



*Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden*

**RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 23/24 OCTOBER 2021**

**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Spiritual Insight**

The great Australian playwright and novelist, Maurice West, is cited by Father Ron Rolheiser in his book ‘Sacred Fire’. The citation reads as follows:

Life has served me as it serves everyone, sometimes well and sometimes ill, but I have learnt to be grateful for it, for the love that began it and the other loves with which I have been so richly endowed.

When you carry someone’s cross, don’t send them the bill! (p. 243).

Rolheiser continues citing West

...at a certain age, our lives simplify and we need only three phrases left in our spiritual vocabulary: *Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!* He is right, providing we understand what is implied in living out gratitude. Gratitude is the ultimate virtue, undergirding everything else, even love. It is synonymous with holiness (p.244).



**Resumption of Vigil and Sunday Masses**

On-line Masses can never be regarded as a total substitute for parishioners gathering in parish churches. The impending opportunity of again being in communion with each other is to be greatly welcomed.

Our prayers of praise and petition are a truly sacred experience that brings blessings upon those who are present. And most especially, a presence at Mass helps to immerse our children more deeply into the mystical body of Christ. This is so very important for their spiritual, emotional and social formation.

Up until the end of November, the maximum number of people permitted in our churches is 140 at Camden, 36 at Oakdale and 16 at The Oaks.

Bookings from our parish website are necessary so that more than these prescribed numbers don’t arrive. If the ‘covid capacity’ has been reached and more people arrive, then the result is a really awkward and uncomfortable situation of having to advise faithful people that they are not able to enter the church because of public health orders.

If in any doubt, please contact the parish office.

**Resumption of Midweek Masses**

’Will now begin from this Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> at St Clare’s (8:00 AM) and St Paul’s (9:00 AM).

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)

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

## **The Oaks and Oakdale**

Important meeting scheduled for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6:00 PM. All invited.



## **Sacraments for Children**

### **Penance ~ Reminder**

From the penance programmes administered earlier this year, there remain about 10 families whose children have completed the preparation but yet to make their first confession. A date for first confession has now been scheduled for Saturday 6 November at 9:30 AM in the chapel.

A short rehearsal has also been scheduled for Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM in St Paul's Church. This is expected to take less than 30 minutes. Children are asked to bring along their penance books.



## **First Holy Communion (FHC)**

### **Two Options Available for this Weekend**

One option is to collect books on this Saturday morning 23<sup>rd</sup> October from St Paul's parish meeting room according to the following arrangements.

8:30 AM to 9:00 AM	Children with surnames from A to G
9:00 AM to 9:30 AM	Children with surnames from H to M
9:30 AM to 10:00 AM	Children with surnames from N to T
10:00 AM to 10:30 AM	Children with surnames U to Z plus others who may not have managed the earlier times.

The other more preferable option is to bring the children to Mass and collect afterwards.

If wanting to collect books at Mass from Oakdale or The Oaks, please ring the Camden parish office this Friday morning between 9:00 AM and Noon.



## **On-line Masses from our Parishes ~ final from 5:00 PM this Saturday**

With the resumption of our Vigil and Sunday Masses from this weekend 23/24 October, there is no need to continue with our on-line parish Masses. Parishioners who are unable to attend Mass in our own parish churches have numerous other on-line options. But unless there are extenuating circumstances, please try to have a presence at Mass. The churches cannot possibly be crowded. And prayer at Mass will not cause you any suffering. By our presence we provide encouragement to each other.

## Patronal Feasts this Week

### 28 October: Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

The name of Simon is placed eleventh in the list of apostles and nothing is known of him except that he was born at Cana and was known as the Zealot. It is believed, however, that he suffered martyrdom in Persia which is much the same region as modern-day Iran.

Jude, also known as Thaddaeus, was the apostle who, at The Last Supper, asked the Lord why he showed himself only to his disciples and not to the world (John 14:22). This apostle is believed to have suffered martyrdom in Armenia which was then subject to Persia. The final conversion of the Armenian nation to Christianity did not take place until the third century.



Kind Regards

Father Michael

### 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 23/24 October 2021

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Sunday			
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass

## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 30/31 October 2021

<b>Saturday</b>		<b>Celebrant</b>	<b>Musician/Vocalists</b>
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Victor	TBA
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Victor	TBA
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	TBA
<b>Sunday</b>			
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Michael	TBA
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	TBA
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	TBA
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Victor	TBA
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	TBA