



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 9/10 JANUARY 2021**

Spiritual Insight

Last week's spiritual insight made reference to a little of the content from John Shea's book "To Dare The Our Father. Here's a second a final reference.

The author recalls something of his own professional experience from years earlier when he was facilitating groups for the purpose of faith sharing. Presumably, the people present in these groups have some commitment to Mass. So the questions is raised:

What is your favourite part of the Mass?

Not unexpectedly, a few people say quickly and with a touch of humour "the end".

But more discerningly, many other parts are nominated – "Hearing the Word of God', 'Receiving Holy Communion', 'Homily' 'Sign of Peace', 'Our Father'. And in addition to the various prayers, actions and liturgical moments were also cited.

There's no doubt that in churches where sacred music has a life-giving ministry, many parishioners may well select their favourite part of the Mass in terms that relate to singing or perhaps – in the case of a Cathedral – an organ recital at Thanksgiving.

Well in further facilitating the group, Shea then asks a follow-up question which is a little tougher. He asks for the reason(s) why the respondents chose the answers they did.

After hearing the answers, Shae then makes the following observation "People were not as articulate with this question, but a common characteristic was that at their favourite part of the liturgy their participation sharpened. There was a heightened engagement, a sense that they were included in something larger and important" (p. xiv). Great insight!

Our parishioners are encouraged to reflect upon these two questions, as well as pray the Our Father.

Parents may also be interested in directing these questions to their older children and teenagers.



Sacrament of Penance Programme

Parents are reminded that the programme resumes on 30/31 January 2021. In addition to the existing six Masses at Camden, a seventh Mass will be added at 12 noon to accommodate the extra numbers if the church's Covid-19 capacity remains at 100. Updates will be provided each week.

Registrations are essential. On-line booking through the parish website essential, or phone the parish office during business hours Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

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Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) theoaks@dow.org.au

Weekend Masses (Covid-19 capacity of 100 for each Mass at Camden)	
Saturday 23 January	Sunday 24 January
9:00 AM Parish Mass 4:30 PM Parish Vigil Mass 6:00 PM Parish Vigil Mass	7:30 AM Parish Mass 9:00 AM Parish Mass 10:30 AM Parish Mass 12 Noon from 30/31 Jan. 5:00 PM Parish Mass
Oakdale – Saturday 5:00 PM	The Oaks – Sunday 9:00 AM

Mass Timetable and Covid-19

There appears to be some likelihood that the directives from the NSW Department of Health could be eased in about a week's time so long as the number of community transmissions remains extremely low. An easing of restrictions may then be accompanied by variations to our own weekly Mass timetable. Please be sure to read the Weekly Message each week. Thanks.

Registrations

Gratitude is extended to all our parishioners who have become accustomed to registering for Mass on-line. This is a real departure from our normal custom of simply arriving at a time of personal convenience. It's not always easy committing in advance. Just have two requests:

If having registered, please try to arrive. It's always disappointing when people want to have a presence at Mass at a particular time, only to find that the Mass is "booked out". And then maybe a dozen people who have booked have not shown up!

Please only book for one Mass each week. As a large parish we try to make every opportunity available to our parishioners who truly want to have this sacred experience every weekend. That may not happen if people have booked for more than one Mass.

Australia Day ~ this Tuesday 26th January

Holy Mass will be celebrated this coming Tuesday at 9:00 AM with Father Joseph as celebrant. Also pleased to advise that there'll be some sacred music. How blessed!

Important to pray for our nation, and especially for the Christian values to be preserved in a way that recognises the worth and dignity of all our citizens. May God bless our nation!

Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

23/24 January

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

30/31 January

Saturday

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

Sunday

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

Please Pray for the sick in our Parish

We pray for those who are unwell, especially Barry Myles, Cath Bourke, Alma McCourt, France Zamoudio and all our unwell family and friends

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP