

# St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley



PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223

Rev. Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs. Nancy Miletic – Operations Manager (Tues & Wed)

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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

## St. Joseph's Mass Times

**Saturday Vigil:** 5.00 pm **Sunday:** 8 am and 10 am

**Weekday Masses:** at 8 am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

**Thursday:** Mass at 12 md

**Public Holidays:** 9 am only

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

## WELCOME

St Joseph's Church is open from 7 am to 6 pm daily, and the usual Mass timetable as above apply. We look forward to seeing everyone at Mass.

# 24th September 2023 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Deceased:** Masses for the Deceased: Sister Moya Lantry, Patricia Mortimer, Gabriela Dzieciol, Paul Zuvic recently deceased; John Bernard McMillan, John Kevin McMillan, Ray Byers, Gregory Boyd, Tony Kilgannon, Hilda Marie Lee, Elizabeth Goodhew, Fr. Don Griffin, Fr. Gregory Meere, Albert Daniel (Dan) Hall, Fr. John Shallvey, anniversaries, and Amadeo Alvaro.

**THE THOUGHTS AND WAYS OF GOD:** *My thoughts are not your thoughts nor my ways your ways:* says the Lord. How true those words are of so much that God does both in our physical and our spiritual world. How much puzzlement, unbelief, resentment the dark thread of suffering woven into the pattern of human living has aroused. “Why does God allow this to happen?” people ask and can see no answer. Well at least we Christians know that there is an answer. God’s works are hidden from us, but we know that he has a wise plan even though we cannot understand its workings.

In today’s Gospel we have another example of a divine mystery in that the relationship between God’s justice and compassion is beyond our comprehension. But at least we can see how it works in practice. If God were only just towards us, we would be in a very bad way. One break-away from him by sin would be the end of a beautiful friendship and all our happiness. Today’s parable shows us how merciful and compassionate God is. He certainly does not act according to human ideas of justice. For it is not only those who have been faithful to him all their lives that are given a welcome into his heavenly banquet, but those also who at the very last moment of sorrow appeal to him are given a like welcome. Always with God where there is life there is hope. The love of God extends both to those who have laboured all their lives in God’s vineyard and to those who in their dying hour turn to him. We must not be like the brother of the prodigal son who resented the welcome given to his repentant brother: *Lo, these many years I have served you,* he said,

*and I never disobeyed your command...but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you kill for him the fatted calf.* None of us has any right to “the fatted calf”. We are all sinners, and all are at the mercy of God’s justice and compassion.



*thank you*

**THANK YOU :** To my dear Parishioners: I was deeply touched by your expressions of love and affection over the past year after announcing my intention to retire, and particularly at the farewell dinner last Sunday at the Oatley RSL Club. Also, I was very moved by the tributes paid by the school children and School community at St. Joseph’s at a special farewell Mass last Tuesday. I will always remember the kindness, support, and loyalty of all parishioners as I move on to lesser duties in

retirement. My eight years here have been marked by great joy and happiness, and with many friendships that have been forged.

The actual date of my leaving Oatley has still not been decided. However, it will be some time in October. I have word that the unit at Beverly Hills will be vacated at the end of this month thus allowing me to start the move. Before I go, there will be the opportunity for me to celebrate a farewell Mass and to thank you all for your unwavering support. *Fr. Paul.*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**-Applications for the Sacrament of Reconciliation 2023 (Year 2 and above) are now open. Please visit the parish website [www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au) and click on the **tab Sacramental Dates 2023** for further details. Alternatively, click on the link attached for the [Reconciliation 2023 program and application form.](#)



**MORNING TEA INVITATION:** Please join us at our next parish morning tea on **Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> Of October, at 10.30am** in the Marion Hall. All are welcome.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL OATLEY** will be celebrating their Festival Mass with the St George Region, Sutherland Region and Kingsgrove/Bankstown Region this **Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 23 commencing at 7pm**. For all details, please see the invitation on the Church notice board in the foyer of St Joseph's.

**CURRENT PLANNED GIVING:** Planned Giving Envelopes for the new financial year are now available in the foyer of the Church, please take your set of envelopes.

*Thank you to all who have kindly contributed to our parish. If you wish to support your Parish, St Joseph's Oatley, please pick up a copy of the application form in the Church Foyer and become one of our regular givers. Alternatively, you may wish to go to our website [www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au) for a copy, or if you are online click on the tab below.*

[DONATE](#)

[PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM](#)

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)



**DEFIBRILLATOR:** Please note a defibrillator is installed in the Parish Church Hall.