



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 4/5 SEPTEMBER 2021

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pastoral Reflection from Pope Francis

The “scourge” of the pandemic, the pope said, “has tested everyone and everything. Only one thing is more serious than this crisis, and that is the risk that we will squander it, and not learn the lesson it teaches. It is a lesson in humility, showing us that it is not possible to live healthy lives in an unhealthy world, or to go on as we were, without recognizing what went wrong.”

Francis also warned against the “senseless notion” that the world can go back to what it was, relying on “false securities, habits and projects that aim exclusively at pursuing wealth and personal interests, while failing to respond to global injustice, the cry of the poor and the precarious health of our planet.”



Recorded Mass from our Parishes

Glad to be able to report that our first on-line Mass will be this Saturday evening from 5:00 PM. New initiatives have been taken to keep the Mass a little less festive, and a little quieter. Duration is just over 30 minutes. Well worth watching to assist in reflection and spiritual nourishment. Please visit the St Paul’s website for access to Mass.



Sacraments

So much of our pastoral planning has been held in suspension. As soon as legally possible, every effort will be invested in trying to respond to the great number of families in our parish who had been anticipating these sacred occasions of grace. The beginning of the FHC programme had been planned to begin from this weekend. But that’s obviously not possible. This year’s setback has now become more critical than in 2020. But we will rise again.

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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

Finances

Gratitude is extended to our many parishioners in Camden and The Oaks who continue to offer financial support to the operation of the parishes. Costs obviously continue, although there will be a fall in utility costs because the churches in both parishes are virtually unused.

If anyone would like to collect their envelopes which are now available and set out in trays in the chapel, please phone (4655 8797) the parish office from 9:00 AM to Noon from Tuesday to Fridays to organise collection. If interested in automatic electronic giving, then please contact the parish office. Thanks in anticipation.



Father's Day ~ Blessing from Pope Francis

St Joseph is the model of the educator and the dad, the father.

I, therefore, entrust to his protection those who are fathers.
Best wishes to you on your day!

I ask for you the grace to be ever closer to your children,
allow them to grow, but be close, close!

They need you, your presence, your closeness, your love.

May you be for them as St Joseph was: guardians of their growth in age, wisdom and grace.

May you guard them on their journey: be educators and walk with them.

Thank you for all you do for your children: thank you.

May St Joseph bless you and accompany you.

Kind Regards

Father Michael

From The Diocese.....

Men's Kickstart Program

Monday Evenings 13, 20, 27 September and 4 October

We are pleased to announce that the planned hubs for the National Catholic Men's Gathering (NCMG) have been replaced by Kickstart being facilitated by menALIVE for the Diocese of Wollongong, hosted online by Peter Gabauer and Colin Bennett and the menALIVE leaders from the Diocese of Wollongong.

To register go to <https://www.dow.org.au/events/ancmgkickstart>

The Kickstart sessions are short and sharp and a great way for men in lockdown to come together to engage with the theme 'Brothers What must we Do' developed by the ACBC, hosted by Robert Falzon and Jude Hennessy with some excellent keynotes including: • Man of God: Tomasz Juszczak • Man of Service: Tim Davis • Man of Character: Shayne Bennett • Missioning and Sending: Archbishop Julian Porteous



Marriage Anniversaries Mass

Now to be Livestreamed Sunday 19 September – 12.30pm This celebration for those marking 25, 40, 50, 60, or over 60 years of marriage in 2020-21, will now be livestreamed because no attendance is possible in the church due to COVID restrictions.

All those who had registered will, in coming days, be invited to be part of an online Mass with Bishop Brian, who will celebrate Mass from the Cathedral, offering a blessing for each of the 40 couples who have registered. Each couple will be sent a letter and commemoration certificate by Bishop Brian.



Cursillo Weekend - 29th October - 1st November 2021

Registrations Now Open for St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park.

Cursillo is a life changing experience meant to be lived, a method of supporting and encouraging our lives as Christians through friendship and a way of living life to the full. The goal of the Cursillo Movement is that there will be more Christians who will live the Good News by becoming the Good News. Cursillo offers an opportunity to grow, a chance to experience the love and Grace of God and a way of continuing our life's journey together as Christians. Cursillo is for those who are curious, searching, discovering, growing and/or open to the journey of faith. For more information contact Lesley Wyatt at lesley.wyatt@iinet.net.au



Season of Creation

The Season of Creation begins September 1, on the designated World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. It concludes on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis. The Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace have created five prayer cards which focus on the themes of the statement. This week's prayer focuses on Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor



Get Connected ~ with the Diocese

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. A simple way of staying informed and connected is to subscribe at <https://dow.sh/stayingconnected> to receive regular stay connected updates or visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly



Plenary Council 2021

In just over a month, the Church in Australia will commence its Fifth Plenary Council – the first in 84 years. 279 members will begin a process of dialogue focusing on 6 themes that were developed from the responses of over 220,000 people.



The Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on 8 December 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. You are encouraged to visit the ACBC year of St Joseph page at <https://www.catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

