



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 30/31 OCTOBER 2021

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Spiritual Insight

Spiritual reading from Saint Charles Borromeo (feast coming up):

Shall I tell you how to go from strength to strength? You have managed, let us say, to be attentive for once in choir: how are you going to be more attentive next time and make your service more pleasing to God? I will tell you. The tiniest fire of divine love has been lit in you, has it? Then do not rush to make a parade of it. Do not take it out into the icy blast. Keep the furnace door shut on it so that it does not die out. In other words, fly from avoidable distractions, keep your mind fixed on God, keep away from idle gossip.



Vigil and Sunday Masses

Wonderful experience last weekend with all our Masses reaching the covid limit, or very close to it. Attendance at Mass still requires bookings from the Tuesday beforehand. But this process has been part of parish operations since the middle of 2020 when Masses resumed after the first lockdown.

Hopefully, when the vaccination rate in NSW reaches 90%, the social distancing requirement will be eased from one person per 4 square metres, to one person per two square metres.

So there's a need to embrace patience and endurance. And if last weekend can be taken as a guide, then the short-term future is looking to be quite positive.

Please keep in mind that 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.



The Oaks and Oakdale

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



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

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

Sacraments for Children

Confirmation

Ceremonies: Set in concrete for Saturday 20th November at 10:00 AM and 12 Noon.

Rehearsals: Chiselled in stone for Tuesday 16th:
at 5:00 PM (for 10 AM ceremony) and
at 6:00 PM (for 12 noon ceremony).

Penance ~ Reminder

Families with children who have completed the workbooks but still to make their first confession are asked to please ring the parish office and register.

Rehearsal: Wednesday 3rd November 6:00 PM (please bring workbooks)

First Confession: Saturday 6th November 9:30 AM in the chapel.

Please – parents, carers and children – practice the ‘Act of Contrition’ so that it can be recited perfectly and without hesitation. Holy cards containing the words are available for free from the parish office if needed. These cards are available to all our parishioners who may be trying to prepare for their own sacramental confession.

First Holy Communion

At all Masses this weekend, hand-outs with some answers will also be provided to assist with Activity Sheets Three and Four. Parents/Carers should allow a few hours during the week to assist the children. By the end of the week 5th November, the books will need to have been completed and ready to return to the parish for assessment.

In terms of the FHC Masses on the weekend of 20/21 November, the Covid distancing requirement applies of one person per 4 square metres. Accordingly, it is only possible for each First Communicant to be joined by three others.

Since this will be received as a heartbreaking disappointment for many families, and since the local clergy are really quite understanding obliging, a new option is available:

Firstly, the following has been established for rehearsals and ceremonies in November:

Tuesday 16 th 5:00 PM	for	Saturday 2:00 PM Mass
Tuesday 16 th 6:00 PM	for	Saturday 4:00 PM Mass
Wednesday 17 th 5:00 PM	for	Saturday 6:00 PM Mass
Wednesday 17 th 6:00 PM	for	Sunday 10:30 AM Mass
Thursday 18 th 5:00 PM	for	Sunday 12:30 PM Mass
Thursday 18 th 6:00 PM	for	Sunday 2:30 PM Mass

New option:

Because the distancing requirement will be eased from 1 December, two other FHC Masses will be added and available on Saturday 4 December at 10:00 AM and 12 Noon. Rehearsals times will be advised once the level of interest has been assessed. At these Masses, it will be possible for each First Communicant to have an accompanying seven people in attendance (8 all up).



Catholic Mission Appeal

Our parishes have a wonderful track record of generosity in responding to special appeals. Now that Masses have resumed, the organisers of Catholic Mission are living in hope that this present appeal is most successful.

The pandemic has taken a devastating toll upon every nation with many unable to provide the kind of welfare assistance that has been available in our own country. So there's a real need to now be exceptionally generous according to our own person circumstances.

A DVD will take the place of the homily and be followed by the Mission Collection.

The other two collections will apply at the normal times during Mass, but parishioners are certainly not expected to empty their purses and wallets into all three. Please also be mindful that the 'tap and go' devices are available for those who tend not to carry too much cash.



Patronal Feasts this Week

1 November: All Saints

This feast dates back to the 7th century. The occasion of its introduction was the conversion of the ancient Pantheon at Rome into a Christian church. It was dedicated by Pope Boniface IV to the Blessed Virgin and all the Saints in 608. On this feast, we acknowledge (a) the triumph of God's grace in the lives of the saints, and (b) the great multitude of the saints who are now praying for us.

2 November: All Souls

On this day the Church commemorates all the Faithful Departed. Dark vestments and emblems of mourning are worn to indicate the sympathy of Mother Church for her children who are being purified in the sufferings of purgatory. On this day throughout the universal church, mournful tones of prayer for the dead are offered: "Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen".

3 November Saint Martin De Porres, Religious

He was born at Lima in Peru in the year 1579. As a young man he learnt the art of a dispenser of medicines, and afterwards when he joined the Dominican Order, he practiced this for the sake of the poor. He led a humble and austere life and had a great devotion towards the Holy Eucharist, He died in the year 1639.

4 November Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Born in Lombardy in 1538, and after obtaining in both civil and canon law, he was created a cardinal by his uncle Pope Pius IV and was chosen to be Bishop of Milan. He was a true shepherd who made wise regulations for the good of souls and worked for the good of Christian morality. He died on 3 November in 1584.



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time 30/31 October 2021

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
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
Sunday			
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 Michael	TBA

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 6/7 November 2021

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

Kind Regards

Father Michael

From The Diocese ~ Get Connected

PS: For a full summary of Diocesan initiative and events, please be mindful of the following:

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese.

Conscious that with many messages to choose from to put in your bulletins every week, I am continuing to include a short message near the top of the message suggestions that captures an opportunity for the faithful to stay connected with what is happening 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 to stay informed and connected is to invite the faithful 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.