

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: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction from 11 am and
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 BACK

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.

6th March 2022 – First Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Deceased: John Dolan, Gloria Nelson, Peter John Smith, George Willmott, anniversaries.

OLD NICK: The devil, in literature and legend has taken many forms. Artists have treated him with fun. The painter Hieronymus Bosch portrays him as the ape of God, supreme master of disorder. Durer depicts him as a pig waiting to snatch a human soul. Goya shows him as a goat. Medieval man loved to make fun of him. To many people the devil is not a reality. He is simply a fictional figure – a mixed-up kid with horns, hoofs and a tail – a poltergeist Puck playing practical jokes – a product of ignorance and superstition. Sometimes he is represented as a more flamboyant figure endowed with magnificence and power allied with low cunning. Such is Mephistopheles offering riches of life in exchange for souls.

But all this is very different from the reality. The devil is no joke. Our Lord knew that. The devil must have filled him with loathing. There is a verse which goes like this:

*They say the devil has never lived.
They may say the devil has gone,
But simple folk would like to know
who carries the business on.*

Our Lord knew well who carried the business on. His temptations in the desert were the beginning of a lifelong attack upon him. It was an attack that culminated in Calvary. And just as he attacked the Christ of Palestine so does he so the same to the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church. Fortunately, we are all provided with the means of resisting his attacks. The cross which was the result of evil was also its conqueror. By uniting ourselves more closely to the Christ who died upon the cross, we too can gain the victory. It is only through our acceptance of Christ's love that old Nick will be sent about his business.

THE SEASON OF LENT: Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others (almsgiving). In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their *eighteenth* year, until the beginning of their *sixtieth* year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their *fourteenth* year. The rationale behind the Church's law is an invitation for us to join ourselves to Jesus in his forty days of self-denial in the desert. As we imitate our Saviour, we confront our own human weakness and remind ourselves of the brevity of life and our need for salvation which only comes through faith and imitation of Christ.

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

The practice of almsgiving during Lent is recommended by contribution to Project Compassion. Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes are available this Sunday in the foyer of the Church.

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.

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



Mass will also be streamed on Thursdays at 12 md for the teachers and children of St. Joseph's School.

The Children's liturgy of the word for this Sunday can be access by clicking on the following link:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1v_HqpBcswz9NX-CAGfxb_PTZk9HX-z2P1kOxrvvw0TU/present?slide=id.gee6f26b3d6_0_58

Sacramental Program for 2022 has been recently updated, please visit the Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au

Applications for the *Sacrament of Confirmation 2021 & 2022* are now open and will close Sunday 17 April 2022. Please visit the parish website www.stjosephschurch.com.au and click on the tab Sacramental Dates 2022 for further details. The parent information evening is scheduled for 28 April @ 7.30pm via ZOOM[®]. All families registered will be sent the ZOOM[®] link by email from the sacramental coordinator after applications close

Please note that Parish Confirmations this year will be at St. Mary's Cathedral on the 31st July and 7th August (St. George's Deanery parishes).

St. Joseph's Primary School

School tours will be held at St. Joseph's Primary School on the following afternoons for new families interested in enrolling their children at St Joseph's School 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th March (3:30 - 4:00pm). Enrolment packs can be collected at this time.

Please contact the school office on 9580 6588 or email enrolments.01783@sydstu.catholic.edu.au if you wish to attend one of the tours or have any enrolment questions.

Marist College Kogarah is holding an Open Day on Wednesday, 16 March 2022 from 3pm to 6pm.

Marist Catholic College Penshurst Open Day takes place on Wednesday 9 March between 2pm-6pm. We are offering visitors the opportunity to be guided on a tour at both the South Hurstville and Mortdale Campuses. Registration for the tours is now open. Details regarding registration is provided on the College website.

Additional tours are available to families of feeder parishes and schools only. Thursday 10 March. Registration for the tours will be via our website.



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

Church Open

Our church is open for weekday Masses and Sunday Masses at 5pm (Saturday Vigil), 8am and 10am, Sundays. We look forward to warmly welcoming everyone back to Mass.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to Mass and we will be doing all that is reasonably possible to keep everyone safe who attends Mass. There will be good ventilation, hand sanitiser available and cleaning of the church between Masses.

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.

New Contributors: If you wish to become part of our regularly giving programme at St Joseph's Parish Oatley, please fill in the planned giving form, which can be accessed by opening the attached hyperlink

<https://www.stjosephschurch.com.au/donations>

. Click on the button planned giving program to access and fill out form. Otherwise, you may obtain the form from the church foyer or contact the parish office for the application.

Please email the form to oatleycc@bigpond.net.au or drop it in to the Parish Office. Alternatively, you can post it to: St Joseph's Parish, 21C Frederick St, Oatley NSW 2223.

If you wish to donate to the Church Account (Second Collection) please scan the encryption below, with your mobile phone. This automatically directs you to the parish's Bpoint facility. Please follow the links. If you do not wish to make an internet or online payment, please email the office oatleycc@bigpond.net.au or contact 9580 1864.



Thank you for 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.