

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223 Rev Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs Nicky Rodrigues – Parish Secretary (Thurs & Fridays)

Phone: 9580 1864 Fax: 9586 3074 Email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au **Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley**

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal Phone: 9580 6588

Schedule of Masses		Baptisms	By appointment (usually Sunday, 11am)
Monday	8 am (Rosary 7.45)	Confessions	Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm
Tuesday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)	Weekend Masses	
Wednesday	8am (Rosary 7.45)	Saturday 5pm Vigil	
Thursday	12md (Rosary 11.45)	Sunday 8am & 10am	
Friday	8am (Rosary 7.45)		
Saturday	8am (Rosary 7.45)		

15 March, 2020 – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Masses and Prayers: Phillip Chiang, (ann. 4/12/19), Florence Anderson (ann.16/2), Janette Battikha (ann. 15/3), Denise Caramsing (ann.14/2), Raymond Mercer (18/2), Patricia Freeman (ann.21/2), Marie Miller (ann.17/3), Mary Shelton (ann.16/3), Beryl Gardiner(ann.21/3) (members of CWL and those who are sick especially Teresa Liu, Kevin Jewell & Gary Shipton.

LIVING WATER: People have built their cities on the banks of rivers and erected vast reservoirs to preserve water to feed industry and supply the need of the population. Without water all would die. Christ was constantly giving to natural realities a spiritual significance. This he did with water. He showed how people needed 'living water' to keep them spiritually alive and to give value to their occupations. He used water as a figure of spiritual refreshment, that those who drink it will never thirst again. Christ spoke of it to the Samaritan woman telling her that it was a gift from God. And as he spoke, she felt within herself the stirring of a divine desire for this water, as water that was to become in her a spring welling up into eternal life. Christ created this desire in her so that a new power took hold of her, a fresh illumination which enabled her to see in Christ the long-awaited Messiah. It was the personality of Christ that captivated her. And it is this that is at the heart of Christianity.

Christ's words are truth. They are the rod that beats upon the human heart to produce the living water. St. John, in his book of Revelation, tells us that the day will come when "They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not smite them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes". The living water that Christ gives on earth will have done its work and become the spring welling up into eternal life. Meanwhile all of us struggle here in a world, refreshed indeed by the living water, but perhaps seldom feeling its effects. We lead a life of faith amid what may often seem so arid and dark. At the same time, we know that within us is a power and a glory which inspire us with hope and trust and love in the Christ who is our creator.

The meaning of the article in the Apostle's Creed "He descended into Hell". Whilst Our Lord's body rested in the tomb after his death, His soul descended into Hell, which is not to be understood as the Hell of the damned, but the realm of the dead, *Sheol* in Hebrew and *Hades* in Greek. He descended there to liberate the souls of the just who had gone before his coming. It was only through Christ's passion, death and resurrection that the gates of heaven were opened to mankind.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Barry, a Gamilaroi man, grew up in a tough environment. With the support of a program from Caritas Australia's partner, *Red Dust Healing*, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community. A speaker from Caritas will be addressing all the Masses next Sunday on the work of Caritas Australia and Project Compassion.

The Pascal precept binds all Catholics to receive Holy Communion at least once a year between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday (7th June). The faithful are also obliged to confess their grave (mortal) sins individually in the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

Stations of the Cross: This beautiful devotion apt for the season of Lent will be conducted in the Church each Friday during Lent at 7 pm. Come and walk the journey in memory of Christ crucified.

CHOCOLATE PASCHAL LAMBS EASTER 2020. If you would like to place an order, kindly complete the attached form in the foyer of the Church and then you will be notified when they arrive. The price of the lambs remains at \$8.00 and white chocolate is also available. Closing date for the orders is no later than Sunday 22nd March. Thank You Sue SVDP.

The Catholic Womens League (The CWL) will have their next meeting on Saturday 21st March at 10am.

Collections & Rosters

1st \$1035		2nd: 496		Envelopes \$1332	
Money Counters Roster		Tues 17 March Anna Merrick Sandy Cox Carol Harland			
		Tues 24 March George & Kathy Novak			
Masses	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens	
Sat 14 Mar 5 pm	No Acolyte	Melissa Dimeo	Declan & Sorcha McIntyre	Richard McMillan	
Sun 15 Mar 8am	George Lazar	Sandra Soldo	No Servers	Mark Shad	
Sun 15 Mar 10am	Glenn McLachlan	Ross Green	Alana & Felicity Green	David Lee	
Sat 21 March 5pm	Danny Clark	Rosemary & Justin Cordi	Luca Johnson Lachlan Hoy	John Perkins	
Sun 22 March 8am	Anne Lee	Avaleigh Rock	No Servers	Seb Arena	
Sun 22 March 10am	Phillip Merrick	Sandra Green	Mavina Khoury Gaia el Khabbaz	George Battikha	
Children's Liturgy		Rosary Leader	Altar Society		
Sun 15 March	Kylie Brakel	Lewis DeGabriele	Lynne Ekholm		
Sun 22 March	Alison Felici	Marcia Smith	Margaret Rayment Kath Richardson		