



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 13/14 FEBRUARY 2021**

Spiritual Insight

Ken Keyes lived from 1921 to 1995. He was an American personal growth author and lecturer, who wrote more than a dozen books. In one instance, he offered the following remarks:

“More suffering comes into the world by people taking offence than by people intending to give offence.”

Somewhat unfortunately, it's so often the case that those who believe they've been deliberately offended then feel the need to offend in return.

It's easy to understand how relationships that come under a scenario of continuous retaliation are destined for a downward spiral.

The solution can only be found in forgiveness and renewal. There is a huge need to step back from judgement and find ways of coming to terms with the limitations of oneself and the other.



Mass Timetable and Covid-19

Mercifully, the NSW Department of Health has relaxed the requirements of social distancing from 1:4 to 1:2. Camden church will now be able to accommodate 200, Oakdale 72 and The Oaks 36

Accordingly, there is no longer a need for the 12 midday Mass and the afternoon 3:00 PM Mass on Sundays.

Masks are no longer mandatory though parishioners are welcome to continue wearing them.

Please continue to sanitise hands upon entering any of the three churches. And many thanks to all our parishioners who wipe over the pews upon departure.



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

Weekend Masses (Covid-19 capacity of 200 for each Mass at Camden)	
Saturday 13 February	Sunday 14 February
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 5:00 PM Parish Mass
Oakdale – Saturday 5:00 PM (72)	The Oaks – Sunday 9:00 AM (36)

Sacrament of Penance Programme

Bookings for Mass are essential and are open from Tuesday mornings for the following weekend. Please visit the parish website.

The overwhelming number of families have been 100% responsive to the requirements of the programme. This high level of compliance assists enormously with the smooth administering of the programme and relieves the parish secretaries from responding to numerous phone calls from those who are falling behind.

Special week coming up with the distribution of Holy Cards. The holy cards contain the Act of Contrition which needs to be memorised perfectly by the children as well as the parents/carers. Most important for the parents to commit to the Penance Programme, not only for their children’s formation, but their own spiritual formation as well.

Those who have not collected a book so far are asked to visit the attendant near the organ after mass.

‘Hard to put a value on commitment.



Reception of Holy Communion

Thanks to the great majority of parishioners who receive Holy Communion so reverently. Always essential to consume the host before walking away from the priest or special minister.

Ash Wednesday ~ 17 February 2021

If you have old palms, please bring along to Mass this weekend. At Camden, an old basket will be positioned in proximity to the monitors outside the entry to the church. Hopefully, there will be a similar facility available at Oakdale and The Oaks. The palms will be burnt with the ashes used this coming Ash Wednesday.

Mass have been scheduled accordingly, bookings essential for Camden and Oakdale:

8:00 AM	St Clare's Hall, Narellan Vale (capacity of 100)
9:00 AM	Camden (capacity of 200)
5:00 PM	Oakdale (capacity of 72)
7:00 PM	Camden (capacity of 200)

Masses will also be celebrated for students at St Paul's, St Clare's and Magdalene.

Reminder that to comply fully with Directives from the NSW Department of Health, the ashes will be distributed using cotton buds. A decision has been taken in recent days that one cotton bud will be used for each congregant. The cotton bud will be dipped into ashes which will then be used to make a cross on the forehead with appropriate liturgical wording. Few options are available:

Remember man/woman that you are dust and unto dust thou shall return
or
Repent and believe in the Gospel.

Ash Wednesday ~ Day of Fasting

Unless because of medical reasons, Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat. Our parishioners should avoid substituting gourmet foods for meat such as lobster, oysters, tiger prawns, chico rolls, and so on. Good to also avoid ice creams, cakes and chocolates.

Salads, eggs, tuna, vegetables are all to be recommended. And it's hard to beat grilled fish fingers on fresh bread, adding a little butter and lemon juice, and lightly salted to taste.

Lent ~ Season of Penance

Abstinence is a very important part of our Lenten discipline. Please consider refraining from some little indulgence. What about drinking cask wine for bottled wine, or low alcohol beer in place of full strength! This is a personal choice but is deserving of serious consideration.

Lenten Resource Booklet ~ Entitled 'Comfort'

This beautifully illustrated book has been produced by our own diocese and contains exquisite artwork and prayerful meditations for each day during Lent. Copies are \$5 but truly worth the price. At Camden, please come to the sanctuary after Mass.

Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

13/14 February

Saturday

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Michael
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 Anthony
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Joseph
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael

20/21 February

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

Sacrament of Penance ~ Notes for Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers, please be sure to undertake the reading on pages 17 and 24. Pope Francis has an exceedingly deep understanding of human nature.

The following information could be useful in assisting the children complete their activity pages.

A bible will be necessary to complete activities.

Workshop 3

Page 18:

From top to bottom, numbers are 3, 8, 2, 5, 1, 7, 9, 4, 10, 6.

Page 19

Ordinary everyday choices: (†) Clothes I wear, (†) TV shows I watch,.....

Moral Choices: (†) sharing with others, (†) kindness to pets, (†) talking truthfully.

Parents, please try to provide your own answers for page 19.

Page 22: Please share the reading with your daughter/son.

Workshop 4

Parents, to complete page 26, it will be necessary to possess a bible. Read the story of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-24.

Explain the difference to your children between making a mistake and choosing something wrong. When we deliberately do something wrong, a sin has been committed.

Page 26: Cartoons: Numbers from left to right: 4, 2, 1, 3.

Words to be included in the sentences are: (1) Money, (2) Received, (3) Wasted all of his father's money, (4) return to his father (5) God, (6) Us.

Page 27

Parents, please work through page 27 with the children. They will need to be especially mindful of the following:

The word 'reconciliation' means restoring what has been wounded and fractured.

That for every confession after first confession, penitents need to advise the priest the length of time since the previous confession.

That every single confession is inviolable. This is the 'Seal of Confession'. It is unbreakable. The priest will never tell anyone what has been said.

Page 29

Need to read the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) as an example of a man who is very sorry for his sins.

Page 30

Please share reading.

Survey among Parents/Carers for the 2021 Sacrament of Penance Programme

Question One

How confident are you in helping your children

Very Confident	Moderately Confident	Bit Unsure	Serious Concerns
90	41	7	1
139	139	139	139
65%	29%	5%	1%

Question Two

Prefer to work at home or in groups

At Home	In Groups
106	28
134	134
79%	21%

Note:

In Q3 below, respondents offered more than one choice.

Question Three

Preference for help to be available

Weekly Message	Emails	Telephone	Clergy Night
92	61	11	14
178	178	178	178
52%	34%	6%	8%

Question Four

How hard for parents have necessary time available

Quite Hard	Challenge	Comfortably Manageable	Not at all Inconvenient
0	10	75	54
139	139	139	139
0%	7%	54%	39%

How willing are your kids to come to Mass			
Very Willing	Moderately Willing	Moderately Resistant	Opposed
75	60	4	0
139	139	139	139
54%	43%	3%	0%

Question Six			
How willing are children to be a part of the programme			
Very Willing	Moderately Willing	Moderately Resistant	Opposed
101	36	2	0
139	139	139	139
73%	26%	1%	0%

Question Seven			
How would you describe your own spiritual journey and commitment to Mass over past five to ten years			
Lot Stronger	Bit Stronger	Much the Same	In Decline
43	34	58	4
139	139	139	139
31%	24%	42%	3%