



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 Camden and The Oaks

First Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

Stay awake, you must be ready

"The secret to being watchful is prayer."

Jesus says: 'Keep awake at all times praying'. It is prayer that keeps the lamp of the heart burning. Especially when we feel that enthusiasm is cooling, prayer rekindles it, because it brings us back to God, to the centre of things."

"Prayer awakens the soul from sleep and focuses it on what matters, on the end of existence."

A wonderful thought for the start to our church's New Year.

Sacrament of Penance Programme 2022/2023

Enrolment opportunity on this weekend of 26th / 27th November. Children need to have been baptised and in at least Year 2 at school.

The programme (1) requires the participation of parents/carers with their children. And (2) provides a unique opportunity for personal conversion. Humility of heart is an indispensable quality.

All intending to enrol must be committed and motivated, and without any kind of aversion to Mass.

Forms will be distributed at the conclusion of Mass, to be clearly filled in with your child's name. This form is then exchanged for a timeline. Timelines should be placed in a clearly visible location at home for families to follow.

First Holy Communions

Congratulations are extended to the 180 children who received their First Holy Communion last weekend 19/20 November, in four Masses spread over the two days.

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

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. Was all so very special.

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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

Weekly Advent programme continuing Thursday 1 Dec

After the 9.00am Mass on Thursdays for the period of Advent, there will be a group of parishioners participating in an Advent programme. The programme will be held in the parish meeting room, adjacent to St Paul's church. All invited and encouraged to attend, an enhancement to this very spiritual time of the year. Everyone welcome to stay for a cup of tea and fraternity afterwards.

Mass Counts in November

We will be conducting the last of the November Mass counts this weekend. We will have assistants at each of the church entry doors distributing individual Mass count slips. There will be pens on each of the pews to use to fill in the slips, one per family, per couple or if attending on your own a single person. We will ask attendants to collect the completed forms before the commencement of the Offertory hymn. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Spiritual Christmas Cards

The Stomber family extends its most sincere gratitude to all who purchased Christmas cards or made a donation last weekend. With your generosity, \$1,634 was raised which will be distributed to the needy in India over the next few weeks. Many thanks!

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal ~ Next weekend 3rd/4th Dec

Our appeal this year is not about providing food for hampers to those in need. The society has purchased 60 hampers from Food Bank Australia. The need is to supplement these hampers. The appeal for money/gift cards will enhance the food hampers by allowing our families to also purchase goods/food that are a part of their cultural traditions. Each hamper will have a \$40-60 meal voucher and gift cards. Thank you for your continued support of sharing your Christmas with those who without our assistance would not be able to enjoy this most festive time of the year.

The Oaks ~ Next Sunday 4 December

On Sunday 4 December there will be morning tea after 9.00am Mass with little delights brought along by the families. All invited, especially the kids. And yes, Father Michael will be present and will indulge but with restraint and moderation. Hard to resist a good custard tart at morning tea! Preferable to lamingtons.

Saturday/Sunday 26th/27th November ~ First Sunday of Advent

Saturday

Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Jo

Celebrant

Musician/Vocalists

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent, Damian, Betty
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig

26th Nov	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Mark Coleman					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Ray Cusack	Kerry Todd	John Roberts	Robin Roberts	Russell O'Brien	Elizabeth
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Cheryl Carroll	Rebecca Ward	Lisa McFadzean	Lorraine Phillips	Cheryl/ Kathryn
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Oscar Marimbe	Maria Caridi	Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Julie Sligar	Julie Sligar
Sun 5.00pm		Judith Madsen	Margaret Thornton	Samantha Vergara	Dianne Garland	Craig

Saturday/Sunday 3rd/4th December ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday

Camden 9:00 AM
Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father Victor
Father Michael

Musician/Vocalists

Quiet Mass
Belinda and Sarah
Jo

Sunday

The Oaks 9:00 AM
Camden 8:00 AM
Camden 10:00 AM
Camden 5:00 PM

Father Michael
Father Victor
Father Victor
Father Michael

Nicole
Steve, Damian, Betty
Choir
Jenny & Tasha

Diocesan News

Get connected with what is on around the diocese. Conscious that with many messages to choose from to put in your bulletins every week, we are 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:

<https://dow.sh/stayingconnected> or

visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to parishes weekly.

We Pray for those who are unwell: Liam Cantarella, Myra Dozzi, Des Grissell, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Anne Hyeronimus, Maria Irwin, Syd Hyett, Trish Hyett, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael & Parish Office