



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 5/6 JUNE 2021

Corpus Christi ~ Body and Blood of our Lord

Biblical Insight

From the Franciscan priest, Father Richard Rohr OFM in his book, 'The Universal Christ':

It's time for Christianity to rediscover the biblical theme of restorative justice, which focuses on rehabilitation and reconciliation and not punishment. Restorative justice, of course, comes to its full demonstration in the constant healing ministry of Jesus who never punished anybody.

Yes, he challenges people, but always for the sake of insight, healing and restoration of people and situations to their divine origin and source. Once a person recognises that Jesus' mission was to heal people, not punish them, the dominant theories of retributive justice begin to lose their appeal and authority (page 142).



Save Our Graves

The NSW Government has indicated an intention to take over cemeteries and graves, including the beautiful Catholic chapels at Rookwood. The Archbishop of Sydney, Very Reverend Anthony Fisher, has strongly opposed this decision and received wide media coverage. The Archbishop has also initiated an on-line petition.

Would you please join the Church in opposing this 'take-over' of church assets that have been accumulated for Catholic families by the Church's Board of Management for Cemeteries for over 150 years.

Please go to: www.saveourgraves.com.au

It's really important that the NSW Government understands the strength of opposition to this decision. As a matter of interest, I have already signed.



Coronavirus Restrictions

With the uncertain situation in Victoria, any announcements from the NSW Department of Health will need to be taken into account. Changes to our weekly Mass schedule could change at late notice. Our parishioners will be advised by email if such is the case.



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

Checking in for Mass

Because of cold temperatures, the entry to the church has been moved to the chapel so that our very helpful monitors no longer suffer from hyperthermia. Well, that's an exaggeration but it does get seriously cold sitting outside early morning and early evening. Accordingly, please enter the church through the chapel from this weekend. The side door can be opened for anyone requiring easy access for wheelchairs and walkers.

Also, please try to arrive a few minutes early. Our monitors, themselves, like to also have a presence at Mass from the very beginning. Even after the processional hymn, the line can still be quite long. Need to look after our monitors. Thanks



Adults wanting to become Catholic

An introductory meeting has been scheduled for this coming Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Heritage Hall which has the green colour-bond roof and is positioned on the corner of John Street and Larkin Lane.

This meeting is normally of a one-hour duration but will be confined to 45 minutes so that those who are interested in the NRL can still attend the meeting and return home in time to watch the State of Origin. Please ring the parish office during business hours and register your attendance. All invited.

BTW: This programme is also intended for Catholics who would like a refresher course.



The Oaks and Oakdale

Reminder of the meeting scheduled for Thursday 1 July at 6:00 PM in the hall at The Oaks. Bishop Brian is expected to attend and would like to hear from any families who were affected by the bushfires early last year. Our local parishioners are welcome to also share any other experiences of hardship.

Please feel most welcome to bring a little food. Savouries will be appreciated, rather than an oversupply of the sweet little delights provided at morning tea. Would suggest olives, rice crackers, cheese selection, chippies, twisties, cabanossi, party pies,.....A coordinator is needed. Anyone interested can see Father Michael this week after 9:00 AM Mass at The Oaks. Need to avoid oversupply that might unintentionally result in wastage.

For this Sunday 6 June – being the first Sunday of the month – morning tea will be available in the hall after Mass. The fraternity is quite lovely and the little servings of cakes and fresh sandwiches are most appreciated. Highlights in past gatherings have included vanilla slice and mini custard tarts.



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

'Reminder that the changes announced in last week's Weekly Message are still on track to be introduced on the first weekend in July. These changes are (1) Masses in Camden to be celebrated at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings, and (2) baptisms to be celebrated in the parish on Sundays only. Visiting priests for baptisms will be required to celebrate the baptism at 12 noon, or possibly 12:30 PM.



Sacrament of Penance Programme

Parents/Carers:

The following should be accomplished so far:

- ✓ The books should be fully completed to a very high standard and handed-in this week at Masses.
- ✓ The children, as well as yourselves, should be able to recite the Act of Contrition, without hesitation.
- ✓ The children should have a sense of sin and wrongdoing, such as:

Disobedience, laziness, gluttony, lying, theft, selfishness, hurtful words, 'colourful' and coarse language, neglect of animals entrusted to their care, fighting with brothers and sisters.

The parents/carers need to assist the children – taking at least 30 minutes if necessary – to examine their consciences, but without them (the children) actually making their confession at that time.

The confession should only be made to the priest. Parents should not hurry this process. Set aside quality time. Over past years, it's become quite apparent that some parents have been a little negligent, and the consciences of their children have lacked proper formation for a 'First Confession'.

In the two ceremonies scheduled for the 16th, the first is for those parents who also want to make a heart-felt confession. There will be a visiting priest available to assist. Adults should rise above fear and nervousness. In the workbooks completed by the children, there are instances where Pope Frances encourages the adults to embrace such an opportunity. It's a cleansing and sanctifying experience; it's a wonderful example to the children.

The second session at 7:00 PM is presumed for the children only although adults can still make a confession if they have a change of mind.



Confirmation Programme

All families need by this weekend to have supplied Confirmation names and sponsors.

Books will be collected and will be examined during the coming week. The Final Leaflet will be distributed next weekend. It will provide a listing of the Ceremonies and Masses to which the families have been assigned.

The leaflet distributed last weekend was '*interim*' and there may be changes depending upon the quality of the workbooks.

It's a bit like a horse race at Royal Randwick. As soon as the horses pass the winning post, the dividends are posted on the screens. But they are '*interim*' because the winning horses and jockeys need to confirm they have the '*correct weight*'. And, also, that there have been no protests relating to interference from the winning horse and the place getters. Once – generally after just a few minutes – a fairly-run race has been established, the interim dividends become final dividends.

Also, if there happens to be further complications with the spread of the virus, and if the NSW Department of Health suddenly changed the social distancing requirements from 'one person per two square metres' to 'one person per four square metres', the covid capacity of the church would be halved.

Currently, each family is able to have seven people at the Ceremonies and Masses including candidate and sponsor (9 for those with two children being Confirmed). But if there was a change – as described in the paragraph above – the number would be reduced to four.



Corpus Christi 5/6 June 2021

Saturday

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Victor	
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda and Jen
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Tracy

Sunday

Camden	7:30 AM	Father Michael	Maria C.
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Victor	Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny and Tasha

Immaculate Heart of Mary 12/13 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	Maria and Sarah
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	Steve and Damian
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tony

Kind Regards

Father Michael