



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 27/28 FEBRUARY 2021

Spiritual Insight

From Pope Francis:

When adults lose their head, when each one thinks only of him or herself, when a dad and mum hurt one another, the souls of their children suffer terribly; they experience a sense of despair. And these wounds leave a mark that lasts their whole lives.



Covid-19 and Registrations for Mass

People registering and not turning up remains a big problem. Please be thoughtful of your fellow parishioners. Thanks

Weekend Masses Timetable (Covid-19 capacity of 200 for each Mass at Camden)			
Saturday 27 February		Sunday 28 February	
9:00 AM	Parish Mass	7:30 AM	Parish Mass
		9:00 AM	Parish Mass
		10:30 AM	Parish Mass
4:30 PM	Parish Vigil Mass	5:00 PM	Parish Mass
6:00 PM	Parish Vigil Mass		
Oakdale – Saturday 5:00 PM (72)		The Oaks – Sunday 9:00 AM (36)	

Registrations through parish website.
Or if having difficulty, ring the parish office before Midday Friday 4655 8797.



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

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

Stations of the Cross

From the First Friday in March – which falls within the Second Week of Lent – the Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the parish church after the 9:00 AM Mass. All welcome.



Church Wardens and Collections

Just a reminder that we're planning to return to the normal manner of collections from the first weekend in March. If reasonably regular at the same Mass each weekend, please consider providing assistance as a warden to pass around the collection bags. Though rarely talked about, the generous and dependable contributions from our parishioners are essential for the operation of our parish.

The collection bags will have heavily sanitised cloth around each handle to the collection bag. Parishioners may consider bringing their own little container of sanitiser for extra precaution.

There will be an experimental collection this Sunday morning at the 7:30 AM Mass at Camden during Offertory to assess the situation.

Only a few weeks ago an amount of almost \$30,000 was sent to Catholic Church Insurance as the annual premium for Camden. This amount does not include the school buildings, only the two presbyteries and the church. That's just one of many, many reasons why the parishes of Camden and The Oaks require a serious financial commitment from all our parishioners. With thanks.



Final Weekend in our parishes for Father Anthony

Father Anthony's time in our parish has been way too short. 'Would have been much more desirable if he could have remained for a few more years especially since a wonderfully large number of parishioners have had such a very positive experience of his priestly ministry.

Nonetheless, the neighbouring parish of Oran Park will benefit very substantially from his many personal and priestly qualities. We are one church and so our best wishes are extended to Father Anthony for his new appointment.

If wanting to provide a small gift, could be best to think in terms of a deep red – perhaps a shiraz or cabernet sauvignon would be hard to beat. On the other hand, however, there's also considerable merit in a high-quality blend such as cabernet shiraz merlot.

Got a tip: There's a bottle of wine at Dan Murphy's called "Portraits of Clare" produced in the Clare Valley in SA. It's quite a good value-for-money shiraz. Not too expensive!

When people think of South Australian wines, invariably the first thought is the Barossa Valley. But the Clare Valley is also an excellent wine producing region and includes the outstanding Pirramimma Winery.

I recall attending a finance conference in Adelaide almost 25 years ago. It was really a bit of a junket. The highlight of the conference was the visit to Pirramimma. But their wines aren't cheap!



Seeking Board

A young man from Western Victoria will soon be studying at the University of Western Sydney. If any of our parishioners are interested in hosting a boarder on a professional basis, then please contact Father Michael for more information.



Sacred Music

Our NSW Premier, Mrs Gladys Berejiklian, has indicated a further easing in Covid-19 restrictions. Rather unfortunately, however, they don't translate into any benefit for our own celebrations of Holy Mass.

Sure, we can now all sing. But this would need to be accompanied by a significant reduction in the number of people permitted for each Mass AND we'd all have to wear masks. Have you ever tried singing with a mask? Not so easy!

So there's no changes to the way Masses are celebrated in our two parishes for this weekend. Congregational singing still not permitted. The situation will be assessed on a week-by-week basis.

Sacrament of Penance Programme

An important form needs to be completed this week. Parent and carers are asked to nominate their preferred time for First Confession.

It is at this time each year in the programme that parents are also asked to commit to making a confession. The last confession may have been quite recent or many years ago. But whatever the circumstances, a heartfelt confession is an experience of liberation and renewal.

Confession by an adult requires trust and possibly even courage. But Pope Francis is quite emphatic in teaching about this sacrament as an occasion of grace.

Accordingly, there will be two kinds of ceremonies, all containing a little prayer, sacred scripture, reflection and a brief homily.

The first kind of ceremony is when children are accompanied by adults who have also resolved to make a sincere confession. There will be three ceremonies of this kind.

Monday 15th at 4:30 PM and Tuesday 16th at 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM

The second kind of ceremony is when the children (only) will make their First Confession. The time for this ceremony is **Wednesday 17th at 6:00 PM.**

If families are unable to come to any of these times, then please attend confession on the following Saturday morning at 9:30 PM. However, it's much better to go to one of the four designated ceremonies because children will be in the presence of other children also making their first confession. And the homily will assist the adults in better understanding the great value and need for this healing sacrament.

Please present workbooks next week. And by now, the Act of Contrition should be known perfectly by children and adults.



Kind Regards

Father Michael

Please Pray for the sick in our Parish

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

Celebrants for Weekend Parish Masses

27/28 February

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

6/7 March

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
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