

Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

Re: **Weekly Message for Weekend 3/4 October**

Weekend Masses

We've got a problem!

And I've always felt "a problem shared is a problem halved". Need to add, however, that some people have occasionally remarked that 'a problem shared (with me) is a problem doubled'. Could be right!

Nonetheless, here we go:

- The great number of people have been registering for Mass on-line through our parish website (thank you).
- At the moment, almost all Masses are full - with 100 people being defined as full in St Paul's Church according to Directives from the NSW Department of Health.
- But can you believe that sometimes people are not so punctual because of no fault of their own, especially when little children are involved?
- At the same time, some people with the best of intentions arrive and want to attend Mass but haven't registered in advance. So at starting time, the monitor makes a decision, reasoning that if five people haven't arrived and five people are waiting but haven't registered, then its ok to let these people in after taking their names and contact details.
- But guess what? Then the people who are running late finally arrive.

Question: If any of our parishioners are sure of an answer, please email the parish.



Confirmation Programme

Thanks to parents for a great response so far. It's been a tough year and, in planning and administering these sacramental programmes, there's been considerable improvisation. Please collect leaflets and books after Masses.

Ceremonies Rehearsals

Thursday 29 October 7:00 PM Tuesday 20 October 6:00 PM

Friday 30 October at 7:00 PM Tuesday 20 October 7:00 PM

Saturday 31 October 11.00 AM Saturday 24 October 10.00AM

Saturday 31 October 1.00 PM Saturday 24 October 11.00AM

Sunday 1 November 12.00 Noon Saturday 24 October 12 Noon

Sunday 1 November 2:00 PM Saturday 24 October 1.00PM

Spiritual Insight about Happiness

Aristotle (c. 384 B.C. to 322 B.C.) was an Ancient Greek philosopher and scientist who is still considered one of the greatest thinkers in politics, psychology and ethics.

A key component of Aristotle's theory of happiness is the factor of virtue. He contended that in aiming for happiness, the most important factor is to have 'complete virtue' or – in other words – good moral character. Aristotle also adds that other experiences of good fortune can also contribute to happiness.

In the Christian faith, the experience of happiness includes a life of virtue but goes much further. We are called by God to know, to love and to serve him. We are called to be "partakers of divine nature" and to enter into the glory of Christ.

Accordingly, the path of discipleship invites us to purify our hearts of bad instincts and to seek the love of God above all else. Our faith teaches that true happiness is not found in riches or well-being, in human fame or power, or in any human achievement. True happiness is found in God alone, the source of every good and of all love.

Recommendation for adults and children ~ three-minute film clip

So ever thinking about religious vocations! Watch this short film clip of the Franciscan Sisters with the kids. They (the Sisters, not the kids) take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

Question: Do the Sisters look happy?

Please Google **Poor of Jesus Christ Canada**

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## First Holy Communion Programme

Just like the families for Confirmation, the FHC programme is really only suited to those who are motivated and agreeable to attending Sunday Mass. The programme contains a very tight schedule with no wriggle room. Sacrifice is a foundation of the programme. If ambivalent, please delay enrolment until next year or beyond.

Please keep in mind one little dictum: *The bigger the sacrifice, the better the preparation.*

Programme timelines and enrolment forms will be distributed after Masses.

## **Celebrants for Weekend Masses**

**3/4 October 10/11 October**

### **Saturday**

Oakdale 5:00 PM Father Anthony Father Joseph

Camden 4:30 PM Father Michael Father Anthony

Camden 6:00 PM Father Michael Father Anthony

### **Sunday**

The Oaks 9:00 AM Father Anthony Father Joseph

Camden 7:30 AM Father Anthony Father Joseph

Camden 9:00 AM Father Michael Father Anthony

Camden 10:30 AM Father Joseph Father Michael

Camden 12:00 noon Father Joseph Father Michael

Camden 5:00 PM Father Joseph Father Michael

Kind Regards

Father Michael Williams PP