

## St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223

Rev. Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs Nicky Rodrigues and Mrs. Nancy Miletic, Parish Secretaries (Wed, Thurs, & Fri.)

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Parish website: [www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au)

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal. ‘Phone 9580 6588

### 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021 – First Sunday in Lent

**During the Fridays in Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7.30pm. This is a good way to observe our Lenten Journey by Journeying with Our Lord in his passion and cross.**

**THE GOLDEN AGE:** People have often looked back in longing at some golden age of history. The Greeks and the Romans in their poetry wrote of that best age of the world in which humankind lived in a state of ideal prosperity and happiness, free from all trouble and crime. The book of Genesis commences with such an age in a garden of delights, but it also tells of the evil that turned that golden existence into one of pain and toil. Which is the finest golden age the world has ever witnessed? The materialist can give no answer to that, but to the person of faith the answer is obvious. It is the age announced by Christ. In Galilee “He proclaimed the good news from God”. It is true that he was not announcing an age in which we would be free from suffering and evil and live in a paradise on earth.

It was certainly an announcement of a new order of existence, a new culture and civilisation but it was far more than that. It was the proclaiming of God's immense love for humanity, of his willingness to come down on earth and die for us and free us from the effects of evil. It was a promise also of a completely new life to come with eternal happiness and complete freedom from all pain and human troubles. Henceforth, Christ, the Son of God, would identify himself with all who accept his message of good news. Life would thus become well worth living. It would indeed be a life of faith. There would be little to show that a golden age had come. There would be the outward signs and benefits of Christianity, but its true inner splendour would be hidden because it could only be known by those who have the vision of faith. What would we be without this golden age? What would we be if the good news of the kingdom had never been proclaimed? This thought alone should bring home to us what a splendid golden moment it was when the child Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

**Masses for the Deceased:** Paul Ryan (ann.27/2), Eileen Murphy (ann. 26/2), Raymond Mercer (ann. 18/2), Patricia Freeman (ann.21/2), Derice Mercer (ann.26/2), Cajetan D'Silva (birth and death ann.)

**The Parish now has the facility to stream our Sunday Masses:** You can access this on YouTube by following this link:

[bit.ly/stjoatley](https://bit.ly/stjoatley) or



**You can also access it by going to the Archdiocese of Sydney website where there is a list of Churches who stream their Masses each week. Just click on the link for St. Joseph's Parish, Oatley.**

**Sacramental Program for 2021:** Please visit the Parish website:

[www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au)

**Parish 2020 – A Call for Renewal** On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, Archbishop Anthony Fisher launched our new Archdiocesan Mission Plan *Go Make Disciples* which, with the assistance of the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, seeks to inspire and support the renewal of our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ for the faithful and beyond.

In the weeks and months ahead we will all join together in prayer, calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. A summary of the Mission Plan is available in the porch of the Church.

**Imposition of restrictions concerning Churches:** From Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, an unlimited number of people can attend Mass, provided that the one person per 2 metre square rule is observed. However, our Church will only hold at least eighty according to this regulation, any overflow would have to be accommodated in the Marion Hall where the Mass can be viewed on the TV monitor. Because of the easing of the restrictions, the Archbishop has lifted the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation. ***Parishioners are once again obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation when this is reasonably possible.*** Those of great age, have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risks of Covid19 are free to remain at home and find another way of keeping the Sabbath holy. There is still the requirement of taking names and contact details of attendees. The use of a QR code is recommended for those with iPhones or smart phones. The NSW Services app would need to be install on your phone to access the code. The first time you use the code, it will ask you to provide your name and contact number. It will then send you a code to enter with your details and the app will then be active. It is then used every time you attend Mass, or when and where you visit other venues that have a QR code registration system in place.

The wearing of masks is no longer mandatory, but strongly recommended where social distancing is not possible. They are, however, still mandatory when travelling on public transport.

Parishioners who elect to attend Mass during the pandemic should consider the safety of other parishioners by staying away if they are unwell, and if so, getting tested and self-isolating while awaiting the results. It is also advisable that parishioners only attend Mass in their own parish and not move from parish to parish.

Confessions are now available before the 5 pm Vigil Mass (4 pm to 4.45 pm).



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Low-income communities are not asking us for money or gifts. They reject degrading dependence. They want you to share your skills to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. The call is to all trades and professions to assist build the ability of their people and the capacity of their organisations. To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you do need to [enquire now](#).

Visit [palms.org.au](http://palms.org.au) , call Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



CCareline: helping Sydney families with relationships, parenting, ageing services, disability, addictions and mental health concerns.  
connect@catholiccare.org



# MARIST CATHOLIC COLLEGE PENSURST

## OPEN DAY Wednesday 3 March, 2pm-6pm

All are welcome to register for a tour of our College.  
Details are provided on the College website.



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T 9579 6188 W [www.maristpenshurst.catholic.edu.au](http://www.maristpenshurst.catholic.edu.au)

**PLANNED GIVING: Your contribution to the 2nd collection goes towards the running and upkeep of our parish, and 30% of what you donate is eligible for a tax deduction.**

**TAX RECEIPTS for 2019-2020** are now available, if you wish to receive a tax receipt please email: [oatleycc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oatleycc@bigpond.net.au)

**New Contributors:** Please refer to the planned giving form, which can be accessed on the website under **DONATIONS**, if you wish to become part of our regularly giving programme at St Joseph's Parish Oatley. Upon completion of the form please email to [oatleycc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oatleycc@bigpond.net.au)

Alternatively, if you wish to donate on an ad hoc basis to the Church Account (Second Collection), there is a Bpoint facility below on this website under "Donations" on the menu. Please follow the links.

Envelope packs are available in the Church foyer to be picked up after Mass if you have not done so yet.

*Thank you for your contributing to St. Joseph's Parish. I am very appreciative of your ongoing generosity and commitment to support our Parish in achieving its Pastoral Mission and meeting ongoing expenses. Fr. Paul.*

## **21<sup>st</sup> February 2021 – First Sunday in Lent**

### **THE INTRODUCTORY RITES**

#### **Entrance Procession**

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.*

#### **Penitential Act**

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.  
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.  
Amen.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## **Collect**

Let us pray.

Grant, almighty God,  
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,  
that we may grow in understanding  
of the riches hidden in Christ  
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** (Refer to your Sunday Missal or Liturgy Sheet)

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, our Saviour calls us to repent and believe the Good News. Let us pray that we will keep the covenant of our baptism in this season of grace.*

1. That these forty days in the wilderness of Lent may increase the Church's strength for proclaiming the Gospel. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. That the leaders of nations may embrace God's covenant of peace and justice. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. That people who are attached to material things will learn that "no one lives on bread alone". *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. That the elect, who draw near to the saving waters of baptism, may persevere in the covenant that God is establishing with them. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. That all the baptized, led by the Spirit and one with Jesus, may experience the Lenten wilderness as a place of testing and triumph. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. That, having departed this life with a good conscience, our beloved dead may go with Christ to the right hand of God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
7. That we may gain strength in our Lenten discipline through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians. **HAIL MARY.**

*We come before you, Father, confident that you hear us, through the new and eternal covenant of your beloved Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. AMEN.*

## **Pope Francis Prayer for protection from Coronavirus**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, our Salvation, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the Joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

## **Our Spiritual Communion**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be *etc.*

## **Communion Antiphon**

*One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Renewed now with heavenly bread,  
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,  
and charity strengthened,  
we pray, O Lord,  
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,  
the true and living Bread,  
and strive to live by every word  
which proceeds from your mouth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## **BLESSING**

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,  
come down upon us, your people,  
that hope may grow in tribulation,  
virtue be strengthened in temptation,  
and eternal redemption be assured.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May Almighty God bless us all, in the name of the Father, and of Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

*Let us praise the Lord and glorify him in our lives.* Thanks be to God!

*If you wish to donate to the Church Account (Second Collection) there is a Bpoint facility on this website under “Donations” on the menu. Please follow the links. If you do not wish to make an internet or online payment, please email the Office [oaileycc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oaileycc@bigpond.net.au) or contact 9580 1864.*

