



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B ~ 23 June 2024

Few beautiful quotes relating to **Confirmation**:

1. Remember, then, that (in being confirmed) you received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear.
Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you; Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come. **St. Ambrose**
2. I wish not merely to be called Christian, but also to be Christian. **St. Ignatius of Antioch**
3. It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world. **St. Aloysius Gonzaga**

Catholic Enrichment Programme ~ this coming Wednesday

Our next meeting has been scheduled for this coming Wednesday 26th June. All who are interested in knowing a little more about the faith are welcome to attend, especially those who may be interested in preparing for reception into the Catholic Church. No obligation.

Please keep in mind that the evening is about one hour. But for this Wednesday, the starting time is **6:45 PM** to allow participants the opportunity of arriving home in time for the State of Origin kick off.

Men's Evening 3rd July

A few evenings ago, another very enjoyable night of prayer and fellowship were shared by over two dozen men from the parish. These kinds of gatherings are very helpful, especially because they're embedded in Catholic spirituality. And from among the gathering, 21 then enjoyed a meal at one of the local establishments.

Father James has provided high quality presentations for our first two evenings so far, and Father Michael will be present for our next evening on Wednesday 3rd July. The gentlemen of our parish are most welcome to bring a mate, and/or maybe an adult son.

Parish Pastoral Council ~ Thursday 27 June ~ 7:00 pm

A reminder is given to the members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) of the next meeting to be held this coming Thursday 27 June at 7:00 pm in the parish meeting room. The PPC meeting should finish by 8:30 pm, with a little fraternity being offered afterwards. Please note the one-off change of evening to Thursday.

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

2024 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass

Couples celebrating their 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or over 60 years of marriage are invited to attend the celebration of Significant Marriage Anniversaries with Bishop Brian Mascord on:

Sunday 25 August 2024 at 2:00 PM at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong.

Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room.

Pre-registering remains essential <https://dow.sh/MA2024>

Holy Land Commissariat

The Commissary of the Holy Land in Australia, Father Bernie Thomas OFM, sent a letter dated 12 June 2024 which contains the following:

Dear Father Michael,

..... I would like to sincerely thank you and your parishioners for your contribution of \$4,020 to the Good Friday Holy Land Collection for 2024.

The Holy Places rely heavily on the Good Friday donations and pilgrims to continue to maintain the historical sites that mean so much to our Christian/Catholic faith. The latest news from this part of the world is very disturbing, and it doesn't look as though there is going to be an easy or peaceful resolution for some time. Once again, the people of this land we call Holy, are struggling to survive. The devastation is there for all of us to see every night on the news.

Please continue to remember the Holy Land in your thoughts and prayers, and please know that whatever signs of solidarity you can make with the Holy Land Church and its peoples will be well used.

Great outcome from our parishioners who were present at **The Passion on Good Friday at 3:00 PM, as well as the funds from the votive candles sold at the Easter Saturday Vigil Mass**. The candles are donated every year by Michelle Roffe Funerals. The generosity of both our parishes is obviously appreciated.

Confirmation Families

Thanks to the overwhelming number of families who were present at the rehearsals. Adults and children were very receptive to all the procedures. Very encouraging.

Our parents, carers and sponsors are asked to be especially mindful of the following:

- Arriving at least 10 minutes before Mass/Ceremony to ensure composure as well as a few moments for a little extra rehearsal time.
- Advising guests politely to refrain from eating, drinking and chewing gum in church, except water if necessary. Infants are an obvious exception.
- Advising guests to refrain from photography during the ceremony, keeping in mind that numerous photo opportunities will be available afterwards.
- The importance of a quiet prayerfulness at various times throughout the Confirmation Rite, and especially when the children are being confirmed.

This weekend should be a truly sacred time for our candidates. And please insist the children devote 30 minutes to reviewing their workbooks so as to be really well prepared to respond to questions by Bishop Brian.

Reminder

Our normal weekend Mass timetable will be almost totally unaffected. Just a few variations:

1. Confirmations **WILL** be included in the Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM. Total Mass time is likely to be about 75 minutes. All our 'regulars' are still very welcome to attend.

The number of candidates in the 5:00 PM Vigil has been kept lower than the other ceremonies. Accordingly, about one-third of the church – three blocks of pews – on the presbytery side of the church have NOT been assigned to the Confirmation families.

2. Our Sunday Masses at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM will **NOT** include Confirmations.
3. Bishop Brian will be the celebrant for the normal **parish Mass at 10:00 AM**. Lots of parishioners are encouraged to have a presence at this Mass as a way of showing our support and appreciation for his visitation to the parish. This will not be a lengthy Mass because as much time as necessary needs to be available afterwards to set up for the 11:30 AM Confirmation Mass. Our choir will be singing.

40th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination ~ Fr Sean Cullen

Following ordination on 4/8/84, Father Sean's second appointment as a priest was to Camden from 1986 to 1988. He will be celebrating his 40th anniversary in about six weeks. Parishioners are invited to celebrate this significant milestone event with Fr Sean with Mass at Corpus Christi Parish, Bowral on Sunday, 4 August at 10am. Following the Mass, all are invited to attend an anniversary lunch at Mittagong RSL Club at 12noon.

Bookings are essential for the lunch. Ticket price is adult \$55.00 and children 12 years and under \$20.00. Bookings will close on 19 July 2024. Use this link to book online: <https://www.trybooking.com/CROPD>.

Holy Communion to those in Aged Care

Very productive gathering last Tuesday morning. There may be as many as eight parishioners who are volunteering from The Oaks and Camden to be part of this seriously important ministry. Great blessing for our parishes

The next meeting has been scheduled for 9 July at 9:30 AM. Good idea to attend 9:00 AM Mass if possible. The pastoral aspect of Holy Communion to those in Aged Care must necessarily be built upon a solid spiritual foundation, especially love of Holy Mass.

Congratulations to Sarah Vella

Regulars at our 5:00 pm Vigil Mass, will be familiar with Sarah, a past Magdalene student, who has been singing and often accompanying herself on the piano for a number of years. Last week Sarah graduated with her Masters Degree in Music Therapy. Sarah has been studying for the past five years to achieve her Masters, along with a Bachelor of Music. She is now working in Aged Care as well as Disability Support.

Saint Paul's is blessed with our musicians, and as demonstrated by Sarah's choice of career, music adds so much to our lives. Sarah's family are long time parishioners of Saint Pauls, her grandparents of Saint Mary's at Leppington. Congratulations are extended to Sarah, and her family who have supported her so well.

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Diocesan News



Ignite Conference 2024 ~ Rise Up

Ignite Conference 2024: Rise Up! Brisbane 19-22 September 2024

A conference for everyone, from leaders to first-time believers. This is the Church gathered and alive on mission. This is God's people united with one heart. Ignite Conference is a gathering of Catholics for four days of real-world formation, renewal of faith, great people and powerful worship.

Join with young people from our Diocese and over 2000 high schoolers, young adults, leaders, teachers, priests and religious taking part in a life changing encounter with God and His Church.

For more information, go to ignite.conference.com.au and contact Arnie Hurdoyal at 0431 611 128 or Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au to be part of our Diocesan Group attending this amazing event.

Wollongong Diocesan Youth Council

Bishop Brian Mascord invites suitably qualified and eager persons to apply for the Diocesan Youth Council, an advisory and implementation body, tasked with initiating missional outcomes for youth and young adult (Y&YA) ministry.

The council will meet quarterly. Applicants should be aged between 16-40, have a range of experiences, and be passionate about outreach, formation and building community amongst Y&YA.

Does this sound like you? Applications are now open for those interested in serving on the council. To apply, head to: <https://tinyurl.com/5668bfmf> For more information, please contact the our youth ministry leader; Arnie Hurdoyal Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au / MOB: 0431 611 128

More 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.

Saturday/Sunday 22nd/23rd June ~ 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria & Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father James	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father James	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Steve & Damian
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father James	TBA

23 rd Jun	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Pat O'Flynn					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Parents of	Confirmation candidates	Trish O'Flynn	John Roberts	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Brian				
Sun 8.00am	Mark Coleman	Kimberley Logue	Glenn Crawford	Cheryl Carroll, Lucy Aquilina	Lorraine Phillips, Clare Power	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Robyn Bielaczek				
Sun 10.00am	Michael Toweel	Meaghan Marchand	Maria Caridi	Chris Keun	Fabian Menolotto	Elizabeth
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Dianne Garland	Margaret Thornton	Melissa Scavo	Samantha Vergara	Eugene

Saturday/Sunday 29th/30th June ~ 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year B

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Belinda & Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father James	Jo

Sunday

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

For our Faithful Departed: baby Grace Taseski, Christine Deguara, Hugh Crawford, Santina Mazzaferro, John Schneider, John Murray, *who died recently*. Ron Valentine, Jane Micallef, Antonio Bono, Winifred Golden, Maria Grech, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Brian & Julie Jenkins, Faye Humphries, Clem O'Brien, Diane Vella, Cath Bourke, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Maria Irwin, Barry Myles, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Louis & Victoria Gauci, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell: Brian Ovington, Wal Glynn, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Margaret Roach, Anne Hyeronimus, Dianne Koens, Myra Dozzi, Anne Lonsdale, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Wayne Fletcher, Betty Aquilina, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael