

## 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)

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Parish website: [www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://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)
<b>Saturday</b>	5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)	<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	8 am, 10 am	<b>Exposition</b>	Thursday, 9am to 11.45am (with benediction at 11.30am)
<b>Monday</b>	8am (Rosary 7.45)		
<b>Tuesday</b>	8 am (Rosary 7.45)		
<b>Wednesday</b>	8am (rosary 7.45)		
<b>Thursday</b>	12 Noon (Rosary 11.45)		
<b>Friday</b>	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
<b>Saturday</b>	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		

### 31st March 2019 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

**Masses and Prayers:** Jim Cranney (rec dec), Brian McNamee (rec dec), Michael Gorman (rec dec), Narelle Meades (rec dec), Fr Aniceto Mortui (ann.), Br Mark Bereton (ann.), Maria Lely (ann.), Kata & Antun Pejic (ann.), Kata Stjepan (ann.), Marko Kulundzic (ann.), members of CWL, and those who are sick, including Marcella Hill.

**LAETARE SUNDAY – CHRISTIAN JOY:** Christianity is the most joyful religion in the world. The Gospels are tidings of great joy. The New Testament begins and ends with this note of joy. It opens with the song of the angels when Christ is born and it ends with the picture of the multitude which no one can number singing their song of praise and joy before the throne of God. This theme of joy runs through the whole of the New Testament. The British poet Algernon Swinburne imagines an ancient Roman saying of Christ “Thou hast conquered, O pale Galilean, the world has grown grey with thy breath”. One has only to read the Gospel account of Christ to see what a false picture that is. Christ spread joy everywhere he went in his public life using his powers of healing and giving words of consolation.

In today's Gospel the Pharisees attack Christ saying “This man receives sinners and eats with them”. Christ's reply in effect was that the work he is doing in finding lost men and women and bringing them back to their true life is a joyful work. He gave many instances of this – as joyful as a shepherd who has found a lost sheep or as the woman who has discovered a coin that she has lost. And today he gives the most moving parable of all. Many an earthly father would wash his hands of a son who has been so ungrateful as, not only to spend all the money that he was given in riotous living, but had lowered himself to living like an animal, and an unclean one at that! Such a father might well have said “it serves him right. I'm finished with him”. But not so with God the Father. Christ tells us that when such a son returns home in sorrow, not only is he given a warm welcome but there is with it a great joy, a cause for celebration! This is surely a joy that we all can share. We know that when we sin and perhaps for a while turn our backs on God that we will be received back with joy when we are repentant.

**A Call is made for Singers** who would like to form a choir for the ceremonies at Easter. Those who are interested should contact me or Mr. Vince Elliott (phone 9580 8039).

#### Walk the Lenten Journey on your Mobile Phone

In his message for Lent 2019, Pope Francis emphasized that we should “not allow this season of grace to pass in vain.” With new content daily, the Lent Calendar App can help those who desire to journey through Lent with purpose. The App includes the daily Gospel, a suggested

Lent act, and a multimedia feature to pray and reflect upon. Available as an App on Apple and Android devices, and online at [www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3lent](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3lent)

**Catechist helper needed** to assist a catechist with a large Kindy scripture class at Oatley West Public School. A helper will *not have to present the lesson*, but simply assist in handing out student activity books in class and helping students complete their work. If you are interested in helping a class from 9.30am to 10am on Tuesdays please contact Mike Cummins (0413 586870 or [cumminsm@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cumminsm@optusnet.com.au)) or Natalie Heymann (0481 558635 or [natalie.heyman@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.heyman@gmail.com)). Also, due to relocation, a **catechist is needed** from around June to take over a Y1 class at the same time/school on Tuesdays. Please contact Mike Cummins if you would like to discuss this upcoming position.

**The Second Rite of Reconciliation** will be available at St. Declan's at Penshurst on Monday evening, 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. This is an excellent way to prepare for the coming Easter Triduum.

**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 Redemptorist Community Kogarah**, is seeking a part time cook (30 hours) Monday to Friday. For further details contact Stephanie Machee (02) 9553 3777.

**Paschal Lambs:** Orders are taken until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The order form is in the church foyer.

### COLLECTIONS AND ROSTERS

1st \$864	2nd: \$440	Envelopes \$ 1437
Money Counters Roster	Sun 2 April	Marcia & Brian Smith
	Sun 9 April	Lynne Ekholm Leo Sullivan

	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens
Sat 30 March 5 pm	John Romanous	Jamie Dimeo	Luca J Lachlan H	Bill Quigley
Sun 31 March 8am	George Lazar	Vesna Zovic	No Servers	Seb Arena
Sun 31 March 10am	Joe Shakkal	Mirjana Males	Simon N Zamarah V	Lewis DeGabriele
Sat 6 April 5pm	Phillip Merrick	George Lazar	Ana Beretin L Livia V	Rafe Kowron
Sun 7 April 8am	Anne Lee	Caroline Dimeo	No Servers	Maria Pak
Sun 7 April 10am	Glenn Mclachlan	Jade Serban	Paris S Gaia el K	David Lee
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		<b>Rosary Leader</b>	<b>Altar Society</b>	
Sun 31 March	Roseanne McGrath	Marcia Smith	Susan Canham Angela Nadile	
Sun 7 April	Angela Nadile	Lewis Degabriele	Susan Canham Angela Nadile	