



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 30/31 OCTOBER 2021

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Spiritual Insight

In his book ‘Sacred Fire’ Father Ron Rolheiser writes:

Indeed, if one is looking for the litmus test as to what single issue is the test for Christian morality, perhaps more than anything else, this would be the test: Can we move beyond instinct so as not to give back in kind? Can we love any enemy? (p.252).

Rolheiser continues:

All of us will get hurt. That is a given. However, and this was his challenge, how we handle that hurt, with either bitterness or forgiveness, will colour the rest of our lives and determine what kind of person we are going to be.

Suffering and humiliation find us all, and in full measure, but how we respond to them will determine both the level of our maturity and what kind of person we are. Suffering and humiliation will either soften our hearts or harden our souls. (p. 253).



Vigil and Sunday Masses

The social distancing of one person / 4 square metres will continue to apply this weekend. The maximum number of people permitted in our churches, therefore, will be Camden 140, Oakdale 36 and The Oaks 16.

However, with the full vaccination rate expected to reach 90% by the weekend, the Premier of NSW has indicated an easing of social distancing requirements to one person / 2 square metres, allowing the capacity of each of the three churches to double.

The Bishop’s Office has yet to confirm this outcome but a favourable decision is expected in coming days.



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: Saturday 20th November at 10:00 AM and 12 Noon.

Rehearsals: Tuesday 16th November
At 5:00 PM (for 10 AM ceremony) and
At 6:00 PM (for 12 noon ceremony).

Good News: With the easing of requirements for social distancing, there is now the strong likelihood that each family – including candidate and sponsor – can have seven people, and possibly eight. That’s a bonus.

Penance ~ Reminder

First Confession: This 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.

First Holy Communion

~~~ Update ~~~

Because NSW Health is easing restrictions from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November, there is now every likelihood that each family will be able to have six family members to accompany the First Holy Communicant (7 all up). Depending on the number of First Holy Communicants at any particular Mass, this number could rise to 8.

So there is no longer any need to schedule the extra FHC Masses in December unless there are quite a few families who would like to take this option.

For this week, books will need to be returned this weekend totally and carefully completed. If books are unsatisfactory, candidates for FHC will NOT be assigned to a Mass. But parent/carer will receive a phone call.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM for Saturday 2:00 PM Mass  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM for Saturday 4:00 PM Mass  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM for Saturday 4:00 PM Mass

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM for Sunday 10:30 AM Mass  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM for Sunday 12:30 PM Mass  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM for Sunday 2:30 PM Mass

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Christmas Cards

A limited number of cards will be available in the chapel after Masses next weekend. Proceeds used to support the Church’s missionary work in India.



Catholic Mission Appeal

Thanks to all who contributed last weekend. Parishioners will be advised of the collections amounts in both parishes once figures become available.



Patronal Feasts this Week

9 November: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast

This feast commemorates the dedication of the basilica that was built by the Emperor Constantine (306 to 337). The feast dates back to the twelfth century. At first the feast was kept only in the City of Rome but then, in honour of the basilica which is called the mother and head of all churches of the City and the World, was extended to the universal church as a sign of unity and respect towards the Holy See.

10 November: St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor, Memoria

Born in Tuscany, he became Pope in the year 440. He was a true father and shepherd of his people. He strongly strove to protect the integrity of the faith, defended the unity of the church, and repelled the incursion of the barbarians. He died in 461

11 November Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop, Memoria

He was born of pagan parents about the year 316. He received baptism, gave up his career as a soldier and founded a monastery in France where he lived the religious life. He was ordained a priest and was chosen bishop of Tours. He always gave the example of a good shepherd, founding new monasteries, instructing the clergy and preaching the gospel to the poor. He died in the year 397.

12 November Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr, Memoria

Born in the Ukraine of Orthodox parents about the year 1580, he became Catholic and joined the monks of St Basil. He became a priest and was elected Bishop of Polock. He worked strenuously for the unity of the Church. He suffered martyrdom at the hands of his enemies in the year 1623.



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.

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.

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 13/14 November 2021

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	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