



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 9/10 OCTOBER 2021**

## 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



There's a book entitled 'Rebuilt' that was authored in 2013. It's about the revival of a Catholic parish in the USA. The parish priest, Father Michael, writes the following:

Knowledge is important. St Paul teaches us to be transformed by the renewal of our minds, to let the truth in to change us, to reshape us, to move us to a new place (Rm 12:2). We need to have the right brain food to change. But knowledge alone cannot be our goal. As St. Paul also teaches, knowledge of God without love is nothing (1 Cor 13:2).

The biblical idea of knowledge goes much deeper than just cerebral understanding. It implies intimacy. To know in biblical terms means we really experience something in our hearts as well as our heads. In all aspects of our personhood, it is knowledge that leads to love, while love, in turn, makes us want to know more. Transformation and life-change must be the goals of discipleship, and simply sharing knowledge doesn't make disciples (page 79).



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

Father Michael is the celebrant again this weekend. The homily contains references to Scrooge, **Giovanni** Casanova, Little Jack Horner, Mother Teresa and Pope Paul VI. Please visit our parish website to enjoy our parish Mass that also includes wonderful sacred music.



## The Oaks and Oakdale

A meeting in the hall at The Oaks has been scheduled for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6:00 PM. There's a couple of big items for discussion. In terms of the future of the parish, this will most likely be one of the most significant meetings in many years. All invited.



26 John Street (PO Box 7) Camden NSW 2570 (02) 4655 8797 [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
59 Holdsworth Drive, Narellan Vale NSW 2567 (ring Camden) [camden@dow.org.au](mailto:camden@dow.org.au)  
5 /15 Merlin Street (PO Box 169) The Oaks NSW 2570 (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)  
Blattman Ave, Oakdale NSW 2570 Oakdale (ring Camden) [theoaks@dow.org.au](mailto:theoaks@dow.org.au)

## Sacraments for Children

### First Holy Communion

Timeline and Enrolment Forms now available from the parish website. It's all very self-explanatory but in a somewhat convoluted way. So far, there's been remarkably few calls to the parish office. This could mean either:

- (a) that all our parents and carers understand the operation of the abbreviated programme, or
- (b) lots of people are not too concerned so far and will make a last-minute dash to be included.

We're sincerely hoping it's the former reason.

BTW: Parents and carers with children preparing for FHC should read and try to understand the following points:

- ❖ Our Lord's death on the cross was all about sacrifice. Indeed, his whole life was a living sacrifice, but his death on the cross for sinful humanity was the supreme sacrifice.
- ❖ Over a period of about 1400 years from Abraham to John the Baptist, the lamb was sacrificed by the Jewish people as an offering of thanksgiving and atonement, especially when commemorating the Passover.
- ❖ That's why, because he was of Jewish stock, Jesus is called the Lamb of God. In his passion and death, he became the sacrificial lamb in offering up his body and blood.
- ❖ But at The Last Supper on the night before he died, he said – so very solemnly – that his body and blood would continue to be present mysteriously under the species of bread and wine. This is one of the great mysteries of our Catholic faith.
- ❖ That is why when we receive Holy Communion, we receive mysteriously and sacramentally the Body and Blood of the dying sacrificial Jesus.
- ❖ The Eucharist, therefore, is all about sacrifice. The Eucharist could also be called the 'Sacrifice of the Cross'.

So parents and carers, please be mindful that sacrifice is an indispensable part of the preparation process for FHC. The larger the sacrifice, the better the preparation. Transform your own thinking and teach the children to commit from the heart.



### Weekend and Mid-Week Masses Resumption of Masses

#### MIDWEEK MASSES:

- Recommencing at St Paul's on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021.
- Recommencing at St Clare's on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## VIGIL/SUNDAY MASSES

- ✓ Recommencing at St Joseph the Worker on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 5:00 PM
- ✓ Recommencing at St Paul's on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM
- ✓ Recommencing at St Aloysius' on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 at 9:00 AM
- ✓ Sunday Masses at St Paul's: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM



Kind Regards

Father Michael

## *From The Diocese*

### **Fifth Plenary Council**

Fifth Plenary Council of Australia has been on this week. Members from the Diocese of Wollongong are Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD, Very Rev Bernard L Gordon VG, Very Rev Kenneth Cafe OFM EV, Very Rev Sean Cullen PP EV, Mr Paul Fleming, Mrs Erin Gillard and Dr Jodi Steel.

The Diocese of Wollongong has been asked by ACBC to compile three short interviews at the conclusion of each day that can be accessed at <https://dow.sh/plenarychats>

Links to daily Masses and each morning session LIVE of the plenary is available at Masses during the Plenary Council via <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

### **Opposing Euthanasia**

Urgent - Join in Opposition to Euthanasia in NSW before October 11 The move to make Euthanasia / Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) legal will be introduced into the NSW Parliament in coming days.

We are called to stand up for the sanctity of life and oppose 'the culture of death'. What can you do? Bishop Mascord encourages the faithful throughout the Diocese of Wollongong to urgently contact their local state MPs directly, in order to strongly encourage local politicians to oppose the proposed legislation and vote 'No'. Please note, that advocates of Assisted Suicide, a small but well organised group, are working very hard to lobby local MPs around NSW to

Without similar efforts from those who oppose euthanasia, it will be very difficult to stop this terrible bill from becoming law. Fr Mark De Battista has made a video on youtube that provides good reasoning for the Catholic position on this issue. <https://youtu.be/bLUW2XKrhaA> and has made it available to the faithful in the Diocese of Wollongong.

## **Youth Ministry**

Youth Ministry Online Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong (CYMW) have been continuing to link in with young people via the school's network to bring them to an encounter with the beauty of the Gospel and the Church. One of the initiatives has been LIVE online. You might like to click on the link below to get a sense of what they are doing with young people. It includes some vibrant worship and the talks given by Joel Duval and new Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator, Meg McAlister. I have included it in a bulletin notice, to encourage parents to watch it with their family.