

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)

‘Phone 9580 1864, Email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

Parish website: 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.

30th July 2023 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Deceased: Paul Aloysius Hemsley, Anne Kellert, recently deceased; Father William Evans, Cardinal Edward Bede Clancy, Walter (Jack) John Martin, Linda Ellen Hilder, Lorna Davey, Joan Moloney, Francis and Kathleen Rohl, Moira Clark, Margaret Eddy, Kevin Graham, Rayma Papworth, John Francis Perkins, Ellen Alice Perkins, anniversaries.

THE GREATNESS OF THE KINGDOM: Christians have from the beginning given everything for the kingdom of heaven. They have seen in it the treasure and the pearl of great value of which our blessed Lord speaks in today's Gospel, and they have been willing to give life itself to gain it. Our Lord set the example. He came to found the kingdom. It was so precious that he was willing to suffer terrible torments and die on a cross to gain it for humanity.

The reason then why the treasure and the pearl are so valuable is the price that God has put on them. He so loved the world that he sent his Son into it to redeem it so that we could enter the kingdom. You were bought, not with corruptible things such as gold and silver, but with the precious blood of the Lamb. This love of God is an immense mystery, and it is only by trying to understand something of it that one can grasp the value of what he did. The martyrs understood it to the extent that they were willing to give all for it. St. Thomas More, for example gave up a wonderful home and family, and his life for it. He said when he was in prison: "Is not this house (the Tower of London) as near heaven as my own in Chelsea?" He also said, "The field is won". He had found the treasure and realised its wonderful value and saw that it was worth giving everything he had for it. We should read carefully and meditate on our Lord's words in today's Gospel. We should pray for that vision of faith which recognises the splendour of the treasure of God's kingdom. We should also rouse our enthusiasm for it and express our gratitude for what Christ did to make it possible for us to gain it. It is not easily obtained. We must work hard, not only procure it, but also to keep it in our possession and not exchange it for some worthless material prize.

Annual Leave: I will be away on annual leave from Monday, **31st July, to Friday 11th August**. There will be **no weekday Masses** in the parish during my absence.

The Vigil and Sunday Masses on 5th/6th August will be celebrated by Bishop Terry Brady. As you know, Bishop Brady is an old boy of Oatley Parish.

CONFIRMATION applications are now open. You can find the application form on the parish website www.stjosephschurch.com.au in the Sacraments 2023 tab. **Additionally, click on the application form attached for further details and enrolment.** [Application and enrolment.](#)

Hard copies will be handed out in the schools in week 1 of term 3. The Sacrament will be held on the 10th of September 2023. **Information night via Zoom will be held on Wednesday 2nd August at 7:30pm** with preparation classes starting the weekend of 12th August. Please email the Sacramental Co-ordinator Kylie Strode at kyliestrode74@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Charitable Works Fund Appeal: On the weekend 12th and 13th August, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney will be holding the second CWF Parish appeal, and the Development and Fundraising Office turns to you for your continued support in facilitating this appeal. Your generosity helps raise funds for many of the important works across the Archdiocese of Sydney, including providing family counselling, sharing the gospel to youth, forming our seminarians, outreach to Aboriginal communities, and support for our Catholic deaf community. The agencies which provide the above services includes Catholic Care, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, our seminaries and the Ephpheta Centre.

The Parish now has the facility to stream our Sunday Masses: You can access this on YouTube by following this link: bit.ly/stjoatley OR





FAMILY MASS & CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

The next Family Mass at the Parish will be **next Saturday the 5th of August at the 5pm Vigil Mass**. Also, we are looking forward to our young parishioners joining in the Children's Liturgy group on **Sunday's during the 10am Mass**. We are very fortunate to have some volunteers to lead this work where the Children are led through prayer, songs, craft, and readings. Please encourage your children to join the group.

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.

TAX RECEIPTS for **2022-2023** are **available**. Please email outleycc@bigpond.com if you wish to receive a tax receipt. Your receipts will be emailed to you. Alternatively, call the office on 9580-1864 for your tax receipt. Once again, we would like to thank all who have kindly contributed to our parish at St Joseph's Oatley.

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 for a copy, or if you are online click on the tab below.

[DONATE](#)

[PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM](#)

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