



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 27/28 NOVEMBER 2021

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

1st Sunday of Advent



Parish Mission Statement

The First Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the new liturgical year for the Church. Probably a good time to re-familiarise ourselves with the Parish Mission Statement as provided on our web site.

Established in 1859 and among the nation's first generation of parishes, the parishioners of St Paul's Camden embrace renewal and regeneration:

- a) *by regularly contemplating the riches of sacred scriptures, and by the frequent reception of Holy Communion and Absolution in the Confessional,*
- b) *by extending warmth, inclusion, and communion to all who want to participate in our sacred ceremonies in prayerfulness and reverence, and*
- c) *by a commitment to pastoral care and holy charity, producing a harvest of good works both within our own parish and far beyond.*

With the grace of God, St Paul's aspires to provide a path of discipleship that is life-giving and life-changing



The Oaks and Oakdale

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

Those planning to attend might bring a small plate.

Little cocktail frankfurts, preferably hot, and spicy tomato sauce always popular. Gourmet cheese platter, crackers and Mediterranean pitted olives also appreciated. Twisties and cold chips appropriate. Good to have quality food.

Father Michael to provide cold beverages.

Meeting to take place in Parish at The Oaks.

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

Sacrament of Penance Programme for Children 2021/2022

Families with children who have been baptised and who are in Year 2 at school or higher are welcome to collect a timeline this week after any of the Masses. Enrolment into the programme requires motivation, commitment, and belief in the teachings of the Catholic Church. A humility of heart and an openness to personal conversion are highly desirable.



Weekend of 20/21 November 2021 ~ Truly Memorable

There has never been a weekend in the history of our parish that has included two Confirmation ceremonies with a total of 75 children and six FHC Masses with a total of 210 children.

Bishop Brian's presence for Confirmations was greatly appreciated and will leave many beautiful memories for the children. And his decision to remain for the first FHC Mass was a big bonus.

Gratitude is extended to our parish secretaries. 'Takes a long time to hand-feed every certificate individually. Musicians, vocalists and choristers excelled again. Our adult servers – who also assist as sacristans – were highly reliable, dedicated and competent. Huge number of teachers who provided logistical support. All needed and all very much appreciated.

Finally, gratitude is extended to the overwhelming number of parents and carers who committed time and energy to their children. At each of the ceremonies, the children were like angels.

The Confirmation children responded perfectly to the renewal of baptism promises and then during their moment of Confirmation in the presence of the presider BB.

And – in terms the reverent and proper manner of receiving Holy Communion on the hand – the FHC children progressed quite remarkably from the time of the rehearsal to the actual celebration. It was very apparent that parents and carers had done a wonderful job during the interim.

When parents and carers are committed to the programme and seriously resolved to working with the parish priest, these ceremonies bring great joy and happiness to families and to all the parish. Was all so very special.

PS: Special thanks to all who were at the ceremonies in which Bishop Brian presided. Everything went with the precision of a Swiss watch. All the ceremonies proceeded very beautifully and, mercifully, without any stuff-ups.



Christmas Mass Times

The timetable has been provided on the next page. If all social restrictions are lifted entirely, there will be no changes to this timetable except that there will be no 7:30 AM Mass at Camden on Christmas day. A booking system might still be used to limit numbers to 500/Mass at Camden, 100 at Oakdale and 50 at The Oaks. More advice in coming weeks.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve ~ Friday 24th December

Friday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Maria and Sarah
Camden	7:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig, Brian and Colin
Camden	9:00 PM	Father Michael	Belinda and Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	TBA
The Oaks	6:30 PM	Father Michael	TBA

Christmas Day ~ Saturday 25th December

Camden	Midnight	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	7:30 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Jen and Josh

Boxing Day ~ Sunday 26th December

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Eva and Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig



Patronal Feast this Week

30 November: St Andrew, apostle, Feast

Born at Bethsaida. He was formerly a disciple of John the Baptist and then followed Christ, to whom he brought his brother Peter. With Philip he introduced the Gentiles to Christ and he was the apostle who pointed out the boy with the loaves and the fishes. Tradition has it that after Pentecost he preached the gospel in many different places and finally suffered death on a cross in Achaia, in western Greece.

3 December: St Francis Xavier, priest, Memorial

Born in Spain in the year 1506. When studying at Paris he joined St Ignatius and was ordained priest at Rome in 1537. He spent himself in works of charity and in 1541 he went to the East where for 10 years he preached the gospel in India and Japan and brought many to the true faith, He died in the year 1552 on the Chinese island of Shangchwan.



First Sunday of Advent 27/28 November

Back to the traditional Mass timetable thanks to easing of Covid distancing requirements.

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	
Sunday			
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent and Damian
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass

Second Sunday of Advent 4/5 December

Back to the traditional Mass timetable thanks to easing of Covid distancing requirements.

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	
Sunday			
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Victor	Steve and Damian
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny and Tasha

Kind Regards

Father Michael

From The Diocese ~ Get Connected

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.