



Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 19/20 JUNE 2021

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

12th Sunday on Ordinary Time

Spiritual Insight

From Father Richard Rohr OFM in his book “The Universal Christ”

To this day, scapegoating characterizes much personal, political and public discourse...It is the egoic illusion of our perfect rightness that often allows us to crucify others. (P. 150).



Coronavirus Restrictions

No change from recent updates. Under the prevailing social-distancing mandate from the NSW Department of Health, the Church in Camden is permitted to accommodate as many as 260 people.

Perhaps we should begin to petition our Local State Member for Camden, Mr Peter Sidgreaves, to petition our Premier to ease restrictions from “One person / two square metres” to “Two persons / three square metres”. That would allow a 50% increase in church capacity and still leave the church quite spacious.

Additionally, the height of the ceiling should also be taken into account in making such a determination. We live in hope!



Adults interested in becoming Catholic

The next meeting has been scheduled for this coming Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the parish meeting room at Camden. The expected duration is one hour. All welcome. The evening is also suitable for Catholics wanting a refresher course.



The Oaks and Oakdale

Why not celebrate the beginning of the new financial year by attending the meeting on 1st July at The Oaks? Starting time is 6:00 PM. Bishop Brian is still expected to be present. And afterwards, the marinated drumsticks should be mouth-watering. Cold beverages to be provided by the Administrator.

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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

Church at St Clare's

A meeting took place last Tuesday 15th June to consider the desirability and the viability and the feasibility and the suitability and the probability of a new church at St Clare's.

After an interesting discussion, there was consensus that the church should be built to hold 400 adults compared to 550 at Camden. The Church would be linked – possibly by cable – to the hall so that on occasions of overflow a few more hundred people could be seated in a/c comfort and remain part of Mass.

The attendees agreed to become the CCSCC (Consultancy Committee for St Clare's Church). The next meeting of the CCSCC is scheduled in September. The exact date will be advised earlier in the same month. Many thanks to the 12 parishioners from across the parish who have agreed to participate.

By providence, the CCSCC is of a very broad and balanced make-up:

- Three of the 12 were long-time Mass-goers at the old Mass centre at Smeaton Grange. Great memories!
- St Clare's school is represented by four people, with three being on the school executive.
- A parent with children at St Clare's.
- A relatively new parishioner now living near the Narellan Vale site.
- A couple of parishioners whose children have graduated from St. Paul's, attended Catholic high schools in the Macarthur and who are presently members of the Parish Finance Council.
- A Camden parishioner who had been in the parish of Rosemeadow when their outstanding church was in the planning.

Developments will be reported as they come to hand. Because of the coronavirus the timeline for the project needed to be delayed for about 18 months to assess its impact upon parish finances. And it's true that there has been a reduction in the financial contributions from parishioners.

Consequently, all our parishioners are asked to be extra supportive of the financial livelihood of the parish to make this project a great success. If in a stable/comfortable financial position, please consider offering at least \$100/month. My own offering is \$125/month.



Mass Times and Baptisms from 3/4 July

No changes at The Oaks and Oakdale. Baptisms according to appointment for those who live in the parish of The Oaks.

Weekend Masses at Camden: Two Saturday Vigils to continue at 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM.
Sunday morning Masses to be reduced to two – 8:00 AM & 10:00AM
Sunday evening Mass to remain at 5:00 PM

Baptisms; Sundays only 11:15 AM for 11:30 AM, after the 10:00 AM Mass



Sacrament of Penance Programme

Still a few books to be collected. Families who missed the Reconciliation ceremonies on Wednesday evening on 16 June are asked to bring their children to their first Confession on the Saturday morning on 3rd July between 9:30 AM and 10:15 AM. Please practice the Act of Contrition with the children and ensure assistance has been provided in the examination of their consciences. This is a really important process in the development of a moral framework for their young minds and tender hearts.

Also, the children would be extra well prepared if they're also able to recite the Our Father and the Hail Mary. These beautiful prayers provide another foundation of our Catholic spirituality.

Enrolment in the First Holy Communion programme begins on the first weekend in September.



Confirmation Programme

Bookmarks and medals will be distributed this weekend. Please be mindful of rehearsal times this coming week.

Books not collected from last weekend can be collected this week. BUT please complete a form that provides the names and contact numbers of your family members and friends who will be joining you at the ceremony.

Need to also acknowledge the high quality of work from the overwhelming number of kids in the completion of their workbooks. Congratulations. And thanks to the parents and carers who assisted with such serious dedication.

And what about the survey! If interested, please read to the end of the weekly message for a summary.



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time 19/20 June 2021

Saturday

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Camden	4:30 PM	Father Victor	
Camden	6:00 PM	Father Victor	Belinda and Tasha
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Tracy

Sunday

Camden	7:30 AM	Father Michael	Maria C.
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Nicole
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Choir
Camden	10:30 AM	Father Victor	Darko
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Michael	Craig

Confirmation Weekend 26/27 June 2021

Parish Masses

Saturday 26th

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Quiet Mass
Oakdale	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Tracy

Sunday 27th

Camden	7:30 AM	Father Victor	Cheryl
The Oaks	9:00 AM	Father Victor	Nicole
Camden	9:00 AM	Father Michael	Trent
Camden	5:00 PM	Father Victor	Craig

Confirmation Ceremonies and Masses

Saturday 26th

		Celebrant	Musician/Vocalists
Ceremony	1:00 PM	Bishop Brian	Craig and mates
Ceremony	3:00 PM	Bishop Brian	Ilona and Tasha
Mass	5:00 PM	Bishop Brian	Maria and Tasha

Sunday 27th

Camden	10:30 AM	Bishop Brian	Choir
Camden	1:00 PM	Bishop Brian	Choir

Kind Regards

Father Michael

Got an idea!



If you normally attend one of the Saturday evening vigils at Camden, then that's not possible on Saturday 26th June because of Confirmations. So why not visit Oakdale? Father Victor will be the celebrant. Church is behind shops and across the road from the local government school.

Survey ~ Sacrament of Confirmation Programme

June 2021 ~ 186 families enrolled ~ 150 respondents.

(Figures are for total responses expressed in **percentage** terms).

In instances where the total does not add up to 100, the reason is because that question was unanswered by some of the respondents. There may also be rounding errors.

1. During the programme, the priests had a substantial profile, especially in providing updates to the on-line **Weekly Messages**. From the following options, how would you describe their presence and involvement?

87 reasonable and helpful **12** OK **1** heavy handed

2. Overall, how would you describe the organisation of the Sacrament of Confirmation programme under the unique circumstances of the virus?

88 good **11** OK **1** not so good

3. How would you describe your child's willingness to complete the **workbook activities** at home?

74 quite willing **23** OK **3** a struggle

4. How would you describe your child's willingness to come to **Mass**?

75 quite willing **21** OK **3** a struggle

5. How would you describe your own willingness to assist your son/daughter at home?

85 quite willing **14** OK **0** a struggle

6. How would you describe your own willingness to come to **Mass**?

85 quite willing **14** OK **1** a struggle

7. Once at Mass, how would you describe your experience of the homilies?

77 generally positive

18 OK

1 hard work

8. Would you prefer to retain the practice of completing workbooks at home or in organised groups in one of the parish meeting rooms?

63 at home

28 ok either way

6 parish meeting room

9. In terms of completing the books, various possibilities are available. Please indicate your preference.

73 all at home

11 all in groups

16 Composite with chapters 1 + 4 in groups and chapters 2 + 3 at home.

10. How do you think your son/daughter view the clergy?

77 favourably

18 with neutrality

0 not so favourably

11. Father Michael has been the parish priest for 18½ years, how would you describe your own experience of him?

83 reasonable & likeable

8 OK

3 mixed feelings

1 negative

12. After 18½ years do you think Father Michael should:

79 remain at Camden

18 ok either way

2 seek to move on

13. How do you think your son/daughter regarded the workbooks?

74 interesting, informative, stimulating

21 bit average

2 seriously in need of something else

14. How did you find the parent pages?

68 interesting and useful

24 ok

3 didn't read them.

Sincere thanks to all the parents and carers who completed the survey

Father Michael