



Dear Parishioners at Camden and The Oaks

5th Sunday of Easter ~ 18th May 2025

**Saturday 24 May ~ Our Lady, Help of Christians
Patroness of Australia**

**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**

In the 19th century, Pope Pius VII named May 24, the date of his return to Rome after being imprisoned by Napoleon and threatened with death, as the feast of Mary, Help of Christians in gratitude, to Our Lady, for his safe return. In a pledge to God, Pope Pius VII vowed to establish a special feast in honour of Mary, should he be restored to the papal seat. He asked all Christians to pray the rosary to Our Lady for this intention.

The celebration of the feast day of Our Lady, Help of Christians in Australia traces its roots back to 1821. In the early days of the Australian colony, Catholics, who faced challenges such as the absence of priests and limited ability to celebrate Mass, turned to Mary for support and guidance. The practice of praying the Rosary and devotion to Mary helped maintain faith during those difficult times. Australia became the first nation to officially choose Mary under the title "Help of Christians" as its principal Patroness in 1844.

Confirmation Programme 2025

Workshop Books are being distributed this weekend. Families should collect a small form from the attendants in the church. Fill it in, with our child's name clearly written, pens will be available in the church, then take it to the doors of the Parish Meeting room where the form will be exchanged for your child's personalised workshop book.

The first week's assistance sheet will also be given to families. These assistance sheets are designed to help parents/carers with some of the more difficult answers. The sheets are not intended to be given to the children who are told "here are the answers." The time spent with your children during these programmes are like gold and will grow in value with the passing of years.

If further assistance is needed the Parish office is pleased to help if you call during normal hours on 4655 8797.

RCIA Programme for 2025

This week Invitations, Enrolment forms and the Timeline for our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme for 2025 have been emailed to all those who expressed an interest in becoming a Catholic and registered with the Parish Office. If you are wanting to be a part of this programme but did not receive an invitation, it is still possible to attend the Introductory evening on the 11 June, by contacting the Parish Office on 4655 8797 who will be happy to record your interest and email an invitation.

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 Box169) The Oaks NSW 2570 (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au
Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au

Parish Event ~ Saturday 31 May

There is still limited space on our tables for Parishioners wishing to attend our next Parish event on Saturday 31 May. If you are still considering whether to attend, contact should be made with the Parish Office this week. We will be advising our caterer of 90 attendees as this is the number the Heritage Hall can comfortably accommodate, with the desire to fill the last few places. Cost for the evening is \$20.00 for a two-course meal and refreshments.

St Paul's School Fete ~ 24 May 2025 ~ 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

Get ready for a day full of fun, food, and festivities! Join us for our much-anticipated annual Fete, celebrating 50 years of entertainment for the whole family.

This special event will feature a variety of attractions and activities for all ages, including:

-  Amusement rides and petting farm
-  A selection of gourmet food and refreshments
-  Live performances and musical entertainment
-  Arts and crafts,
-  Raffles and market stalls

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to a memorable day of celebration and connection.

Catholic Youth Ministry of Wollongong ~ Sanctus Summit

There are cards received from the Catholic Youth Ministry located on the magazine table in the chapel giving the dates of their Sanctus Summit gatherings through to December. A holy hour of Eucharist Adoration on the third Wednesday of every second month is being held at Rosemeadow parish with the evening commencing at 6.30pm before sharing a meal at a local pub. Young people of the diocese aged 18+ are encouraged to come and join this vibrant group.

CatholicCare ~ Cross+Gen

Due to the popularity of the Cross+Gen technology program, CatholicCare, will again partner with St Benedict's Oran Park and CEDoW to assist with the technology issues that you may be struggling with. Bring your device, your phone, laptop or tablet and the students will assist you with becoming more confident in downloading apps, sending messages or even using google maps.

The dates are as follows, and afternoon tea will be provided:

- Tuesday 27 May 1pm-2.30pm
- Tuesday 3 June 1pm-2.30pm
- Tuesday 10 June 1pm-2.30pm

Please join us in this unique opportunity to connect with seniors and students for some information sharing in a fun, relaxed setting at St Benedict's Catholic College Oran Park.

To book, contact Jane Hollier Parish and Community Officer CatholicCare on 0417 018 152 or email janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au.

Diocesan News

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

Good idea to visit the diocesan website

www.jubilee.dow.org.au

Saturday/Sunday 17th/18th May ~ The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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	Craig

18 th May	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Pat O'Flynn					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Heather Cox	John Roberts	Russell O'Brien, Ray Cusack	Angelina Vecchio	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	TBA				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Rebecca Ward	Anthony McElhone	Maryann Ace	Cheryl Carroll	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Leslie Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	Peter Grizelj	Michael Toweel	Oscar Marimbe	Joseph Hanson	Maria Debrincat	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	Mark Coleman	Ann Madsen	Judith Madsen	Therese Easter	Jody Musso	Craig

Saturday/Sunday 24th/25th May ~ The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father James

Musician/Vocalists

Maria B & Sarah
Jo

Sunday

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

Father James
Father Michael
Father Michael
Father James

Nicole
Choir
Trent & Damian
Craig

For our Faithful Departed:

Ilona Maros, Barbara Brodnik, Warren Dodds, Eric Melham, John Mainwaring, Alfred Pirrone, Michael Barahona, Joan Clarke, Judith Ashdown, Helen Spiteri, *who died recently*. Joseph 'Joe' Carlon, Giuseppe Zinghini, Mary 'Maisie' Falconer, Teresa Amoroso, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Cath Bourke, Sutton, Thurn and Dunn families, Burns family, Vaughan family, Lilian Grech, Valtin Thurn, Margaret Thurn, Dorothy Dunn, John Dunn, 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:

June McCullough, Dean Masciocchi, Abigail Chan, Kylieann Back, Kerri Haughton, Luigi Zanatta, Fr Rick McCann, Diana Lee, Noel Lowry, Betty Aquilina, Mary Murphy, David Schwarb, Fr David Catterall, Marie Saba, Stephen Goonan, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell and Wal Glynn, 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