



Dear Parishioners at *The Oaks and Camden*

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 5/6 DECEMBER

ST. PAUL'S
CATHOLIC PARISH
CAMDEN

ST. ALOYSIUS
CATHOLIC PARISH
THE OAKS

ST CLARE'S
CATHOLIC PARISH
NARELLAN

ST JOSEPH
THE WORKER
CATHOLIC PARISH
OAKDALE

Weekend Masses

(Covid-19 capacity of 135 for each Mass)

Saturday 4 December

9:00 AM Parish Mass
4:30 PM Parish Vigil Mass
6:00 PM Parish Vigil Mass

Sunday 5 December

7:30 AM Parish Mass
9:00 AM Parish Mass
10:30 AM Parish Mass
12:00 PM Parish Mass
5:00 PM Parish Mass

Masses to be celebrated as usual at **Oakdale** and **The Oaks**

Spiritual Insight

From St Anselm

Anselm was born in 1033. He entered the Benedictine Order and taught theology. He quickly progressed in the spiritual life. He went to England where he was chosen to be Archbishop of Canterbury. He fought strenuously for the freedom of the church and was twice exiled. He was renowned for his writings He died in 1109. He writes:

Come now, insignificant man, fly for a moment from your affairs, escape for a little-while from the tumult (commotion) of your thoughts. Put aside now your weighty cares and leave your wearisome toils. Abandon yourself for a little to God and rest for a little in him. Enter into the inner chamber of your soul...speak now to God:

(Lord) teach me to seek you...

- ❖ *let me seek you in desiring you; let me desire you in seeking you;*
- ❖ *let me find you in loving you; let me love you in finding you.*



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

Sacrament of Penance Programme

The Programme for Penance began last weekend. If not at one of the parish Masses last weekend, it is still possible to enrol this weekend to collect a Timeline as well as an Enrolment Form.

BUT parents and children must be registered for Mass through the parish website.

Changes in COVID-19 Restrictions and Gatherings

The NSW Department of Health has indicated that from this coming Monday, 7 December, the ratio of people allowed in places of worship will change from 1 per 4 square metres to 1 per 2 square metres. Consequently from the weekend of 12/13 December the numbers allowed into our churches change as following:

At Camden from 135 to 270
At The Oaks from 16 to 32
At Oakdale from 36 to 72.

With this increase in allowable numbers come necessary changes to the manner in which we collect and store the attendance details. For example, information must now be digitally stored within twelve (12) hours of an event, and made available to authorities within four (4) hours of a request. The Parish recognises the reasonable nature of these regulations as part of our contribution to keeping the community safe, and we are grateful to the Government for relaxing restrictions in time for Christmas.

So as to comply with these new requirements, some changes will need to be made to the way in which gather this necessary information. Consequently:

1. **ALL** parishioners will be required to have been booked into their Mass of choice by the Eventbrite system, and
2. **NO WALK INS**, regardless of numbers, will be allowed under any circumstances.

I understand that this (sadly) impacts on the hospitality we have been able to provide with regards to admitting people to the Church when we have not filled the quota, or when families have cancelled. However, I am sure you understand, we can no longer do this....without risking a considerable fine!

So please do not arrive without registering. If assistance is required, please phone the parish office by 3:30 PM Tuesday – Thursday or by midday Friday.

The Oaks and Oakdale

For the same reason, registration in advance has become necessary for The Oaks and Oakdale. Please visit the St Paul's Camden parish website. If assistance is necessary, ring the Camden parish office (4655 8797) before midday on Friday.

Further developments will be reported next week, especially about seating and singing.

** The increase in numbers, and our change to the “walk-in” policy, marks quite a movement from our current practice, and so we have a couple of weeks’ grace period for the Parish community to adjust. The new changes will come into effect, without exception, from Christmas this year.



Christmas Masses ~ all indoor

Christmas Eve Thursday 24

Camden 4:30 PM
 Camden 6:00 PM
 Camden 7:30 PM
 Camden 9:00 PM

Camden Midnight

Oakdale 5:00 PM
 The Oaks 6:30 PM

Christmas Day Friday 25

Camden 7:30 AM
 Camden 9:00 AM

Registration for all Mass at each of the three churches is absolutely necessary, opening on Tuesday morning 15th December.

Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

5/6 December

Saturday

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Anthony
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Anthony
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Joseph

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Anthony
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael
Camden	12:00 Noon	Father Michael
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael

Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

12/13 December

Saturday

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Joseph
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Joseph
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Michael
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Anthony
Camden	12:00 Noon	<i>discontinued</i>
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Anthony



Special Note

If a parishioner registers for a Mass and doesn't turn up, another person wanting to attend a fully booked Mass is denied.



Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP



Please Pray for the sick in our Parish

We pray for those who are unwell, especially Barry Myles, Cath Bourke, Jadelle Clifton, Teresa Old, Helen Jamieson, Nola Mackie, and all our unwell family and friends.