Dear Parishioners at The Oaks and Camden

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 21/22 AUGUST 2021

Ethical Reflection from Pope Francis

"Thanks to God's grace and to the work of many, we now have vaccines to protect us from Covid-19. They bring hope to end the pandemic, but only if they are available to all and if we collaborate with one another.

Getting the vaccines that are authorized by the respective authorities is an act of love. And helping the majority of people to do so is an act of love. Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable."

Pope Francis, who earlier in the pandemic was criticized for not wearing a mask in public, was vaccinated this year and has already publicly stated that vaccination was morally acceptable and an ethical obligation. In the Vatican, a hall designated for papal gatherings was repurposed as a vaccination clinic.

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Masses from our Parishes

Initiatives are in progress to begin production of our parish Masses from the beginning of September.

In terms of the lockdown, there appears little likelihood of much change within the next month or two. Accordingly, the production of recorded Masses will help to revive feelings of being in a parish family of faith in The Oaks and Camden. Never have our churches been so under-utilised for sacred ceremonies.

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Sacramental Programmes

The First Holy Communion programme has been scheduled to begin with the distribution of timelines from the first week in September. This is now looking highly unlikely. Regular reports will continue to be provided according to developments. Please check our parish website from time to time.

Kind Regards   Father Michael

PS: I had my second AZ vaccination yesterday at the Camden medical centre opposite St Paul's school. No pain, nor side-effects.