



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 The Oaks and Camden

Second Week of Advent ~ 8 December 2024

Four Themes of Advent

- **Hope:** The first theme of advent is hope. ...
- **Peace:** The second week of advent focuses on peace. ...
- **Love:** In week three, we celebrate love. ...
- **Joy:** The theme of the last week of advent is joy

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Although celebrated on 8th December, the Solemnity in 2024 will be a day later so as to avoid a clash with the Second Sunday of Advent.

The Immaculate Conception is a beautiful church doctrine that teaches that Mary was born without original sin and lived the entirety of her life without any stain of sin.

Accordingly, **Mass** will be celebrated by Fr James at Camden this

Monday morning 9th December at 9:00 AM.

A huge part of Catholic spirituality is to have Marian devotion.

It's just another reason why children in our sacramental programmes are required to learn the Hail Mary.

And it's why – in our midweek Masses at St Clare's and St Paul's – the Angelus is recited before Mass.

2024/2025 PENANCE PROGRAMME

This weekend enrolment forms will be distributed at all Masses. The enrolment form needs to be returned next weekend with the \$25.00 fee. Please do not try to return completed forms this weekend, if you are away 14/15 December please return your forms at the earliest possible Mass on your return.

If your family were unable to attend Mass last weekend to submit your child/children's name/s it is not too late, please see the attendant who will be in the musician's area and will have the submission forms and timelines as well as enrolment forms. Again the enrolment form needs to be taken home and returned next weekend.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Last weekend at all our Parish Masses there were leaving collections for the Saint Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal. As always our parish community was very generous and an amount of \$5,600 was raised. Every cent will go to those of our community who are struggling with the cost of living at this time and will enable families to have a little joy at this most holy time of the year. In addition, the local primary and high schools donated a large amount of grocery items for our crisis pantry. Many thanks are extended.

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

Confessions Before Christmas

In days gone by, before the wretched Covid, there had always been scheduled at Camden a communal 'Rite of Reconciliation'. Rather unfortunately, there's no longer enough priests in our area – the Western Macarthur – to organise a communal penitential gathering.

Two very loyal priests – Father John Whitty and Father Alan Hartcher – have gone to their eternal reward, and others have reached an age where it's become too difficult to travel.

Consequently, extra times will be added in the Third Week of Advent between the 17th and 21st December. Details will be provided in the Weekly Message to be emailed on Friday 13th.

Advent Event ~ 30 November

Another very good night with lots of fraternity and humour. Topics of conversation certainly inspired lots of different perspectives. Food was so enjoyable, and the beef stroganoff was worthy of a five-star restaurant. The occasion began about 6:00 PM and the formalities came to conclusion a little after 8:00 PM.

Our next gathering will be the Lent Event next year, and there'll be new initiatives to invite 'first timers'. A presence at these evenings is a great way of experiencing another dimension of parish life and to add to the collective memory of positive experiences that are shared together.

December Men's Group Meeting

Last Wednesday evening twenty-one members of the Parish gathered for the last Men's Group meeting for 2024. The subject of Advent was very thoroughly examined, and as always lively discussions were enjoyed. Most of those who had gathered then adjourned to the Plough and Harrow to enjoy further fraternity. Our next meeting will be in February 2025.

Christmas Mass Timetable

Tuesday 24 th December	Oakdale	5:00 PM Vigil	MW
	The Oaks	6:30 PM Vigil	MW
	Camden	5:00 PM Vigil	JA
		7:00 PM Vigil	JA
		9:00 PM Vigil	JA
Wednesday 25 th	Camden	Midnight	JA
	Camden	9:00 AM Christmas Morning	MW

Christmas Mass Volunteers

If you are currently a part of our roster system for Lectors, Special Ministers or Acolytes and will be available for the Christmas Masses on the 24/25 December there is a form in the Chapel on the magazine table for names to be listed at those times you can assist. The Parish office would be very grateful if names can be added as soon as possible to enable us to complete the rosters and distribute it in a timely fashion. Thank you in anticipation.

Come See, Go Make ~ Principals and Foundations

This is a pastoral programme produced by our own diocese as a way of embracing parish and personal renewal:

Foundations:	Empowering Leadership Primacy of Evangelisation Moving in the Power of the Holy Spirit
Principals	Prioritising Sunday Mass The 3 Hs – Hospitality, Hymns, Homilies Community - Meaningful Community, Small-group Community Discipleship – Clear Expectations, Strength-based ministry Experience of the Holy Spirit Becoming Invitational

Our Parish Pastoral Council has been discussing these principals and foundations in meetings earlier this year. And discussion will need to continue into next year.

In the meantime, we can all be **invitational** leading up to Christmas. Why not encourage family members and friends to attend one of the Christmas Masses. But go a step further and suggest attendance at one of the Advent Masses as well. Reassure them it won't cause any suffering.

Having a presence at Mass tends to redirect our thinking to the more important matters of life, and to bring us into a stronger union with the Lord. It's a great investment of our own personal time.

Carrington Work Opportunity

Carrington Care is looking to hire a Pastoral Care Worker in a full or part-time position. This is an important role where you will provide compassionate, competent, and respectful spiritual and emotional care in our aged care facilities. You will work in a supportive team environment in collaboration with our Pastoral Care Coordinator, multi-disciplinary teams, and local faith representatives.

As a member of the care team in the delivery of services, your primary focus is to ensure that the diverse pastoral, emotional and spiritual needs of residents, their families, and staff are identified and responded to.

The Pastoral Care Worker promotes and respects the vision, mission, and values of Carrington and ensures that our values of being considerate, attentive, responsive, and of excellence are reflected in all duties.

Please visit <https://www.seek.com.au/job/80389073> for a full job description and to make an application. Applications close Friday 17th December 2024.

Diocesan News

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

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

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

Saturday/Sunday 7th/8th December ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father James

Musician/Vocalists

Maria C
Jo

Sunday

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

Father James
Father Michael
Father Michael
Father James

Nicole
Choir
Eva & Darko
Tony

8 th Dec	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	John Roberts					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	John Roberts	Jim Gallagher	Diane Kennaugh	Fabian M, Robin Roberts	Sharon Picken, Angelina Vecchio	Elizabeth
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Brian				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Glenn Crawford	Deanna David	Simon Huntly	Lisa McFadzean	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Melissa Duck				
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Nada Simich	Michael Toweel	Kylie Crnek-Georgeson	Michael Reardon	Rafael
Sun 5.00pm	Peter Grizelj	Olivia Kosiak	Joseph Hanson	Melissa Scavo	Therese Easter	Lo Cascio family

Saturday/Sunday 14th/15th December ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father James

Musician/Vocalists

Belinda and Tasha
Jo

Sunday

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

Father James
Father Michael
Father Michael
Father James

Nicole
Cheryl
Choir
Craig

For our Faithful Departed:

Anna Glakin, Maria Muhic, Sonya Sekardi, Dawn McDonald, *who died recently*. Dayne Mackie, Virginia Mackie, Michael Vella, Jannelle Shearer, Matthew Walsh, Michael Busby, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Paul Barry, Jeremy Barry, Fr John Whitty, Paul & Phyl Star, Thurn family, Dunn family, Sutton family, Cath Bourke, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Barry Myles, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Stephen Goonan, Jan & Terry Chanter, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Ilona Maros, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell and Wal Glynn, Pauline Cepak, Joseph Camilleri, Abbey Kohler, Brian Ovington, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Margaret Roach, Anne Hyeronimus, Dianne Koens, Myra Dozzi, Anne Lonsdale, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Betty Aquilina, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Saint Paul's Parish Office