



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: **WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 12/13 DECEMBER**

**Weekend Masses**

(Covid-19 capacity of 200 for each Mass at Camden)

**Saturday 11 December**

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

**Sunday 12 December**

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

Masses to be celebrated as usual at **Oakdale** (Saturday 5:00 PM) and **The Oaks** (Sunday 9:00 AM)

**Spiritual Insight**

From Pope Francis:

*There was a time when our grandparents were very careful not to throw away any leftover food. Consumerism has induced us to be accustomed to excess and to the daily waste of food... Let us remember well, however, that whenever food is thrown out it is as if it were stolen from the table of the poor, from the hungry! I ask everyone to reflect on the problem of the loss and waste of food, to identify ways and approaches which, by seriously dealing with this problem, convey solidarity and sharing with the underprivileged.*



**Registering for Mass**

1. Visit [www.stpaulscamden.org.au](http://www.stpaulscamden.org.au)
2. Click on 'Online Mass Bookings'
3. Select Mass wishing to attend
4. Select 'register' (green button)
5. Select amount of tickets wishing to use
6. Select 'register' (orange button)
7. Enter 'Contact Information' as name and email address
8. Enter ticket details: First Name, Last Name and Phone number of each person attending
9. Select 'register' (orange button)
10. Check emails for Confirmation from Eventbrite

26 John Street (PO Box 7) Camden NSW 2570 (02) 4655 8797 [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
59 Holdsworth Drive, Narellan Vale NSW 2567 (ring Camden) [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
5 /15 Merlin Street (PO Box 169) The Oaks NSW 2570 (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)  
Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)

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 Oaks and Oakdale

Registration via the Camden website is now necessary. The reason is because names have to be digitalized within 12 hours of any Mass and, upon request from the NSW Department of Health, need to be available within four hours. Compliance is a very serious matter. Please be mindful that registration can take place from Tuesdays at 9:00 AM for the following weekend. If unable to register on the website, please feel welcome ring 4655 8797 during parish office hours.

Camden parish office hours are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and  
Friday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.



### New Developments and Interpretations

Following the latest relaxation of pandemic restrictions from the NSW Department of Health the Covid-19 capacity in our own churches would appear to be

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

However, after taking into account the social distancing requirement of 1.5 metres, the following will apply:

- ✓ **At Camden from 135 to 200**
- ✓ **At The Oaks from 16 to 32**
- ✓ **At Oakdale from 36 to 72.**

At Camden, there are 8 blocks of seats with Block 1 positioned at the baptism font looking side-on towards the sanctuary. Block 8 is behind the organ.

From this weekend, all pews will be available for seating in Blocks 3 to 6, inclusive. However, there will be a limit of 4 people per pew unless family members are together.

**To emphasise:** in the middle front two blocks of 4 and 5, all pews will be used, but with a limit of 4. That should account for about 80 people.

The remaining six blocks should be able to accommodate 20 people each while observing the social distancing of 1.5 square metres.

- ✓ In blocks 1,2,7 and 8, every second pew will be available.
- ✓ In blocks 3,4,5 and 6, every pew will be available but please try to avoid sitting directly behind the person in front.

The same applies to The Oaks and Oakdale. All pews will be available for seating but best to try not to be seated directly behind the person in front.

In terms of indoor singing, it's now possible to have up to 50 people who are permitted to sing. So singing is permitted by the congregation at The Oaks but only at Oakdale if there's less than 50 people.

At Camden, however, in a "Covid-19 – Full" church of 200 it's logistically impossible to work out those are who permitted to sing and those who are not.

Accordingly, only the designated vocalists and choristers are permitted to sing. But if you've got a good voice, know how to stay in tune and love to sing, then it could be a very, very good time to join the choir.



## **St Vincent De Paul Society**

Our parishioners who were able to be present at Mass last weekend may recall the appeal for Vinnies. The situation was a little desperate. This is what happened.

As part of the mission to make Christmas more pleasant for all, a good number of hampers had been prepared at a cost of around \$85/hamper.

These hampers are to be delivered in the days leading up to Christmas to families in our own neighbourhood. Somewhat unfortunately, however, the funds that spent were far in excess of the funds that were available, resulting in a loss of \$3,000.

In a low-key appeal last weekend, our parishioners chipped in and donated a little over \$3,000 with more than \$1,000 coming through the electronic donation device. Many thanks. And may we always be a generous parish. Great way to embrace the spirituality of Christmas.



## **Sacrament of Penance Programme**

The Programme for Penance began two weeks ago. Enrolment forms were distributed last week and need to be returned this week with \$20. This weekend offers one week's grace for families who haven't been present at Mass so far but still desire their children to celebrate First Confession early next year and First Holy Communion towards the end of next year.

- ✓ Only those who have registered and attended Mass will be able to participate in the process.
- ✓ Registration for Mass takes place on the Camden parish website.
- ✓ Please do not arrive at the parish church without having registered.



# 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 Anthony
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 Joseph
Camden	12:00 Noon	<i>discontinued</i>
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Anthony



## 19/20 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 Michael

### Sunday

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



# Christmas Masses ~ all indoor ~ Covid-19 capacity = 200 at Camden

Registration for all Masses at each of the three churches is absolutely essential, opening on  
**Tuesday morning 15<sup>th</sup> December**

## Christmas Eve Thursday 24

		<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>Music</i>
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo
The Oaks	6:30 PM	Father Michael	TBA
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Anthony	Maria and Sarah
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Joseph	Craig
Camden	7:30 PM	Father Anthony	Trent and Maureen
Camden	9:00 PM	Father Joseph	Belinda and Tasha

## Midnight Mass

Camden	Midnight	Father Anthony	Choir from 11:30 PM
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## Christmas Day Friday 25

Camden	7:30 AM	Father Joseph	TBA
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Jen and Josh



## **Parish Recording of Christmas Vigil Mass**

Remember earlier this year when parish Masses were recorded because of the Covid-19 lockdown! Well, with present restrictions still limiting our church to about one-third of normal capacity, a recording for Christmas Mass will be available to those unable to attend. It will be available on You Tube and the parish website from 6:00 PM Christmas Eve.



Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP