



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 22/23 MAY 2021

Pentecost Sunday ~ Descent of the Holy Spirit

Pastoral Insight

In last week's 'Weekly Message' reference was made to the book entitled 'Rebuilt', the story of the revival of a parish in the Archdiocese of New York. Here's another extract:

To create a vibrant community that motivates our members to grow, they've got to serve. To be a place of energy and excitement that is irresistible to outsiders, we've got to get the insiders out of the pews..... Our goal is simply, *every member a minister*.

About seven paragraphs later:

The initial commitment we request is usually two hours twice a month. That's simple to understand, easy to remember, and not in the least intimidating. This is an extremely important cultural shift. Because churchworld is often about saddling a small circle of people with huge commitments. It's frightening and dysfunctional.



Coronavirus Restrictions

With the exceptions of social distancing and registrations, all restrictions have been lifted for the time being. No further need to wear masks and singing is again permitted. Thanks to all who have been so understanding and cooperative.



The Oaks and Oakdale

A meeting has been scheduled for Thursday 1 July at 6:00 PM in the hall at The Oaks. It's been over a year since there's been such a gathering and so an invitation is extended to all our parishioners. The agenda is simply (1) to reflect upon the past few years, and especially upon the impact of the coronavirus, and (2) to share ideas about the future. Light refreshments and a little fraternity is expected to be available afterwards.



9.00am Mass Monday 24 May

Father Victor will celebrate a special Mass on Monday 24 May for Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia. All welcome to attend, and leave your details at the door for COVID tracing purposes.

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

Church at St Clare's

Meeting on **Tuesday 15th June at 7:00 PM** in the Heritage Hall at Camden. A little hospitality will be offered after the meeting which is expected to be no longer than one hour. Please contact the parish office to register your attendance.



Mass Times and Baptisms

When the coronavirus led to a very substantial reduction in the number of people permitted in the church, one response was to schedule extra Masses. The most dramatic example was on Easter Sunday when Masses were celebrated at 6:00 AM, 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon and 5:00 PM.

The current Mass schedule at Camden retains two extra weekend Masses beyond our normal pre-covid Mass timetable.

Over the past 14 months, there have been many other weekends when even more than two extra weekend Masses were added. But whatever the exact number, it became necessary for baptisms to be transferred to mid-week.

However, from the weekend of 3/4 July, Sunday morning Masses will be reduced from 3 to 2, with the Sunday morning Mass timetable returning to the traditional times of 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The 5:00 PM Mass will continue to be celebrated as usual. And the two Vigil Masses will be retained while social distancing remains.

As a result, from the beginning of July baptisms will no longer be celebrated mid-week. They will instead, be celebrated every Sunday morning after the 10:00 AM Mass in keeping with our long-term custom.



Mass Count

This is the final week for the Mass Count. Up until now, the figures have been derived from the registrations. However, because the organisers seek numbers according to age brackets, this week will need to be done manually – a bit like the old-fashioned way.

So this little exercise will need to be undertaken after Holy Communion. 'Shouldn't take too long.



Adults wanting to become Catholic

A programme will begin from early June. If interested, please contact the parish office during parish business hours to leave name and contact phone number. More information in coming weeks.



Sacrament of Penance Programme

Notes to assist with the completion of Chapter Three will be distributed this weekend. Parents and carers should be especially mindful of their own reading, especially from Pope Francis.

Holy cards with the Act of Contrition will be definitely distributed. Within a week or two, the Act of Contrition should be able to be recited perfectly by children as well as their parents and carers.

To emphasise its importance, the Act of Contrition needs to be known, memorized and recited perfectly.



Propagation of the Faith ~ Mission Appeal

Many thanks to all who contributed last weekend. Just like the development of our muscles, generosity takes practice. The more we practice generosity, the easier it becomes. The converse also applies.

When/if the parishes of Camden and The Oaks are advised of the amount from Catholic Mission, we'll report the figure.



Confirmation Programme

Notes for the third chapter will be distributed this weekend. Jobs this week:

- Parents and carers are asked to read page 25 and especially the thoughts provided by Pope Francis.
- Parents and children together should familiarise themselves with the Confirmation Rite as summarised on page 28.
- Select Confirmation Name and Sponsor if possible. An extra week is available if absolutely necessary.

Please note there has been a slight variation to the times of the ceremonies and Masses:

Saturday 26th: Ceremonies at 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM; Mass at 5:00 PM
Sunday 27th Masses at 10:30 PM and 1:00 PM

So what's coming up?

29/30 May	Select preferred time for Ceremonies and Masses. Complete form to provide details of Confirmation Name and sponsor
5/6 June	Confirmation Books Collected Interim leaflets distributed to advise of Ceremonies/Masses to which families have been assigned.
12/13 June	Confirmation Books returned Distribution of a survey to be completed by parents and carers. Official final leaflet distributed to advise of Ceremonies/Masses.



Pentecost Sunday 22/23 May 2021

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Michael	Maria and Sarah
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Michael	
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tracy
Sunday			
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Nicole
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent and Damian
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig

Most Holy Trinity 29/30 May 2021

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Michael	
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Michael	Belinda and Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tracy
Sunday			
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Nicole
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael	Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tony

Kind Regards

Father Michael