

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 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.

13th March 2022 – Second Sunday of Lent

Masses for the Deceased: Marge Graham (died in the floods) recently deceased, Betty Way, John Dolan, Gloria Nelson, Peter John Smith, George Willmott, anniversaries.

INTO THE UNKNOWN: In a sense everyone makes a journey into the unknown since our future is never completely guaranteed. We may be quite sure of ourselves and be morally certain where we are going but we cannot be absolutely certain of our arrival at a proposed destination. Many a person has set off home and never arrived because of some unforeseen accident. President John F. Kennedy was no doubt sure that he was going to deliver a speech at Dallas; he never reckoned that an assassin's bullet would make it impossible.

Abraham made a journey into the unknown but of a different character. He probably did not know where he was going; his journey was undertaken in

complete faith in God. His was a journey of faith. All faith implies a journey into the unknown. When, for example, Christ extended his invitation to his disciples to follow him, they did not know where their acceptance would lead them, but they had an abiding faith in Our Lord.

When he led three of them up the mountain side to witness the splendour of his transfigured presence, they little realised that it would soon be followed by another journey into the darkness of the shadow of Olivet where their Lord and Master would lie prostrate in agony.

Every Christian who has a real living faith makes a journey into the unknown. It entails a journey from the seen life about oneself into the unseen life of the supernatural. It means entering a world of mystery which no human eye can see, or ear hear or fingers touch. *Come to the land which I will show you* is God's invitation to the Christian. God promised Abraham that his journey would bring blessings upon all humankind. God has promised that every journey of faith will bring untold blessings. *Blessed are they who have not seen but have believed.*

Solemnity of St. Patrick: 17th March 2022. Mass will be at 12 md.

Solemnity of St. Joseph: 19th March 2022. Mass will be at 8am. St. Joseph is the patron Saint of our parish and school.

The school community will be celebration the St. Joseph Day Mass in the undercroft of the school at 9.15 am on Monday, 21st March 2022

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.

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 *7th of August 2022 at 3.30pm* (St. George's Deanery parishes).

St. Joseph's Primary School

Kindergarten 2023 online enrolments are now open. Access to the online system is via SCS and the school websites. Please lodge applications by 1 April.

[Link to the Enrolment System](#)

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.



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. For regular updates on the current restrictions in the Church please refer to:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions>

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.