



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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Dear Parishioners at Camden and The Oaks

~The Ascension of the Lord~

The Ascension of the Lord celebrates Jesus returning to the Father forty days after His Resurrection. It marks the completion of his earthly mission and the beginning of the Church's mission. Christ promises the Holy Spirit will come, and He sends his disciples to share the Gospel with hope and confidence.

OUR 2026 PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

THANK YOU for your positive response to our Parish Commitment Weekend – the final weekend of our Parish Renewal Program. A special thank you to all the parishioners who have already returned their completed Thanksgiving pledge commitments and Ministry responses – either at Mass last week or by return to the Parish Office. Your support is very much appreciated!

If you have not yet done so, **additional pledge cards will be available at all Masses this weekend**. Please place your completed financial commitments and Ministry flyers in the special Privacy Envelope and return by placing them into either the first or second collection bag.

Stephen Littleton, our Program Coordinator, will be following up by SMS, email, and phone to confirm intentions from parishioners who have not yet responded – so to minimise that follow-up please ensure you complete and return your commitments this weekend.

Your new pledges will **take effect from Sunday 7 June**. Confirmation letters, and where appropriate, new sets of envelopes, will be available at all Masses on the weekend of Sunday 31 May.

We thank you once again for your generous response.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ~ 2026

This weekend families will need to have their attendance at Mass recorded by the attendants and pick up the second week's Assistance sheet. Every puzzle and question must be answered parents/carers could check weekly to ensure nothing is being missed. On page 16 the requirement is a poster or sheet which should outline the choice of Saint's name in Confirmation and the reason this Saint is being chosen. The making of this poster/sheet is not optional and is an essential part of the programme.

If you were unable to collect your workshop book last weekend these books will be available on request and will have a copy of the first week's assistance sheet within. Candidates whose books remain uncollected after this weekend will be assumed to have withdrawn from the programme.

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 that are scheduled for 26 and 27 May.

ST CLARE'S CHURCH ~ SOD-TURNING CEREMONY

An invitation is offered to all parishioners who would like to attend the ceremonial turning of the first sod of the new church at Saint Clare's. The ceremony is planned for Thursday 28 May at 1.30pm, with Bishop Brian turning the sod on the site at Narellan Vale. Dignitaries are being invited and following the ceremony, which we expect will be about 30 minutes in duration, afternoon tea will be offered. If you would like to attend, please feel encouraged to do so. To assist with catering purposes please notify the Parish Office on 4655 8797.

Two other matters for consideration:

1. Most people in attendance will be able to stand for the duration of the ceremony. But if seating is required, please bring your own camping chair.
2. Parking in the grounds should be avoided as far as possible. There is plenty of spaces available adjoining Liquidamber Reserve, which is a short walk to the site, estimated at about 400 metres. If such a walk is unmanageable, then please advise the parish office. One of our parishioners has a shuttle bus and is happy to provide complimentary transportation that would depart from Liquidamber car park at 1:15pm.

PARISH MASS COUNT

Every year we are required to supply to the Diocese the number of Parishioners who are attending our Masses. The 2026 count has been brought forward; it is being done prior to the Australian Census which is scheduled for later in the year. The count commenced last weekend, and our thanks are extended to all those parishioners who assisted with the counting. We will be counting again for the next three weekends to supply the Diocese with the required information which assists with the forward planning of Parishes.

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA ~ SATURDAY 23 MAY

Parishioners are reminded that next Saturday 23 May from 10.00am until 12.00 noon the Parishioners of Saint Aloysius, The Oaks will be holding a morning tea to raise funds for The Cancer Council of Australia. Tickets will be \$10.00 for the morning tea which will have a delicious array of cakes and pastries and a cup of tea or coffee on offer, a raffle will be held and all funds raised will go to this most worthy cause.



2026 ST PAUL'S WINTER WONDERLAND SCHOOL FETE



A reminder is also offered to all parishioners of the Saint Paul's Annual School Fete which will be held on Saturday 30 May from 9.00am until 4.00pm. This year the theme will be "Winter Wonderland". Come along and join the P and F and parent volunteers for a fun-filled day with games, food, live entertainment, crafts and community spirit. Bring your family and explore the colourful stalls, enjoy the carnival rides and support our school. There's something for everyone.



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE

The Winter 2026 edition of the Australian Catholics magazine is now available and is on the various tables around the church. As always there are very interesting articles within the magazine. There are featured articles as well as regular contributors who focus on faith, social justice, and contemporary issues within the Australian Catholic community. Well worth picking up a copy to take home.

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 26 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

Office of Renewal and Evangelisation

A Men's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for Friday 22 May from 6.30am to 8.00am in the Xavier Conference Centre, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. The guest speaker Ben Galea will be discussing the Historic Eucharist Congress 2028. Be inspired and strengthened as you connect with others seeking to live as authentic disciples on mission

Cost is \$20. Book here: dow.sh/MPB26 by Tuesday 19 May.

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

Saturday

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
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

17 th May	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas					
Sat Vigil 5.00 pm	Mark Coleman	Jim Gallagher	Sandra Skarsky	Diane Kennaugh, Barbara Spiteri	Mary Bartolo, Angelina Vecchio	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billet	Traci				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Deanna David	Anthony McElhone	Simon Huntly	Clare Power	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Robyn Bielaczek				
Sun 10.00am	John Marchand	Leonie Gray	Joseph Hanson	Julie Puckrin, Maria Debrincat	Lisa Alvaro, Kristen King	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	Olivia Kosiak	Judith Madsen	Ann Madsen	Annemarie Lauricella	Grace Quinnell	Craig

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 23RD/24TH MAY ~ PENTECOST SUNDAY

Saturday

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Hung	Maria B & Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

Sunday

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

For our Faithful Departed:

Barry Sheil, Grace Sewell, Josephine Micallef, Raymond Cashman, Barry Devine, Winifred Tegg, *who died recently*. Joseph Calleja, Michael Vella, Paul Barry, Faye Humphries, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Lilian Grech, 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 Virgenia, Sammy Fenech, Barry Myles, Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, Pat O'Flynn, Fr Allan Hartcher, Fr David Catterall, Fr John Whitty, *Requiescat in Pace*.

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