



**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

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR A ~ 22/23 AUGUST 2026

Monday 24 August

~

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Saint Bartholomew was one of Jesus' Apostles. Scholars believe he was from Cana in Galilee, and Jesus said of him, "'Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him.'" Saint Bartholomew is famous in art and history for being flayed (skinned alive) as a martyr in Armenia and because of his gruesome death, he is often shown in paintings and sculptures holding a tanner's knife and carrying his own skin. St. Bartholomew is the patron saint of leatherworkers, bookbinders, plasterers, butchers, tanners, and shoemakers.

NORMAL MORNING MASS RESUMES ~ SATURDAY 22 AUGUST 9.00AM

Normal morning Mass will recommence on Saturday 22 August at 9.00am followed by confessions with Father Hung the celebrant and confessor.

The parish offers their thanks to both Enzeigh Thomas and John Roberts who conducted Communion Services while Father Victor and Father Hung have been away at the Diocesan Retreat this past week and Father Michael continues to be on annual leave.

Next week morning Mass will be at the normal time with Father Victor and Father Hung on their normal roster.

BACK-UP PENANCE PROGRAMME ~ CAMDEN ONLY

Marked workshop books will be returned at all Masses at Camden this weekend. The books will be on a table in the Chapel. Books with a Parish stamp within the front cover have been marked as satisfactory, these books may have a paper tab on a page or even several pages with the request that families revisit these pages as something within that workshop is not correct.

Books without a Parish stamp within the cover will need to be reworked and returned to the Parish Office before the children can complete the Sacrament. These families would have been contacted by Parish staff.

Ceremony time leaflets have not been reproduced as we have not had any requests for changes to assigned times.

A reminder is offered of the ceremonies on Tuesday evening at 5.00pm and Wednesday evening at 6.00pm. Ceremonies will start on time and if families are running late, they cannot be admitted to the church once the ceremony has commenced and an alternate time for their child's confession will need to be arranged.

OCIA PROGRAMME ~ NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST

A reminder is offered to parishioners who are currently a part of our 2026 Adults into the church programme that the next scheduled meeting is this coming Wednesday evening at 7.00pm in the Parish Meeting room. Father Victor and Father Hung will be the facilitators and the topics for this session are “Liturgy and the Sacraments” and “Baptism and Confirmation”.

REFLECTION FROM FATHER VICTOR

~Building on a Strong Foundation (Matthew 16:13-20)~

In today’s Gospel, Jesus says to Peter, **“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.”** It is striking that Jesus chose Peter. He was not perfect. He was passionate—often speaking before thinking. He was impulsive, stepping out of the boat in faith one moment and sinking in fear the next. He was sometimes afraid, even distancing himself from Jesus. And in his darkest moment, he denied Jesus, saying, *“I do not know Him,”* as the rooster crowed in the early morning. Yet Jesus saw more than his failures. He saw who Peter could become—like a rough stone chosen for something strong and lasting.

This speaks beautifully to every young man and woman building a life and a family together.

When two people enter marriage, they do not come as perfect human beings. They come like two journeys meeting at a crossroads, each carrying memories, wounds, hopes, and expectations. There will be joyful days—laughter at the table, quiet walks, and the comfort of being understood. But there will also be difficult days—misunderstandings, heavy silences, and moments when patience runs thin. Like Peter, they learn that love is not about perfection, but about forgiveness, perseverance, and beginning again.

Jesus built His Church on Peter not because Peter would never fail, but because he was willing to trust and be changed. After his denial, Peter wept bitterly, yet he returned. And on the shore, beside a charcoal fire, Jesus met him again and asked, *“Do you love me?”* In that moment of brokenness, Peter was restored.

In the same way, a Christian family is built not on perfection, but on **Christ**—on prayer, patience, forgiveness, sacrifice, and faithfulness. When Christ is at the centre, He becomes the steady light in the home, guiding hearts back to love when pride or hurt tries to divide them. Even weaknesses can become places where grace works and deeper love grows.

As the **St Paul Parish and The Oaks Parish Communities**, we pray for young couples and families. May they not be discouraged by their imperfections. Every family faces struggles—moments of silence after conflict, or distance that feels hard to bridge. Yet love grows when two people choose each other again and again, just as Peter chose to follow Christ after every fall.

The Church began with Peter, a broken man transformed by Christ. **May our families also become places where Christ works through imperfect people, turning weakness into strength and love into a living witness of God’s presence.**

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2025~2026

The new envelopes for parishioners who use them for their Planned Giving pledges have been on a table in the church for a few weeks. The table is on the back wall near the side door that is near the presbytery.

This will be the last week that the envelopes can be obtained on the weekend, they will be moved from the church to the office. After this weekend contact will need to be made with the Parish Office to arrange a mutually suitable time for pickup. The envelopes are very expensive to mail out so we are requesting that if you still need to pick up your new envelopes that you do so as soon as possible.

PLEASE PRESERVE THE REVERENCE OF THE CHURCH

All who enter our Church are asked to please refrain from bringing in fizzy drinks, coffee, lollies and treats, especially chewing gum. The consuming of drinks and sweets shows disregard for the reverence of the church, fellow parishioners and our clergy. Our electronic sign has this request on it at all times.

ACCESS TO 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.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis

On Tuesday 15 September Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, 80 Demetrius Road, Rosemeadow will be hosting a day of Mass, Private Prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and veneration of a relic of Saint Carlo Acutis. There are three sessions from 2.00pm until 9.00pm. All parishioners of Saint Paul's, Saint Joseph the Worker and Saint Aloysius are warmly invited to attend one or more of the sessions that the Rosemeadow Parish is holding, the sacrament of Reconciliation will also be offered during the afternoon and evening.

Saint Carlo's love for the Eucharist and his insights of the modern world are inspiring for all Catholics, but particularly for young people. Perhaps those Confirmation candidates who chose Saint Carlos for their name in Confirmation would welcome the experience. Further information can be obtained by contacting Our Lady Help of Christians on 4628 1385 or by visiting their website.

Cursillo ~ Diocesan Women's Encounter

Cursillo is a movement within our Church that focuses on helping each person to discover themselves, their relationship with Christ and with others. The 2026 gathering of the Cursillo Movement will be held from 10th to 13th September at Carmel House at 345 St Andrews Road Varroville. Enquires should be made to Shirley Parker 0431 513109. dow.sh/cursillo will have further information.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 22ND/23RD AUGUST ~ 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR A

Saturday

Camden 5:00 PM
Oakdale 5:00 PM

Celebrant

Father Victor
Father Hung

Musician/Vocalists

Maria B
Jo

Sunday

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

Father Victor
Father Hung
Father Victor
Father Hung

Choir
Nicole
Cheryl
Craig

23rd Aug	Acolyte	Lector	Lector	Special Minister	Special Minister	PC
Sat 11.00am	Mark Coleman					
Sat Vigil 5.00 pm	Olivia Kosiak	Danielle Caruana	John Roberts	Heather Cox, Diane Kennaugh	Russell O'Brien, Angelina Vecchio	Eugene Kosiak
Oakdale Vigil 5pm	Chris Billet	Albino				
Sun 8.00am	Enzeigh Thomas	Kimberley Logue	Anthony McElhone	Maryann Ace	Simon Huntly	Cheryl
The Oaks 9.00am		Leslie Meiklejohn				
Sun 10.00am	James McFarlane	Joseph Hanson	Leonie Gray	Meaghan Marchand, Michael Toweel	Peter Grizelj, Maria Debrincat	Che
Sun 5.00pm	Andrew Watson	Ann Madsen	Judith Madsen	Grace Quinnell	Annemarie Lauricella	Craig

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 29TH/30TH AUGUST ~ 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR A

Saturday

Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda & Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Hung	Jo

Sunday

Camden	8:00 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Hung	Nicole
Camden	10:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Hung	Tony

For our Faithful Departed:

John Borg, Annette Claypole, Bob Roach, Gerard Gooden, Rosa Zappavigna, Fr Rick McCann, Dushy David, Mark Summers, Tibor Zurmuhl, *who died recently*. Concetta Bartolo, Rosemary Lauricella, Luigi Zanatta, Feletio Bacalso, Paulina Bacalso, Pat O'Flynn, Vincent Grech, Angelo Grech, John Azzopardi, Pauline Attard, Elaine Williams, John Lock, John Azzopardi, Marika Zakar, Vincent Dwyer, Patrick O'Reilly, *whose anniversaries are remembered at this time*. Deceased members of the Burns and Vaughan families, Patricia Treacey, Brian Treacey Snr, Amelia Breaden, Lillian Grech, Tony Barr, deceased members of the Lewis & Ryan families, Therese Carroll, Nathan Giles, Cath Bourke, Barry Myles, Thurn, Dunn and Sutton families, Fr Allan Hartcher, Fr David Catterall, Fr John Whitty. *Requiescat in Pace.*

We Pray for those who are unwell:

Sarah Oaten, Evelyn Duck, Ladislaus Parragi, Patricia Stubbs, Jan & Terry Chanter, Helen Parragi, Oliver Franklin, June McCullough, Dean Masciocchi, Abigail Chan, Kylieann Back, Kerri Haughton, Diana Lee, Betty Aquilina, 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.

Kind Regards, Saint Paul's Parish Office