

Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 19/20 SEPTEMBER

Weekend Masses ~ Reception of Holy Communion

The corona virus continues to have a large impact upon so many areas of life even when at church. Thanks to all our parishioners for your patience, presence and perseverance. Not always so easy!

As a result of changing circumstances, could I suggest that it's timely to revise the most reverent way of receiving Holy Communion, especially since Holy Communion on the tongue is not permitted.

- ✓ So from this weekend, all communicants will approach the altar to receive Holy Communion. Neither the priest nor the Special Minister will move through the church and among the pews.
- ✓ When about to receive HC, please do not require the priest/minister to lean forward or step forward. A momentary distance of about a metre seems to be about right.
- ✓ Receiving Holy Communion in a pyx is not approved and unable to continue.
- ✓ For the reception of Holy Communion, hands should be rather flat and pointing in a reasonably forward direction.
- ✓ One hand – generally the left – should be “sitting” on top of the other.
- ✓ It's more elegant if the thumb is parallel to the fingers and not at right angles.
- ✓ If wearing a mask, please lower or remove the mask before receiving the host on the hand.
- ✓ Upon receiving the host, please take one step – and only one step – away from the priest/minister without turning away. And then consume the host.
- ✓ The priest/minister must be able to see each communicant actually consume the host.

Spiritual Insight (from contemporary Franciscan author, Father Richard Rohr)

Father Richard Rohr writes that he has a sign in his office that reads: “*Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful*”. He goes on to cite a text from the great convert to Catholicism, Cardinal John Henry Newman – only recently canonised in the past 12 months – who wrote: “*to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often*”.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal – To support the retirement and health of clergy and local parish ministries

Given that we are still limited to the number of people who can attend Mass, this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal has moved to an ONLINE format. Find out more at dow.org.au/giving Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Your donation to this appeal, will enable me to provide a dignified retirement for our diocesan clergy and ensure that our parish communities stay connected during this time of pandemic. While I acknowledge the pressure that some households are facing at this time, if you are in a financial position to give, I would be very grateful if you would consider giving generously to this appeal. +Brian Mascord www.dow.org.au/giving

Confirmation Programme

Families in the Confirmation programme are asked to be mindful of the following variations to the Confirmation Timetable:

September 19/20 Confirmation Books collected.
Parents to nominate preferred ceremonies from the options below.

September 26/27 Confirmation Books returned.
Parents advised of their choices.

Ceremonies

Thursday 29 October 7:00 PM
Friday 30 October at 7:00 PM
Saturday 31 October 11:00 AM
Saturday 31 October 1:00 PM
Sunday 1 November 12noon
Sunday 1 November 2:00 PM

Rehearsals

Tuesday 20 October 6:00 PM
Tuesday 20 October 7:00 PM
Saturday 24 October 10:00 AM
Saturday 24 October 11:00 AM
Saturday 24 October 12noon
Saturday 24 October 1.00 PM

At this time:

There are tentative plans to live stream the Saturday Ceremony at 1:00 PM (cost \$50/candidate).
There are tentative plans to record the Thursday ceremony at 7:00 PM to be replayed a few days later.
Confirmations on Sunday 1 November will be within Mass for the Feast of All Saints.

Celebrants for Weekend Masses

		19/20 September	26/27 September
Saturday			
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Joseph	Father Michael
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Anthony	Father Joseph
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Anthony	Father Joseph
Sunday			
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Joseph	Father Michael
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Joseph	Father Michael
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Anthony	Father Joseph
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael	Father Anthony
Camden	12:00 noon	Father Michael	Father Anthony
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Father Anthony

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP
www.stpaulscamden.org.au