



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

Third Sunday of Lent ~ Year C ~ 22/23 March 2025

This Sunday is the Third Sunday of Lent when we reflect on the call to conversion and repentance, with the Gospel readings focusing on Jesus' teachings and actions, particularly the parable of the fig tree.

Tuesday 25 March

The Annunciation of the Lord

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord commemorates the moment when God assumes human nature within the womb of the Virgin Mary.

CatholicCare ~ Foster Care

This weekend at our Vigil, 8.00am and 10.00am Masses, representatives of CatholicCare have been invited to our Parish to speak to us all about the great need that exists for carers who may be in the position to share their homes and lives with children who for many reasons are in the care of CatholicCare. Carers can assist for either a short term or even a lifetime with children of all ages. The CatholicCare representatives will be available to answer questions and provide further information to anyone who may be able to assist or may wish to consider if their family is able to help now or in the future.

Carrington Volunteers

Our Carrington volunteers are reminded of the meeting scheduled for this Tuesday 25 March at 9.30 am, to be held in the Parish Meeting Room after the 9.00 am Mass. Father Michael and Rachael King will be in attendance. Since implementing our roster at the beginning of the year, our volunteers have attended Carrington regularly with great dedication. Our thanks are extended to all, and hope you are available to attend.

Weekly Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are being commemorated after the 9.00 am Mass each of the Fridays during Lent. All parishioners are encouraged to attend, even once during the Lenten period.

The fourteen-step devotion is a very special part of our Easter preparation.

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

Leaflets will be distributed at all Masses this weekend that contain the names of the children and the ceremonies to which they've been assigned.

From last week's notice - which included the types of sins that could be committed by children - parents should now be well equipped to assist their children in their examination of conscience.

This is extremely important. When children come to the confession, they should NOT be fuzzy minded and unsure about what to confess. When children don't know what to confess, they whisper.

It's a source of serious annoyance if - at the time of the confession - it's left to the priest to ask the child questions to extract a confession of sins. Though priests are always willing to be helpful, it's not their job to be a substitute for a process that belongs primarily to the parents.

If a confession is not adequate, absolution and penance will not be given. Your child will not have made a confession and you will be advised accordingly. Please, do not send your child to the priest unless he/she is properly prepared.

So the job is for the parents to guide their children into being able to confess at least three sins without needing to be prompted by the priest. But the tricky part is that the confession from the children should not be made to the parents. Instead, talk to the children and ask them if they can confess three sins, but not actually say them until with the priest.

In terms of practicalities - and because of the shortage of priests - Father James and Father Michael will be the only confessors.

Accordingly - and to avoid long waiting times - with each ceremony to start 'on the hour', those whose birthdays are between:

The 1st and 10th of the month should arrive 'on the hour'.

The 11th and the 20th of the month, at 20 minutes past the hour.

The 21st and onwards at 40 minutes past the hour.

There are 8 blocks of pews in the church. Moving anti-clockwise, the first block (near the baptism font) and the eighth block (behind the organ) are not permitted for seating. It's important to be at a reasonable distance when children are making a confession. Besides respecting confidentiality, if people are too close, children will talk so softly as to be inaudible.

There should be a quietness in the church at all times. Please move around the church without disturbing others.

The votive candle stand - normally near the tabernacle - will be repositioned in the chapel before the altar. As families leave, it is suggested that they make an offering of thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This is not intended as a money-making exercise, however, teaching the children about expressing gratitude is important. An offering of a dollar would be appropriate.

In terms of our relationship to God:

Faking sickness to avoid Sunday Mass.

Using Our Lord's name in vain.

Spiritual laziness resulting in the avoidance of prayer.

In terms of human relationships and family responsibilities:

Fighting with others	Harmful words and action
Disregard to home duties	Selfishness
Temper tantrums	Negligence to family pets
Foul language	Carelessness with the truth
Anti-social behaviour	Sulking

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 22/23 March ~ Third Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday	Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
The Oaks 9:00 AM	Father James	Nicole
Camden 8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden 10:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent & Damian
Camden 5:00 PM	Father James	Craig

23rd March	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Maria Kosiak	John Roberts	Russell O'Brien	Olivia Kosiak	Eugene
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	TBA				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Rebecca Ward	Cheryl Carroll	Lorraine Phillips	Clare Power	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Jeanette Reid				
Sun 10.00am	Michael Toweel	Joseph Hanson	Leonie Gray	Peter Grizelj	Michael Reardon	Che
Sun 5.00pm	Mark Coleman	Samantha Vergara	Grace Quinnell	Melissa Scavo	Margaret Thornton	Craig

Saturday/Sunday 29/30 March ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father James
Father Michael

Musician/Vocalists

Belinda & Tasha
Jo

Sunday

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

Father Michael
Father James
Father James
Father Michael

Nicole
Cheryl
Choir
Tony

For our Faithful Departed:

Tony Martin, Kevin Bliim, Pauline Cassar, Jeanette Devlin, Suzie Freestone, France Zamudio, Maureen Foley, James Seedsman, *who died recently*. Zorka Perak, 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:

Dean Masciocchi, Abigail Chan, 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, 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, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael