



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 Lent ~ Year C ~ 29/30 March 2025

Laetare Sunday

This Sunday is the Fourth of Lent when we journey with God through the redeeming blood of Christ. The Gospel tells the parable of the Prodigal son and provides a tangible example of the good news of reconciliation that God extends to us all. We are called to share this gift of reconciliation through the way in which we live our lives. This Sunday is also known as **Laetare Sunday**, when the colour of the Mass is Rose, it is a time, even during Lent, when we can look forward to the coming of Easter with joy and hope.

Tuesday 1 April ~ Healing Mass

This Tuesday being the first of the month will be our Healing Mass, when all parishioners, their family and friends are encouraged to come to this very special Mass of Anointing. If you are unwell, facing surgery or awaiting a diagnosis please be encouraged to attend and receive the extra blessings available. A cup of tea and plate to share is available after the Mass in our Parish Meeting Room.

Parish Men's Group 2 April ~ at 6.30pm

This Wednesday 2 April, at the usual time of 6.30pm the Parish Men's Group will be holding their next monthly gathering in the Parish Meeting room. The topic for this month will be "Why Lent Matters" After the format of prayer, scripture and reflection, everyone is invited to adjourn to the Crown Hotel, in Argyle Street. The Crown is a new venue to the group and advertise as having very good food at a very good price. All men from the Parish are invited to come along to be a part of the engaging company.

New Adult Altar Server

Last Saturday evening 22 March one of our very long-standing altar servers, Olivia Kosiak was blessed and installed as Adult Server by Father Michael. The short ceremony was very moving, Olivia was confident in her responses and humble in her acceptance. Olivia's family were all present in support, the Parish thanks Olivia who has been so very reliable for many years as we look forward to many more.



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

After participating in a programme that began on the First Weekend of Advent in 2024, just under 180 children celebrated their first confession over the past week. The programme contained the following essential components:

- ✓ Attendance at Mass
- ✓ Completion of Workbooks
- ✓ Learning of Prayers
- ✓ Examination of Consciences.

Among the parts of the programme, the attendance at Mass in the presence of our worshipping community is an irreplaceable foundation.

It is within our gathered assembly that children come into the presence of priests and devoted parishioners, as well as having an enriching and life-giving experience of Word and Sacrament. And the sacred music – as a form of praise – assists invaluablely in raising our hearts and minds towards our loving God.

All considered, the Penance Programme administered over 2024/25 can be regarded as remarkably successful. The overwhelming number of parents – and with the fewest of exceptions – have contributed with a very high level of commitment, humility and trust.

And although it's not permissible to talk about the children's confessions, it is quite allowable to make the generalisation that these children were among the best prepared compared with others from over the past 20 years. Great outcome. Thanks to parents and other family members and friends who contributed. Little mementos will be distributed at Masses this weekend.

Confirmation Programme 2025

Early notice is given that our Confirmation Programme for 2025 will commence on the weekend of Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 of April. Families will be invited to submit their child's name and collect a timeline at all Masses. Children who are in year 6 or higher and who have made their Sacraments of Penance and First Holy Communion are able to be enrolled. As in past years a major part of the programme will be attendance at Mass. If your family has weekend commitments or has an inability to attend Mass over the 10 weeks that make up the full programme it would be better for you to wait until next year. Further information will be made available over the next few weeks through our Weekly Message.

Easter Volunteers

With Easter fast approaching the Parish Office has placed a red folder on the magazine table in the Chapel. We are asking for volunteers for all the Easter ceremonies. Acolytes, Lectors and Special Ministers will all be needed. If you are currently on the rosters and will be available to assist over the Easter period, could we please request that you fill in the appropriate section of the form to let us know when you can help. Many thanks in advance.

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 29/30 March ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday

Celebrant

Musician/Vocalists

Camden	5:00 PM	Father James	Belinda & Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo

Sunday

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

30th March	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	John Roberts	Pat O'Flynn	Toni Sillis	Russell O'Brien, Ray Cusack	Fabian Menolotto, Angelina Vecchio	Elizabeth
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Brian				
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Anthony McElhone	Kimberley Logue	Lucy Aquilina	Simon Huntly	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Leslie Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	Mark Coleman	Michael Toweel	Helen Lanyon	Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Peter Grizelj	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Joseph Hanson	Dianne Garland	Samantha Vergara	Sharon Picken	Lo Cascio family

Saturday/Sunday 5/6 April ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday

Celebrant

Musician/Vocalists

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	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 & Damian
Camden	10:00 AM	Father James	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny & Tasha

For our Faithful Departed:

Joseph Vella, Tony Martin, Kevin Bliim, Pauline Cassar, Jeanette Devlin, *who died recently*. Zorka Perak, Faye Humphries, Juanito Cruz, *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, 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