



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

RE: WEEKLY MESSAGE FOR WEEKEND 28/29 AUGUST 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Social Justice Sunday

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### **Ethical Reflection from Pope Francis**

The virus, while it does not distinguish between people, has found, in its devastating path, great inequalities and discrimination. And it has exacerbated them.

Pope Francis urges a dual response to the virus, calling not only for the eradication of the illness but also for the social injustices it reveals and exacerbates.

Commendable is the effort of so many people who have been offering evidence of human and Christian love for neighbour, dedicating themselves to the sick even at the risk of their own health. They are heroes.

The harmony created by God asks that we look at others, the needs of others, the problems of others, in communion. We want to recognise the human dignity of every person, whatever his or her race, language or condition might be. Harmony leads you to recognise human dignity, the harmony created by God, with humanity at the centre.

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Masses from our Parishes

From the first week in September, Masses will be provided from our own parish. But the attendance of people at the recording is strictly limited to the people who are directly involved – the celebrant, adult server, technicians, musicians (two at most) one reader and perhaps one other person.

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Kind Regards

Father Michael

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## Social Justice Statement

The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals.

To read more go here <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/socialjustice-statement-2021-22/> and to listen to an interview with Dr Sandie Cornish from the ACBC's Social Justice Council on this Year's Social Justice statement, go to our Diocesan podcast at [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au)

## Being Connected with our Diocesan team for Renewal and Evangelisation

There are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. A simple way of staying informed and connected is to subscribe at <https://dow.sh/stayingconnected> to receive regular stay connected updates or visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly

## Plenary Council 2021

With about five weeks to Assembly One of the Plenary Council, you can keep up to date by accessing the Plenary Post on the Plenary Council website <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au> Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the first Assembly will be delivered online. Keep the up-to-date PLENARY COUNCIL JOURNEY 2020- 2022

## Bishop's Sacramental Program Parental Survey

A discussion paper to assist in the development of a Sacraments of Initiation policy for the Diocese is being developed. Bishop Mascord is seeking feedback from parents and, via parishes, is reaching out especially to parents with children in state schools who have presented their sons daughters for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If that is you, we would love to hear from you!

You can access the Survey by simply clicking here: <https://dow.sh/SacramentsSurvey> and we would be most grateful for your feedback.

## Caritas Australia

Support is needed to provide aid and relief to humanitarian crises, like the one currently unfolding in Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Haiti, where hundreds of thousands of people are now facing displacement, drought, COVID-19 and poverty.

To provide support, you can donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal at <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/> or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

## Service NSW launches Check-In Cards

The QR code sign-in system used across NSW is of huge help to contact tracers when they need to find out where a person with COVID-19 has been and who they might have had contact with. But not everyone has a smartphone or is comfortable using the technology.

Without scanning the QR code, these community members instead have to manually sign in, providing their name and contact details at the door whenever they wish to enter a business. There is now a quicker and easier way, with Service NSW launching personalised check-in cards to replace scanning in with QR codes for those without smartphones.

For more information:

<https://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/7388311/cards-to-help-those-withoutsmartphones-check->

When attending a venue, a staff member can scan the card to register their attendance and details, rather than having them fill out a form. Cards are available from Service NSW online, or by calling 13 77 88.

## The Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020, published an Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

A number of resources have been developed to encourage and support the celebration of the Year of St Joseph by the ACBC. The Diocese has sent you a poster and prayer cards to help promote events in our Diocese.

Visit the ACBC year of St Joseph page at <https://www.catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph> Monthly reflections on: • various aspects of St Joseph's life and character; • Prayers for various settings; • Images and social media graphics. This month's reflection written by Lara Kirk is available at [https://catholic.org.au/images/Year\\_of\\_St\\_Joseph\\_Reflection\\_August\\_2021.pdf](https://catholic.org.au/images/Year_of_St_Joseph_Reflection_August_2021.pdf)

## ACBC Men's Gathering in our Diocese

In 2020, over 1500 men gathered around the country in hub spots for the ACBC National Catholic Men's Gathering. Be inspired, encouraged and renewed in faith with other blokes from around the Diocese. It's free. For more info and to register go to [www.catholicmensgathering.com.au](http://www.catholicmensgathering.com.au).

There will be four (4) regional hubs around the Diocese on dates to be determined post COVID19 restrictions.

1. Xavier Centre Wollongong: Contact Peter Crowe 0407913696 [Pcrowe360@gmail.com](mailto:Pcrowe360@gmail.com)  
[eferry@westnet.com.au](mailto:eferry@westnet.com.au) 2. Bowral Parish Hall: Contact: Max Norden: 0414 733 823 [max.norden@dow.org.au](mailto:max.norden@dow.org.au)  
3. Nowra Parish Hall: Key Contact: Nigel Porter 0430 365 383 (or Gary Egan 0438 077 876  
[garyegan@westnet.com.au](mailto:garyegan@westnet.com.au) 4. **Rosemeadow Parish Hall:** Key Contact: Eddie Ferry 0417 049 418  
[eferry@westnet.com.au](mailto:eferry@westnet.com.au) – with Ryan Soares, Andy Adina and Ian Boorman