



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 25/26 SEPTEMBER 2021

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Reflection from Pope Francis

Pope Francis said he could not understand why some people refused to take the coronavirus vaccines. He added that humanity had a history of friendship with vaccines.

Returning on a flight from Slovakia to Rome, the Pope – who had part of his right lung removed at the age of 21 after a bad bout of pneumonia – said that his latest surgery to remove 33 cm of his colon in July had not been easy, despite his apparent good recovery. “It wasn’t cosmetic surgery” he quipped.



Weekend and Mid-Week Masses

There have been early predictions in the media that Monday 11th October could be “Freedom Day” in NSW. The reality could be different. However, if the predictions are accurate, then the normal midweek Mass timetable will recommence from Tuesday 12th at Camden and from Wednesday 13th at Narellan Vale.

Masses, hopefully, will resume from the weekend of 16/17 October, but please be mindful of the following:

- Social distancing requirements will impose a cap on numbers and so bookings through the parish website will be necessary.
- Masks will almost certainly need to be worn.
- Congregational singing will be prohibited.
- Fully vaccination will almost certainly be required.



Parish Pastoral Council

A meeting is expected to be called in mid-November to discern the way forward in 2022. We may be able to meet in person in the parish meeting room at Camden but if not, the meeting will be conducted by zoom.

Members are welcome to communicate any thoughts about content for this meeting to the parish office. We’re actually looking for a volunteer to take a special interest in the Plenary Council and provide periodic reports at our PPC meetings.



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Recorded Mass from our Parishes ~ from 5:00 PM Saturday

Pleased to be able to advise that Father Victor is again our celebrant for Mass this week with outstanding homily and sacred music assured. Please tune-in for a prayerful and reflective experience so as to fulfil the Sunday obligation.



Sacraments for Children

Confirmation ~ Saturday 20th November

No updates required from last week. However:

- ✓ Please remain mindful of the rehearsals on 16th November at 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM.
- ✓ With social distancing still required, the maximum number of people per family will be 4, inclusive of candidate and sponsor.
- ✓ In all likelihood, full vaccination will be required to enter the church. This requirement is not absolutely certain at this stage. But if you're a betting person, it'd probably be a safe bet.



First Holy Communion

The Timeline and Enrolment Form will be available from the parish website by the Feast of St Therese of the Child Jesus, or otherwise known as St Therese of Lisieux. Beautiful little French saint (see below).

And BTW, if ever in France, very worthwhile to catch the train for a 100-minute journey to the township of Lisieux which has quite a spectacular basilica.



Penance

An invitation is extended to families with children in at least Year 2 at school and who have been baptised to participate in the Penance Programme that begins on the weekend of 27/28 November 2021 and comes to completion towards the end of Lent in 2022. A presence at Mass by parents/carers and their children is an absolute requirement on the weekends the programme is being administered. Ideally, however, our families should develop a love and commitment to Holy Mass as a way of life.



Patronal Feasts this Week

27 September: St Vincent de Paul, Priest

Born in Gascony France in 1581, he completed his studies and was ordained a priest, and became a parish priest in Paris. He founded the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) for the purpose of the spiritual formation of the clergy and the relief of the poor. And with the help of Saint Louise de Marillac he also founded the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity. He died in 1660.

28 September Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr

Born in Bohemia about 907, he was brought up in the Christian religion by his grandmother and took over power in the kingdom about 925. He encountered many difficulties both in ruling his kingdom and in promoting the Christian faith. He was betrayed by his brother Boleslaus and murdered in 935 outside the doors of the church. He was immediately proclaimed a martyr and is venerated as the principal patron of Bohemia.

29 September Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Michael	Who is like God
Gabriel	man of God
Raphael	God has healed.

In our Catholic tradition, angels possess superior intelligence, gigantic strength and unblemished holiness. They enjoy an intimate relationship with God.

30 September St Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Jerome was born about 340. He studied at Rome and was later baptised. Then he began to live a life of asceticism, went to the east and was ordained a priest. He returned to Rome and began the task of translating the bible into Latin as well as promoting the monastic life. He then settled in Bethlehem where he gave great help in the needs of the Church. He wrote many books especially commentaries on the Sacred Scriptures. He died in Bethlehem in 420.

1 October St Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin

Born in France in 1873. While still young she entered the Carmelite monastery at Lisieux and practised the virtues of humility, evangelical simplicity and a firm confidence in God. By her words and example, she taught the novices. Offering her life for the salvation of souls and for the spreading of the faith in the missions, she died after enormous physical suffering on 30 September in 1897 at the very young age of 24.

From The Diocese.....(in case you missed it)

The Bishop's Annual Appeal

To support the retirement and health of clergy and local parish ministries

To find out more, view the special appeal video and to make a donation, please visit www.dow.org.au/giving or call (02) 4222 2446 to make a donation over the phone.

From the Bishop:

“Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Your donation to this appeal will enable me to provide a dignified retirement for our diocesan clergy and ensure that our parish communities stay connected during this time of pandemic. While I acknowledge the pressure that some households are facing at this time, if you are in a financial position to give, I would be very grateful if you would consider giving generously to this appeal.” + Bishop Brian Mascord.



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

