



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ YEAR A ~ 20TH/21ST DECEMBER 2025

Wednesday 24 December

The Christmas Novena Ends

The final prayers on December 24 ends the Christmas Novena which began 9 days ago. This leads directly into the celebration of Christmas, marking the arrival of Christmas Day.

Christmas Day is a holy day of obligation within the Catholic Church, meaning the faithful must attend Mass. It celebrates the birth of Jesus, central to our belief. Catholics honour this day with worship, prayer, and joy.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE CELEBRANTS, MUSICIANS, VOCALISTS, CHORISTERS

Church	Time	Celebrant	Music
Christmas Eve		Wednesday 24th December	
Oakdale	5:00 PM Vigil	JA	Jo
The Oaks	6:30 PM Vigil	JA	TBA
Camden	5:00 PM Vigil	MW	Maria + St Paul's School Choir
	7:00 PM Vigil	MW	Craig, Brian, Colin
	9:00 PM Vigil	JA	Eva and Sarah
Christmas Midnight		Thursday 25th December	
Camden	Midnight	JA	Parish Choir With Carols from 11.30pm
Christmas Morning		Thursday 25th December	
Camden	9:00 AM	MW	William and Ilona

THE LIGHT THAT CANNOT BE OVERCOME

Bishop Brian has written a letter to all parishes and parishioners following the tragic shootings that happened at Bondi last weekend. Copies of the letter are available on the magazine table in the Chapel. Bishop Brian is encouraging us all to spend time in prayer and to reflect on our Saviour, the Prince of Peace, Light of the World and how we can allow His love to guide our thoughts and actions as a result of this tragedy.

CHANGES TO MASS AT CAMDEN AND NARELLAN VALE

The Presbytery at Narellan Vale is now closed, Mass will resume Wednesday morning 7 January at the usual time.

Friday 26 December (Boxing Day) there will be no morning Mass at Saint Paul's Camden. The church will be closed, with normal Mass and Confessions to resume on Saturday 27 December. Mass at Camden will continue the following week as normal.

ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES ~ BEFORE CHRISTMAS

To allow for all parishioners who wish to go to confession before Christmas, Father Michael and Father James will be available for penitents on the following dates and times.

Saturday 20 December ~ 9.30am to 10.15am

Tuesday 23 December ~ 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Confessions will be First Rite of Reconciliation, there will be no Second Rite.

CHANGES TO THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Parish Office will close at 4.00pm on Tuesday 23rd December, and will reopen on Tuesday morning 30 December at 9.00am. During this time the telephone messages and the emails will not be monitored. Parishioners wishing to contact the office should wait until 30 December. Because the Parish Office will be closed on the normal preparation day, there will be no Weekly Message next week 28 December. This week's message includes all messages of importance and Parishioners are encouraged to read everything that is available.

The Weekly Message will recommence distribution 4 January 2026.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PROGRAMME 2025 ~ 2026

Our Sacrament of Penance programme commenced four weeks ago, and we have 175 children enrolled to date. The programme is now paused for the school holidays and will recommence the weekend of 31 January/1 February 2026. Families wishing to make further enquires or if enrolled already and need more information, should contact the Parish Office during normal hours in 2026.

PLEASE PRESERVE THE REVERENCE OF THE CHURCH

Over the coming week our church will be welcoming many families and visitors who may not always be in attendance here at Camden for Mass. To preserve the reverence of the church everyone is asked to refrain from eating and drinking within the church.

Lollies and especially chewing gum are included in our request. If necessary, water is allowed but fizzy drinks, tea and coffee should all be consumed before entering. Our electronic sign asks this of everyone who enters the church.

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.

A new lock has now been fitted to the gentleman's facilities with the hope that this will deter anyone from using the toilet then locking the door from the inside so that no one else can get in. An automatic closer has also been fitted to the single exit door which has previously been left open when parishioners enter and exit. With the hot weather our air conditioning needs all doors to be kept closed, please do not prop the single door open as this defeats the purpose of fitting the closer.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 20TH/21ST DECEMBER NOVEMBER ~ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden 5:00 PM	Father James	Tasha
Oakdale 5:00 PM	Father Michael	Jo
Sunday		
The Oaks 9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden 8:00 AM	Father James	Cheryl
Camden 10:00 AM	Father James	Choir
Camden 5:00 PM	Father Michael	Craig

21 st Dec	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Enzeigh Thomas					
Sat Vigil 5.00 pm	John Roberts	Kerry Todd	Diane Kennaugh	Richard Stomber, Heather Cox	Mary Bartolo, Russell O'Brien	Kerry
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Claire				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Anthony McElhone	Toni Sillis	Glenn Crawford	Cristina Macri	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Carol Ann Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Maureen Grisdale	Helen Lanyon	Meaghan Marchand	Nada Simich	Brad
Sun 5.00pm	Mark Coleman	Ann Madsen	Judith Madsen	Clare Power	Annemarie Lauricella	Craig

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 27/28 DECEMBER ~ THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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

For our Faithful Departed:

Wal Glynn, Peter Teale, Lydia Palma, Bruce Denison, Lourdes Adams, Joshua Giannatii, *who died recently*. Peter Cannon, Barbara Sawyer, Dorothy Dunn, Margaret Thurn, Ros Dunn, Peter Cox, Dayne Mackie, Tom 'Red' McElligott, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Sammy Fenech, Nazareno Teuma, Carmela Teuma, Rino & Assunta Zanatta, Luigi Zanatta, Pasquale Zanatta, Therese Carroll, Nathan Giles, Barry Miles, Cath Bourke, Brian & Patricia Treacey, Edwin & Janet Manno, Hira & Monty Savage, Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, Pat O'Flynn, Fr David Catterall, Fr John Whitty, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:

George Raby, Patricia Stubbs, Frank Duck, Jan & Terry Chanter, Helen Parragi, Oliver Franklin, 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 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.

To our dear Parishioners,

On behalf of Father James and myself, I pray that almighty God, whose Son was born in a stable, forever bring new light to you all at Christmas. May the light of faith in our own hearts shine through in all we do and say. May God bless you all, we wish you a very happy and holy Christmas.

Father Michael Williams PP