



**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**

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A ~ 2/3 MAY 2026

Dear Parishioners at Camden and The Oaks

BREAKING NEWS ~ ST CLARE'S NEW CHURCH

Advice has been received from the Project Manager that the temporary fencing for construction will begin to be assembled from 20 May 2026. From that time onwards, there will be ongoing activity with the arrival and departure of heavy vehicles.

The period of construction is expected to be a little less than 12 months, weather permitting. The Project Manager will be communicating all necessary information to the principal, Ms Marg Folds, so that appropriate measures can be adopted.

Parents with children at St Clare's are advised that for much of this time it will NOT be 'business as usual'. The drivers of cars should absolutely AVOID hurrying when in proximity to the site.

ST CLARE'S CHURCH ~ SOD-TURNING CEREMONY

Details have been confirmed for Thursday 28th May at 1:30 PM. The Most Reverend Bishop Brian Mascord will be presiding at the ceremony. All parishioners are encouraged to come along. Dignitaries as well as other guests from outside the parish have been invited to attend.

Following the ceremony, all are invited to an afternoon tea. If attending the afternoon tea, please advise the parish office for catering purposes to the Parish Office on 4655 8797 or email camden@dow.org.au. 'Need to have enough scones. They're always a good belly-filler.'

In the event of parking – and if in good health and able to walk easily – please consider parking near the sporting fields at Liquidamber Reserve. Many thanks.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ~ 2026

This weekend families who have enrolled their children into the Sacrament of Confirmation Programme need to pick up their personalised Workshop Book and the first week's Assistance sheet. A small form will be distributed by assistants inside the church after each Mass, these forms should be completed with each candidate's name then taken over to the Parish Meeting room doors where the form can be exchanged for the Workshop book and Assistance sheet.

Every question and puzzle on pages three to thirteen need to be completed, the assistance sheets are intended for parents/carers or siblings to assist the candidates, they should not be handed to the children who are told "here are the answers". Holy cards will also be available on request so that the prayers, The Our Father, The Hail Mary and the Act of Contrition will be very well known for the Prayer Assessment evenings.

Welcome to the final week of our Parish Renewal Program – the Parish Commitment Weekend.

Last week we considered our role as “co-owners” of the parish – and our subsequent commitment to engagement in parish life. How our involvement in parish groups and ministries is central to building a community – and central to actively living our faith through service to others. This week we turn our attention to parish finances and our need for a significant increase in Thanksgiving Income to fund not just our ‘day to day’ operations, but our ongoing commitment to the development of St Clare’s Church. Stephen Littleton from Parish First, who has been co-ordinating the Program for the parish, will speak with us at each Mass, and assist us as we complete our new Thanksgiving pledges at Mass.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PLEDGED FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

What is the current state of our pledged Thanksgiving income?

Thanksgiving pledges from parishioners are the major source of parish income and need a significant increase to fund our parish priorities and future commitments for St Clare’s Church. It can be done – but we need the support of EVERY parish family. Can we count on you?

What does my Thanksgiving pledge pay for?

Supporting our parish mission, pastoral care, and outreach programs.

The operating costs of the parish – professional parish staff, insurance, utilities etc.

Our significant financial commitment to the development of St Clare’s Church.

Ensuring we can maintain an annual surplus and provide a “buffer” for future contingencies.

How much should I pledge?

Only you can answer this question. But remember that this is YOUR parish. This is YOUR parish family. Every parishioner has a responsibility to play their part.

An important reflection is “How do I use my discretionary income?” What is left after paying the essentials of life? How we do is a strong indicator of our priorities in life. We simply ask that your support is a meaningful one in your own individual circumstances.

We unashamedly ask those with the greatest capacity to contribute the most – with special thanks for those on restricted incomes whose continued support is very much appreciated.

How do I pledge?

We are asking every parish family to ‘come on board’ with a regular pledge to Thanksgiving.

Our preferred means of support is by a Direct Debit from your nominated Bank account or another option is by monthly Debit Card or Credit Card deduction. Of course, traditional cash envelopes are also available. Complete the Commitment Card available at all Masses this weekend – Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 May. If you prefer, use the Commitment Form from the Program brochure. Return your new pledge at Mass this weekend – or to the Parish Office by Wednesday 13 May.

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

Q: Why do you think it is important to support our parish financially through our Thanksgiving Program?

“Our parish family cannot operate without our strong, regular financial support – to fund our parish mission - our pastoral and outreach initiatives, our professional parish staff, and the maintenance of St Paul’s Church and parish facilities.”

“The parish needs our strong support at this crucial stage of our history – as we begin our long-term commitment to the development of St Clare’s Church.”

“Our commitment to a regular Thanksgiving pledge is not an expense or an impost. It is OUR INVESTMENT in our great parish. It is an offering of thanks – and a clear expression that we are committed to the parish – that it means something to us.”

PARISH MEN'S GROUP WRAP UP

Last Wednesday evening about 20 gentlemen from Parish gathered in the Parish Meeting room for their monthly Meeting, the topic for this month was the Prodigal son and his brother. After prayer and the scripture reading this proved to be a very popular topic for discussion. At the conclusion of the meeting the Parish supplied all those who wanted to stay for further fraternity delicious Pizza and refreshments.

Advice of the next meeting will be given in the coming weeks.

PLEASE PRESERVE THE REVERENCE OF THE CHURCH

All who enter our Church are asked to please refrain bringing in fizzy drinks, coffee, lollies and treats, especially chewing gum. Our church is cleaned to a very high standard, and sweets and spills left by those who attend early Masses leave those who attend at later times unable to enjoy the same cleanliness. Our electronic sign has this request on it at all times.

ACCESS TO THE CHURCH TOILETS DURING MASS

Access to the church toilets will continue to be through the rear single door of the church only. Gentlemen need to proceed straight ahead to the rear of the buildings and then turn right up the short ramp. Lady's facilities are still in the toilet block at the rear left-hand corner of the church. Please follow the signs.

DIOCESAN NEWS

CatholicCare

Cross+Gen is a free technology programme for older parishioners where students support seniors with everyday technology in a friendly relaxed setting held at St Benedict's College Oran Park.

Bring along your mobile phone, tablet or laptop and join other people who also struggle with technology.

The dates and times are:

Tuesday 12 May, Tuesday 16 May and Tuesday 9 June from 12.45-2.30pm

Please contact Jane Hollier from CatholicCare on 0417 018 152 or janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 9TH/10TH MAY ~ SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father Victor

Musician/Vocalists

Belinda & Maria C
Jo

Sunday

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

Father Victor
Father Hung
Father Michael
Father Michael

Nicole
Choir
Eva & Youth Choir
Tony

10 th May	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	John Roberts					
Sat Vigil 5.00 pm	John Roberts	Danielle Caruana	Heather Cox	Fabian Menolotto, Trish O'Flynn	Ann & Richard Stomber	Elizabeth
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billet	Albino				
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Warren Johnson	Rebecca Ward	Lucy Aquilina	Sandra Proietti	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Leslie Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Michael Toweel	Oscar Marimbe	Lily Crnek, Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Julie Puckrin, Peter Grizelj	Che
Sun 5.00pm	Mark Coleman	Margaret Thornton	Stephen Barrett	Samantha Vergara	Dianne Garland	Lo Cascio family

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 16TH/17TH MAY ~ THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Saturday

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

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Hung	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	William & Ilona
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Hung	Craig

For our Faithful Departed:

Grace Sewell, Josephine Micallef, Raymond Cashman, Barry Devine, Winifred Tegg, Margaret Britton, *who died recently*. Joseph Calleja, Michael Vella, Paul Barry, Lilian Grech, Raymond Noel King, Jessica King, Matthew Dunn, Elizabeth Thurn, Faye Humphries, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Theresa Borg, Bersa Grech, Carmen Teuma, Carmela Teuma, Delores Spiteri, Cath Bourke, Therese Carroll, Nathan Giles, Thurn family, Dunn family, Sutton family Msgr Pastor Bolivar Virginia, Sammy Fenech, Barry Myles, Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, Pat O'Flynn, Fr Allan Hartcher, Fr David

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Ladislaus Parragi, Mason Bayliss, Patricia Stubbs, Jan & Terry Chanter, Helen Parragi, Oliver Franklin, June McCullough, Dean Masciocchi, Abigail Chan, Kylieann Back, Kerri Haughton, Fr Rick McCann, Diana Lee, Noel Lowry, Betty Aquilina, Stephen Goonan, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell Glynn, Abbey Kohler, Brian Ovington, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Bob & Margaret Roach, Dianne Koen, Myra Dozzi, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP