



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

Ash Wednesday

Day of abstinence from meat. But in a spirit of fasting and penance, other gourmet foods should also be avoided. And certainly don't want to be gormandizing on chocolate and ice cream.

Parents need to use discretion in communicating to their children and teenagers the importance of fasting and restraint. Good idea to be signed with ashes if possible.

Masses available to our parishioners:	St Clare's School Hall	8:00 AM
	St Paul's Church	9:15 AM
	St Paul's Church	7:00 PM

Year of Jubilee

In a nutshell, this is a Holy Year with a theme of HOPE.

As a way to share in the blessings of this Jubilee Year, we try to regard ourselves as pilgrims – and specifically – 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

Pilgrimages are a huge part of our Catholic tradition, especially to the ancient sites in Europe and the Holy Land. So to make the pilgrimage experience more accessible, six pilgrimage sites have been designated within our own Diocese of Wollongong.

They are Wollongong, Unanderra, Rosemeadow, Milton, Kangaroo Valley and Penrose Park.

Each pilgrimage site will host opportunities at advertised times during this Holy year. The diocesan website will soon provide details of the times and best opportunities for these sites to be visited by individuals, families and groups.

Pilgrimage Passports with more information about the participating sites, insights from Bishop Brian, and the opportunity to have your passport stamped, as happens when you travel, are available from around the church. Please collect one, and consider completing all, or part of the offered pilgrimage opportunities.

More next week.

Tuesday 4 March ~ Healing Mass

This Tuesday being the first of the month is the Parish Healing Mass. Father Michael and Father James will be concelebrating. If you, a family member or a friend are unwell, waiting for surgery or a diagnosis, please come along for the wonderful extra prayers that are offered at this Mass.

Following the healing Mass, Colleen from CatholicCare will be attending the morning tea that is held in the meeting room. Colleen visited our parish last year to advise our parishioners of the assistance CatholicCare can provide, as well as to explain how to get into the Aged Care system. If you attended last year's session, or would like to hear about the services available from CatholicCare, please come along to the Mass and morning tea. No need to RSVP.

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

Penance Programme 2024/25

Families with children in the Sacrament of Penance programme need to complete Chapter 4 of the Workshop Books this week. The chapter is from pages 24 to 30, and every puzzle and activity must be completed. Attendance at Mass also needs to be recorded. As books need to be returned next weekend for marking, parents should check every page to ensure their son or daughter has completed each and every section. Books not completed to a satisfactory standard are returned for further working. Page 29 the story of Zacchaeus quite often is handed in incomplete, please check that the top section as well as the story on the lower section are both completed. The Parish office is always available for further assistance if needed.

When families attend the Prayer Assessment evenings scheduled for 11 and 12 March, or the Celebration of Reconciliation at the end of March it will be necessary for everyone to observe the quietness and reverence of the church. The practice of children seeing friends and exchanging loud greetings and conversation before, after and even during Mass should be discouraged, it disturbs other parishioners praying and their devotion to the Mass. Parents are asked to please assist by explaining and enforcing this with their children.

Catholic Business Connections

Our parishioners – especially professionals – are invited to join the Catholic Business Connections. Meetings are generally about three or four times a year with a formal lunch and guest speaker.

The next occasion is on Wednesday 26 March at the Ridges Hotel Campbelltown from 11:45 until 2:00 PM. The guest speaker is the highly acclaimed social psychologist, Mr Hugh Mackay AO.

Those interested are asked to contact the diocesan chancery on 4222 2400 to speak to Ms Debbie Gates.

This is a wonderful opportunity to take out membership to Catholic Business Connections and attend – what promises to be – an exceptionally interesting occasion.

Lenten Group for Young Adults

Commencing 6 March, Father James will be leading a Lenten Group for young adult parishioners aged 18 to 35 years. The Lenten programme will be held each Thursday evening commencing at 6.30pm and finish about 7.30pm. The meetings will be held in the Parish Meeting Room. The programme will use the Diocesan Lenten book “Metanoia” and explore the three most important pillars of Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Please use the QR code to sign up for the programme.



Palms ~ Returned for burning

The Parish would appreciate anyone who has blessed palms from Palm Sunday 2024 to return them to the tub in the Chapel to ensure there are enough Ashes for all the ceremonies to be held next Wednesday 5 March, Ash Wednesday. Unfortunately, the Parish supply this year is limited and every returned palm is greatly valued. Please do not allow children to take the palms from the tub. Our thanks are offered in advance.

Rosary ~ Saturday evening at Oakdale

Being the first Saturday of the month after the 5.00pm Mass on Saturday at Saint Joseph the Worker church at Oakdale the Rosary will be said. Parishioners are encouraged to join our regulars in these most beautiful prayers.

Monthly Morning Tea at The Oaks

This Sunday after the 9.00am Mass at Saint Aloysius the first Autumn monthly morning tea is being held. Please bring a plate to share and join your fellow parishioners to enjoy the wonderful autumnal weather.

Bishop Brian's Lenten Message

There are copies of Bishop Brian's Lenten message on the magazine tables around the church. Lent calls us all to observe Prayer, fasting and Alms Giving and Bishop Brian's insights are well worth taking home and reading.

Diocesan News

For 2025, there's a very strong emphasis on Year of Jubilee.

Good idea to visit the diocesan website jubilee.dow.org.au

Saturday/Sunday 1/2 March ~ 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father James	Belinda & Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo
Sunday			
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father James	Steve
Camden	10:00 AM	Father James	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny & Tasha

3 rd March	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Mark Coleman					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Kerry Todd	Diane Kennaugh	Fabian Menolotto	John Roberts	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Brian				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Cheryl Carroll	Glenn Crawford	Maryann Ace	Lucy Aquilina	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Carol Ann Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	Peter Grizelj	Leonie Gray	Helen Lanyon	Kylie Crnek- Georgeson	Maria Debrincat	Rafael
Sun 5.00pm	John Marchand	Judy Madsen	Meaghan Marchand	Jacinta Abernethy	Simon Abernethy	Eugene

Saturday/Sunday 8/9 March ~ First Sunday of Lent

Saturday

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria B & Maric C
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father James	Jo

Sunday

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

For our Faithful Departed:

Suzie Freestone, France Zamudio, Maureen Foley, James Seedsman, *who died recently*. Faye Humphries, Juanito Cruz, Juliet Benedict, Pat Rheinberger, John Spora, Antonia Scarcella, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Burns family, Vaughan family, Lilian Grech, Valtin Thurn, Margaret Thurn, Dorothy Dunn, John Dunn, Sutton, Thurn and Dunn families, Cath Bourke, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Anthony Paul, Paul Barry, Jeremy Barry, Fr John Whitty, Paul & Phyl Star, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Barry Myles, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Kylieann Back, Kerri Haughton, Luigi Zanatta, Fr Rick McCann, Diana Lee, Noel Lowry, Betty Aquilina, Eric Arblaster, Mary Murphy, David Schwarb, Fr David Catterall, Marie Saba, Stephen Goonan, Jan & Terry Chanter, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Ilona Maros, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell and Wal Glynn, Pauline Cepak, Joseph Camilleri, Abbey Kohler, Brian Ovington, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Margaret Roach, Anne Hyeronimus, Dianne Koens, Myra Dozzi, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Betty Aquilina, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael