



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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year C ~ 25/26 October

Tuesday 28 October

Saint Simon and Saint Jude ~ Apostles

Saint Simon and Saint Jude were apostles of Jesus, known for their missionary zeal and martyrdom. Saint Simon, called the zealot, and Saint Jude, patron saint of hopeless causes, preached across the Middle East. Little is recorded about them, although writings honour their unwavering faith and sacrifice.

Sacrament of First Holy Communion ~ 2025 Programme

This week families in our First Holy Communion programme will need to collect the fourth week's assistance sheet and have their child's attendance at Mass recorded. This is the last week of workshops, and all parents/carers should ensure that every puzzle and question in fully completed. Books that do not reach a satisfactory standard will be returned for reworking and could put the candidate's Mass allocation into doubt.

A leaflet listing the allocations for the First Holy Communion ceremonies will also be distributed. We have approximately 20 families who have yet to complete a selection sheet. If you are one of these families, please note the 5.00pm Saturday Mass has very limited availability and there is no room for inclusion in either of the Sunday Masses. Please complete the selection form by filling in each available Mass in order of your preference. Each Mass must be numbered.

Diocese Annual Mass Count

Parishioners will notice that for the next four weeks volunteers will be counting the attendance at each of the weekend Masses. The counters will count after Communion and during the Thanksgiving Hymn. This information is required by the Diocese and is done annually to assist with planning for the future of parishes as well as the allocation of staff for the coming year. Father Michael and the Bishop thank parishioners for assisting in this important securing of information.

Mission Appeal ~ Wrap Up

Last weekend a short video was shown at all Masses, and a leaving collection taken up in support of Catholic Missions worldwide. Monies received in 2025 will go to support the work of the church in Zambia. We have passed onto Catholic Mission Australia a sum of \$4,271.00. Father Michael expresses his thanks to everyone who contributed to this very worthy cause.

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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

Advent Event ~ Saturday 29 November

The annual Parish Advent Event will be held on Saturday 29 November, following the Vigil Mass. Tickets are now available to be purchased. The cost of \$20.00 per person includes the two-course meal of meat, chicken, and pasta dishes, salads, rice and vegetables, a choice of two desserts, tea, coffee and beverages. Tickets will be limited to 90 as this is the most comfortable number that can be accommodated in the Parish Heritage Hall. Please contact the Parish Office during normal hours and they will be happy to take your booking and any seating requests.

All parishioners are encouraged to come along; single attendees can be seated with likeminded parishioners and Father Michael's special talking topics always lead to conversation around the tables. This is a very enjoyable evening; it is not late finishing and a very happy way to start the Christmas season.

If you are intending to come, book early, forty percent of the tickets are already allocated, it is advisable to act sooner rather than later. It is always difficult when the office needs to tell parishioners that the event is fully booked and the disappointment of those who have missed out is so obvious.

"The Promise" Advent book and "God's Word" 2026

Advent is the Church's way of assisting the Christifidelis (Christ's faithful) to prepare for Christmas. The most important form of preparation is to be present among the gathered assembly on Sundays. Another way is to buy a little Advent Booklet that has been prepared by our diocese. This year the booklet is called "The Promise".

God's Word ~ Daily Reflections is another very popular publication prepared by priests and brothers of the order of Saint Paul and include the readings and Psalm of the day and an insightful reflection by many contributors for the 2026 Liturgical year. Both "The Promise" and "God's Word" are ideal for all our parishioners, especially those of limited mobility. These publications make great Christmas gifts.

Boxes containing both booklets are positioned on the sanctuary and can be obtained after Mass.

The Promise cost is \$3.00

God's Word is \$15.00

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Columban calendars can be purchased from either the Parish office or the Piety box at a cost of \$10.00.

Summer Edition of the Australian Catholics Magazine

Copies of the Australian Catholics Magazine 2025/2026 Summer Edition are available for pick up from the magazine tables around the church. The magazine is free and has some very interesting articles. With the end of winter sports there are insights into the interaction of sport and faith and a very informative article on the upcoming Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne. Well worth taking a copy home.

Access to the Church Toilets during Mass

Access to the church toilets will continue to be through the rear single door of the church only. Gentlemen need to proceed straight ahead to the rear of the buildings and then turn right up the short ramp. Lady's facilities are still in the toilet block at the rear left-hand corner of the church. Please follow the signs.

An order has been placed for electronic hand dryers and an installation date agreed on. In an effort to stop the blocking of the sewer by someone flushing copious amounts of paper hand towels into the toilets, all paper hand towels have been removed to avoid further blockages and the necessity of another plumber callout. We apologise for any inconvenience to the majority who unfortunately suffer because of a minority.

Diocesan News

For 2025, there's a very strong emphasis on Year of Jubilee.

Good idea to visit the diocesan website

www.jubilee.dow.org.au

Saturday/Sunday 25th/26th October ~ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year C

Saturday		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Maria B & 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 Oct	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Mark Coleman					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Olivia Kosiak	Maria Kosiak	Kerry Todd	Barbara Spiteri, John Roberts	Trish O'Flynn, Fabian Menolotto	Eugene Kosiak
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Jo				
Sun 8.00am	Mark Coleman	Rebecca Ward	Anthony McElhone	Maryann Ace	Lily Crnek	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Nicole Comerford				
Sun 10.00am	Peter Grizelj	Helen Lanyon	Michael Toweel	Maria Debrincat	Meaghan Marchand	Che
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Margaret Thornton	Stephen Barrett	Samantha Vergara	Clare Power	Craig

Saturday/Sunday 1/2 November ~ All Souls Day

Saturday

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	5:00 PM	Father James	Belinda & Sarah
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo

Sunday

The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden	8:00 AM	Father James	Steve & Damian
Camden	10:00 AM	Father James	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jenny & Tasha

For our Faithful Departed:

Margaret O'Neill, Maureen Paine, Lourdes Adams, James Walsh, *who died recently*. Rita Xerri, Therese O'Brien, Rosa Violi, Dolores Morgan, Eric Busby, Michael Busby, Carmela Teuma, Concetta Bartolo, Alex Grima, Barry Myles, Matthew Walsh, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Pat O'Flynn, Nathan Giles, Therese Carroll, Cath Bourke, Fr David Catterall, Lilian Grech, Joseph Camilleri, Joe & Kaleidon Mifsud and families, Joseph Tonna, Michael Tonna, Reno Borg, Nazareno Teuma, Lawrence Teuma, Joseph Spiteri, Deceased members of the Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, deceased members of the Ryan and Lewis families, David Lewis, Diane Thorns, Barbara Celan, Mirium Bertrand, Judy Waltisbuhl, Theresa Borg, Fr John Whitty, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Jan & Terry Chanter, Leigh Huntly, Helen Parragi, Julie Curry, Oliver Franklin, Joseph Picos, June McCullough, Dean Masciocchi, Abigail Chan, Kylieann Back, Kerri Haughton, Fr Rick McCann, Diana Lee, Noel Lowry, Betty Aquilina, Mary Murphy, David Schwarb, Stephen Goonan, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell and Wal Glynn, Abbey Kohler, Brian Ovington, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Margaret Roach, Dianne Koens, Myra Dozzi, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams