



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

Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: **WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 19/20 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)



Registering for Mass

1. Visit 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. Enter 'Contact Information' as name and email address
7. Enter ticket details: First Name, Last Name and Phone number of each person attending
8. Select 'register' (orange button)
9. Check emails for Confirmation from Eventbrite

Registrations close at noon on Friday.



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.

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

Spiritual Insight

From Thomas Merton (January 31, 1915 – December 10, 1968)

Father Merton was an American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist, and scholar of comparative religion. On May 26, 1949, he was ordained to the priesthood and given the name "Father Louis".

The extract below is from Merton 60 years ago to the Little Sisters of the Poor about the elderly in the United States. Much the same could be said more generally of western society and more particularly of Australia. These same remarks could be shared even more emphatically in 2020.

And yet it is sadly true that in this country, which worships youth to the point of obsession, old age is not understood. There is a kind of foolish legend about old people, a legend in which the old are rendered acceptable because they retain some vestiges of youth, but for that reason and no other. (The foolish platitudes which praise the old for being "like kids" rather than for the dignity of their age.).

It is certainly very fine for old people to be full of the vigour and verve of youth, but they should not have to cling to that alone as a way of being acceptable to the rest of the world. On the contrary, their age itself has a wonderful quality which makes them worthy of special respect and love..... This is what the Little Sisters of the Poor live for. They see in old people the light and the joy and the mystery of Christ, which gives them far greater and more wonderful energy in spite of the feebleness of their limbs.

You (The Little Sisters of the Poor) have been able to see in the sick poor not just "specimens" of aging humanity but temples of God, persons of unutterable dignity who have travelled to the threshold of eternity and are waiting to be called into the joy of their Lord.

These are in many respects the most interesting and exciting people on earth: for they are sitting right in front of a door that may open to them at any moment. There is nothing else for them to be interested in. This is a truly marvellous condition. Would that the rest of us could live like that.

But those who have the cult of youth and success and pleasure are prone to turn their eyes away from this beautiful mystery. They do not want to think of another world.



Christmas Masses

The Oaks and Oakdale are booked out. There may be a few possibilities left at Camden. If having secured a booking but finding out later that you're unable to attend, please cancel out as soon as possible to enable another parishioner to take your place.

For **ALL** Masses it is most important to arrive before starting time to enable the monitors to also attend Mass. Please try to be disciplined in this regard.

Please do not arrive without a booking. The parish office will be closed and names will not be able to be digitalized within the mandatory 12 hours.



Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

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	5:00 PM	Father Michael

26/27 December

Saturday

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

Sunday

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



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

Christmas Eve Thursday 24

		<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>Music</i>
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo
The Oaks	6:30 PM	Father Michael	Nicole
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.



Please pray for the sick of our Parish

Barry Myles, Shannon Lowrie, France Zamudio, *and all our family and friends who are unwell at this time.*



Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP