



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

Australia Day Weekend

Prayers offered for our nation, and especially for the many people who now call Australia home. Special affection and regard is held for our indigenous brothers and sisters. Public policy always needs to take into account with generosity their particular needs.

In terms of social justice, the church teaches about '*preferential option for the poor*'. Regardless of background, may our elected representatives always have a genuine concern for all those most in need of welfare and special assistance. We pray that our nation will forever be truly compassionate.

May God bless Australia. Our prayers from the Missal this weekend will be those provided for Australia Day. Readings from the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Friday 31st January ~ Mass at 8:30 AM

Summer holidays are nearing an end and many of our younger families will now be focusing their attention on preparing teenagers and children for a return to school. Bit of a readjustment required.

Our teachers and ancillary personnel at St. Paul's, Mater Dei, St. Clare's and Magdalene return this Friday. It all begins with Mass in the church at 8:30 AM. Our regular parishioners are invited to attend because the 8:30 AM Mass will replace the normal 9:00 AM Mass.

Mass will include a homily from Father Michael and a selection of sacred hymns. This has been a tradition in our parish that stretches back almost 20 years. And for a few years it also included St Justin's and St Benedict's. All very worthwhile.

St Clare's Church

Over the past few weeks there have been a couple of meetings about (1) lighting and (2) sight and sound. Both areas have required very high levels of expertise and sophistication.

A preliminary report is also expected to be received in the coming week from the structural engineer.

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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

Road Closure John Street ~ Australia Day

Owing to Camden Council festivities, there will be a road closure of John Street on Australia Day, Sunday 26 January. John Street will be closed between Argyle and Mitchell Streets. Our weekend Masses and ceremonies will proceed as scheduled, but please be aware that there will be no parking in front of the church, it is a tow away area. The Australia Day parade will be passing the church on its way to Camden Farm in Exeter Street.

Penance Programme 2024/25

Families who have enrolled their children in the Sacrament of Penance Programme, are reminded that the programme recommences next weekend 1st/2nd February. There is a small error on the Timeline, it does not affect any of the weekend obligations but we ask if families could please note this year Ash Wednesday falls on 5 March, when children should be assisted in their choice of abstinence for Lent. If any family would like an updated Timeline they will be available from the attendants next weekend.

Please be aware of our mutual obligations, as stated on the reverse of the timeline, all queries should be directed to the Parish Office on 4655 8797 during normal hours.

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

As advised in last week's Message our first meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council has been called for 12th February in the Parish Meeting room. The meeting will commence promptly at 7.00pm and is expected to finish at the normal time of 8.30pm. All parishioners are invited to attend as well as the Council members, RVSPs should be directed to the Parish Office during normal hours.

Parish Men's Group February 5th

The first meeting for 2025 is scheduled for Wednesday 5 February in the Parish Meeting room. The meeting will commence at 6.30pm and follow the 2024 format of Prayer, Scripture reading and discussion, the topic for this first meeting is "Spiritual Warfare" The meeting proper should finish at 7.30pm. A small change to our after meeting is offered to the attendees, who are invited to stay and enjoy pizza and a few drinks that will be provided by the Parish.

Damian and Rebecca Ward 25th Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations are offered to Damian and Rebecca Ward on the occasion of their Twenty Fifth Wedding Anniversary. Damian is a longtime member of our Finance Committee and Rebecca has been a lector at our 8.00am Mass for many years. On behalf of the Parish Father Michael and Father James offer their very best wishes to Damian and Rebecca as they renew their vows and celebrate.

Diocesan News

Sapientia Retreat

Single adults, ages 18-30, are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia for a weekend retreat at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park, NSW, from 7-9 February 2025. The retreat will consist of talks, discussion, silence, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Confession, Mass, and time for fun and fellowship. Fee: \$300 per person. Please complete the google form (<https://forms.gle/hHyBFDjN3A5pexXJA>) to register your intention. Registrations close 31 January.

For more 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

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

Saturday/Sunday 25th/26th January ~ 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Saturday

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Belinda and Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father James	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father James	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father Michael	Choir
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent & Betty
Camden	5:00 PM	Father James	Craig

26 th Jan	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Pat O'Flynn	Jim Gallagher	Maria Kosiak	John Roberts	Olivia Kosiak	Eugene
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	TBA				
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Rebecca Ward	Warren Johnson	Glenn Crawford	Clare Power	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Warren Jones				
Sun 10.00am	Michael Toweel	Joseph Hanson	Leonie Gray	Peter Grizelj	Michael Reardon	Che
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Grace Quinnell	Samantha Vergara	Melissa Scavo	Jody Musso	Craig

Saturday/Sunday 1st/2nd February ~ The Presentation of the Lord

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father James
Father Michael

Musician/Vocalists

Belinda
Jo

Sunday

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

Father Michael
Father James
Father James
Father Michael

Nicole
Steve
Choir
Craig

Kind Regards

Father Michael

For our Faithful Departed: Jan Dell 'Olio, Anka Lipovschi, Cyril Ferriere, Anne Lonsdale, Orazio Messina, Peter Cannon, Diann Rix, Sue Aston, *who died recently*. Olga and Sebastino Garufi, Antonio Barone, Saide Kabro, Michael Ainsworth, Sammy Fenech, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Saide Kabro, Lilian Grech, Valtin Thurn, Margaret Thurn, Dorothy Dunn, John Dunn, Sutton, Thurn and Dunn families, Cath Bourke, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Anthony Paul, Paul Barry, Jeremy Barry, Fr John Whitty, Paul & Phyl Star, George Apap, Apap family, Joyce family, Barry Myles, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell: Fr David Schward, Kevin Arblaster, Fr David Catterall, Marie Saba, 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, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Betty Aquilina, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Norman Richardson, John and Ilona Somoracz.