companions, *Martyrs*  
Feast Day 6 February**

Born in Japan between the years 1564 and 1566. Paul entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and preached the Gospel with success, but when a persecution of Catholics arose, he and twenty-five others were seized and subjected to terrible tortures, and finally were crucified at Nagasaki in the year 1597 on 5 February. He dying remarks were:

**“The only reason for my being killed, is that I have taught the doctrine of Christ. I thank God it is for this reason that I die. I believe that I am telling the truth before I die. I know you believe me and I want to say to you all once again – ask Christ to help you become happy. I obey Christ. After Christ’s example, I forgive my persecutors. I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain.”**

### **FATHER VICTOR**

After a term of almost three years, this Sunday with the 5:00 PM Mass will bring to conclusion Father Victor’s appointment in the parish of Camden.

However, there will be a transition period of about 10 days before Father takes up his priestly duties at Vincentia. During this time, Father has very helpfully agreed to celebrate Mass at Oakdale on 10 February and The Oaks on 11 February at the normal times.

In his own humble way, Father Victor declined an offer for a large farewell but was present for a quiet morning tea on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February after the 9:00 AM Mass. And it was at this time, that a presentation was made.

We extend to Father Victor our prayers and very best wishes for his ministry at Vincentia and beyond.

### **ST CLARE’S CHURCH**

The Development Application (DA) is expected to be lodged today, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, on the Feast of the Presentation.

26 John Street (PO Box 7) Camden NSW 2570 (02) 4655 8797 [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
59 Holdsworth Drive, Narellan Vale NSW 2567 (ring Camden) [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
5 /15 Merlin Street (PO Box 169) The Oaks NSW 2570 (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)  
Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)

## HERITAGE HALL

Our HH is open for business so long as parishioners are happy to stand or sit on the carpet/vinyl. BYO pillow. The chairs were ordered with full payment in mid-December. However, it appears that the industrial unrest on the wharves has caused the delay. Hoping for their arrival soon after 9<sup>th</sup> February.

As the 19<sup>th</sup> century Italian saint John Bosco remarked: "It's easier to be angry than to be patient". But in our own parishes we're always patient (well, most of the time)!

## MIDWEEK MASSES ~ TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> TO FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup>

Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup> February	Camden	Mass at 9:00 AM
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup> February	Narellan Vale Camden	Mass at 8:00 AM HC Service at 9:00 AM
Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup> February	Narellan Vale Camden Magdalene	Mass at 8:00 AM HC Service at 9:00 AM Mass 9:30 AM
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> February	Camden	Mass at 9:00 AM

## PENANCE PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN

This week, workbooks and assistance sheets will be distributed to all children enrolled in the Sacrament of Penance programme. A form that will be available in the church should be taken to the meeting room and exchanged for your child's/children's personalised workbook.

Should families not have collected their copies of the prayer cards last weekend, these will also be available from the meeting room, please request an envelope with the cards enclosed when picking up your workbook.

Assistance sheets are designed to help parents/carers with the answering of questions and the completion of puzzles. They are not intended to be handed to children who are then told, these are the answers. Each week an assistance sheet will be produced, not every question/puzzle has an answer on the assistance sheet but every question/puzzle for the entire programme does require an answer. The office is happy to assist should families need any additional assistance, please either call during office hours on 4655 8797 or email to [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au).

Attendance at Mass is a very important part of the program and children should attend each week.

## LENTERN PROGRAMME ~ WEEKLY GROUP

A Lenten Programme is going to be held each week of Lent commencing Thursday 15 February following the conclusion of the normal weekday Mass, at approximately 9.30am. All parishioners are invited to be a part of this worthwhile gathering in the lead up to Easter. A cup of tea/coffee and fraternity is offered afterwards to those attending. In past years the sessions have been a very valuable part of our Lenten celebrations.

## BLESSED PALMS

With Ash Wednesday fast approaching Parishioners are asked to return any blessed palms from last year's Palm Sunday celebrations or blessed palms from other years' they may still have. These palms are burnt to provide the Ashes for distribution on Ash Wednesday 14 February. A basket will be available on the magazine table in the Chapel for Palms to be returned. Thanks are extended to all who help with the return of the blessed palms.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY

Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7:00 PM in the meeting room at Camden. If possible, members of our PPC are asked to take possession of the recent publications from the 'Office of Bishop', entitled 'Come See, Go Make'. Three booklets are available for collection from our magazine tables. Could be an idea to try to read before the meeting if possible. Thanks

## Ash Wednesday ~ 14 February

Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup> February	Narellan Vale	Mass at 8:00 AM
		Camden	Mass at 9:15 AM with children
		Camden	Mass at 7:00 PM

Father Michael will also be celebrating Mass in St Clare's Hall at 9:15 for the children. Accordingly, Father David O'Brien who assisted at The Oaks during September and October last year will be the celebrant at Camden in the morning.

## TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY ~ HEALING MASS

This Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February being the first Tuesday of the month our normal morning Mass is a Healing Mass. All parishioners who are unwell and wishing to have extra blessings are extended a most heartfelt invitation to attend. A cup of tea is offered in the Meeting Room adjoining the church afterwards. If you are unwell please consider joining in, the fraternity is uplifting.

## THE OAKS ~ MORNING TEA

This Sunday, The Oaks will be restarting the monthly morning tea for the new year. If you enjoy a little conversation and community after Mass, please bring along a plate and enjoy the company and celebration.

## ST JOSEPH THE WORKER OAKDALE ~ ROSARY

This Saturday evening, the first of the month, the Rosary will be said in the church at Oakdale after normal Saturday evening Mass. Everyone is very welcome to stay and to be a part of these beautiful prayers and to enjoy the company of other parishioners.

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B

#### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 3<sup>rd</sup> February

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

#### Sunday

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

4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	John Roberts					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	John Roberts	Kerry Todd	Diane Kennaugh	Wal Glynn, Russell O'Brien	Chris Keun, Angelina V	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Brian				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Cheryl Carroll	Glenn Crawford	Kathryn Hampton	Maryann Ace	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Nicole Comerford				
Sun 10.00am	Michael Toweel	Brad McAllister	Leonie Gray	Joseph Hanson	Maria Debrincat	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	John Marchand	Maria Kosiak	Meaghan Marchand	Jacinta Abernethy	Simon Abernethy	Eugene

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February ~ 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B

### Vigil ~ Saturday Evening 10<sup>th</sup> February

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria and Rachael
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

### Sunday

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

## 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

<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:* Sime Frkic, Beryl Hankin, Michael Ainsworth, John Davenport, William Burnell, Christine Blaney-Murphy, Pietro Leto, Yvonne Funnell, *who died recently.* Rita Grubisic, Alenka Zuvela, Valtin Thurn, Saveria & Toni Grech, Eric Busby, Liam Cantarella, Sammy Fenech, Dorothy Dunn, Margaret Thurn, Thurn family, Sutton family, Dunn family, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time.* Cath Bourke, Thurn Family, Sutton Family, Dunn Family, John Sammut, Givanni Pittana, Rose Mari, Josephine Sciberras, Keith, Maureen Millar, Bruce Millar, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Maria Irwin, Barry Myles, Mary and Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Louis & Victoria Gauci, *Requiescat in Pace.*

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

Kind Regards

Father Michael