

Dear Parishioners at *The Oaks and Camden*

Palm Sunday ~ Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March 2026



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



Palm Sunday is the commencement of Holy Week

This seven-day period from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday is the most sacred week in the Catholic Church. In recalling the final events of Jesus's earthly life, up until his triumphant Resurrection, those baptised into the Catholic Church are invited and encouraged to have a deep and prayerful presence at each of the ceremonies which, we pray, will become truly heartfelt and transformative.

If having embraced some serious form of discipline from Ash Wednesday, please be mindful that the Season of Lent comes to the conclusion with the beginning of – what is known as – the Easter Triduum, itself starting with the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM on Holy Thursday.

However, since Good Friday is a day of fasting, it's undoubtedly a very good idea to extend the Lenten discipline up until at least Holy Saturday and possibly the Easter Vigil. Then the time has unquestionably arrived to indulge – possibly with eggs and bunnies.

Good Friday

More than any other day in the year, Good Friday is a time of deep sorrow and solemnity. In Word and sacred music, the gathered assembly pray and contemplate the suffering of Jesus especially in his crucifixion and death.

Accordingly, people of the Catholic church are called to a day of fasting and restraint. It's not a time of laughter and festivity but much more a time of prayer and withdrawal.

Meat should not be eaten. And in keeping with the penitential tone of the day, other exotic foods should also be avoided. In a secular society, it is an interesting phenomenon to watch consumers load up on seafood. Absolutely no judgement.

However, for members of the Catholic faith, there's a much stronger calling to enter more deeply into the mystery of our Lord's supreme sacrifice.

Holy Week ~ Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday

Palm Sunday: Masses as usual at Oakdale, The Oaks and Camden.

*Please note, however, that at Camden at 10:00 AM,
Mass begins outside the church with the Blessing of Palms*

Ceremony	Church	Time	Celebrant	Music
Holy Thursday	Camden	7:00 PM	Fr Hung	Choir
Holy Thursday	The Oaks	7:00 PM	Fr Victor	Nicole
Good Friday Stations	Oakdale	9:00 AM	Fr Hung	
Good Friday Stations	Camden	10:00 AM	Fr Victor	Sarah & Ilona
Good Friday Passion	Camden	3:00 PM	Fr Michael Fr Victor Fr Hung	Craig
Easter Saturday Vigil	Camden	5:00 PM	Fr Michael Fr Victor Fr Hung	Choir
Easter Sunday Morning	Camden	7:30 AM	Fr Hung	Ilona and Bill
	Oakdale	8:00 AM	Fr Victor	Jo
	Camden	9:00 AM	Fr Hung	Craig, Brian, Colin
	The Oaks	9:30 AM	Fr Victor	Nicole
	Camden	10:30 AM	Fr Michael	Eva & Sarah
Easter Sunday Evening	Camden	5:00 PM	Fr Michael	Tony and family

CHILDREN'S FIRST CONFESSIONS

Overwhelmingly, the children appeared to be well prepared. It's not possible to be specific about the details because of the absolute seal that applies to this sacrament. And the priests are NOT permitted to discuss the content of any individual confessions even if only among themselves. Furthermore, any information from the actual confession cannot be used in any other way for any other reason, even anonymously.

However, other parts of the penance programme can be assessed in the following ways: (a) the overwhelming majority of workbooks were completed to high standard, (b) the prayers were quite well known - and in some cases, exceptionally well known - among almost all of the children, and (c) attendance at Mass was quite high with only a small number of families falling short of the agreed commitment.

Mementos will be blessed at all Masses this weekend and distributed to the children. Families are encouraged to continue to attend Mass on a regular basis and to look for enrolment information for our First Holy Communion programme either late August or early in September.

Thanks are extended to parents, teachers, and office personnel who contributed with great commitment. There are lots of outstanding people in our parishes.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Scheduled for this Wednesday at 7:00 PM, there will be four priests in attendance. The late Pope Francis spoke of shame -when we sin – as a grace. When feeling shame, we're acknowledging that we've been partly separated from God by the misuse of our free will. Sin is foreign and destructive to the way that God created us and wants us to be.

So there's an opportunity this coming Wednesday during Holy Week to seek God's forgiveness. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an occasion for mercy, grace and renewal. It really is excellent preparation for the sacred mysteries in our churches over the following days.

There's obvious value in bring other family members.

EARLY NOTIFICATION OF ENROLMENT FOR CONFIRMATION

Saint Paul's Confirmation programme for 2026 will commence with enrolment offered to children who have made their Sacrament of Penance and who are currently in year six or higher over all Masses of the weekend of 18 and 19 April. Further information will be available after Easter and included in the Weekly Messages, as with all Saint Paul's Sacramental programmes an integral part of our programmes is attendance at Mass and all requirements for the programme are offered after Mass within the church.

REMINDER OF THE NEXT PARISH MEN'S GROUP

A reminder is offered to all those who attend our Parish Men' Group evenings that because the next scheduled meeting fell so close to Easter that it has been moved until 8 April. Further information will be in next week's message.

PLEASE PRESERVE THE REVERENCE OF THE CHURCH

All who enter our Church are asked to please refrain bringing in fizzy drinks, coffee, lollies and treats, especially chewing gum. Our church is cleaned to a very high standard, and sweets and spills left by those who attend early Masses leave those who attend at later times unable to enjoy the same cleanliness. Our electronic sign has this request on it at all times.

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.

SATURDAY 28TH/SUNDAY 29TH MARCH ~ PALM SUNDAY

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Michael
Father Hung

Musician/Vocalists

Belinda & Tasha
Jo

Sunday

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

Father Victor
Father Hung
Father Michael
Father Michael

Cheryl
Nicole
Choir
Tony

29 th Mar	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 9.00am	Nada Simich					
Sat Vigil 5.00pm	Peter Grizelj	Heather Cox	Danielle Caruana	Fabian Menolotto, Barbara Spiteri	Ann & Richard Stomber	Elizabeth
		Narr: Diane Kennaugh	Other: Kerry Todd			
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billett	Jo				
Sun 8.00am	John Charadia	Kimberley Logue	Rebecca Ward	Kathryn Hampton	Lucy Aquilina	Cheryl
		Narr: Cheryl Carroll	Other: Glenn Crawford			
The Oaks 9.00am		Carol Ann Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Kristen King	Maureen Grisdale	Michael Reardon, Lily Crnek	Julie Puckin	Brad
		Narr: Leonie Gray	Other: Meaghan Marchand			
Sun 5.00pm	Olivia Kosiak	Judith Madsen	Ann Madsen	Annemarie Lauricella	Dianne Garland	Lo Cascio family
		Narr: Samantha Vergara	Other: Joseph Hanson			

For our Faithful Departed:

Joyce Lawler, Theresa Prospero, Elaine Belleville, Alice Thew, Jennifer Johnson, Angela-Maria Arcuri, Mauricio Garcia, Helen Fletcher, Kevin Daley, *who died recently*. Lilian Grech, Raymond Noel King, Jessica King, Matthew Dunn, Elizabeth Thurn, Faye Humphries, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Thurn family, Dunn family, Sutton family Msgr Pastor Bolivar Virginia, Therese Carroll, Nathan Giles, Cath Bourke, Sammy Fenech, Barry Myles, Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, Pat O'Flynn, Fr Allan Hartcher, Fr David Catterall, Fr John Whitty, *Requiescat in Pace*.

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Ladislaus Parragi, Mason Bayliss, Patricia Stubbs, 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, Stephen Goonan, Ralph Sawyer, Tarnia Pisano, Michael O'Sullivan, Nell Glynn, Abbey Kohler, Brian Ovington, Bernardine Hagan, Les Lugowski, Alexia Nawaling, Bob & Margaret Roach, Dianne Koens, Myra Dozzi, Robyn Shearer, Betty Thomas, Olivia Toole, Sue Johnson, Nancy Calarco, Ilona Somoracz.

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP