

# 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.

# 10th September 2023 – Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Deceased:** Patricia Mortimer, Gabriela Dzieciol, Paul Zuvic, Cliff Baxter, Patricia Johnson, Petar Vidović, recently deceased; Janice Scully, Peter Nelson, June Roebuck, David McIntosh, Anthony Kilgannow, anniversaries.

**SHARED PRAYER:** Our blessed Lord in today's Gospel tells us: where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Jesus is not just a presence in the sense that he takes no part in those who gather together for prayer. He is an active partner working through the inspiration of his Spirit. In a sense we can say that the Church started through group prayer. Its first members gathered together in the Upper Room and the Holy Spirit came upon them giving them extraordinary gifts and powers. In the Acts of the Apostles, we are given pictures of Christians coming together to share their prayer. There is a special value in this kind of prayer when it is united. By shared prayer one does not mean that a number of people happen to come together and say individual prayer on their own. True shared prayer means a sharing of insights, experiences and a common bond of love.

One great advantage of this type of prayer is its openness; it helps to prevent narrowness of disposition. One is not wrapped up in oneself and one gets a certain strength and power from the sense of union created.

After all, nothing brings people together more closely than the shared experience of the presence of the Spirit of Christ and the reliance of that Spirit to bring about unity. Difference of race, of status, of any class distinctions which can create prejudice are eliminated by this type of prayer. It may take place in all kinds of ways – in family groups – in house gatherings, or simply by a desire of getting together in order to know God better and deepen a relationship with Jesus. For such a group to be successful there must be at the outset a realisation of the presence of Spirit of the Lord and the desire to experience this presence as a shared experience. This can bring about a transformation of one's spiritual life and an understanding of our Lord that one had not experienced before.



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on the boys and girls of the parish who have completed their preparation for the Sacrament over the past four weeks at two special Sunday Masses this afternoon at 1 pm and 4 pm. Please keep them in your prayers.



**Thank you** to all the Sacramental Team and Parish Sacramental Coordinator Kylie Strode, who all work tirelessly to ensure that the Sacrament of Confirmation runs smoothly, and the children are well prepared.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** 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.

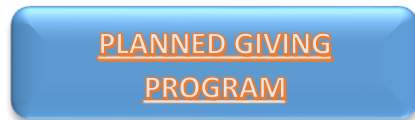
**The Priests' Retirement Foundation** of the Archdiocese of Sydney appeal will be made **this weekend, 10th September**. The Foundation was established to ensure all priests can receive the accommodation, health care and support they need in their retirement. It covers need such as: Convalescence care, Nursing home and hostel care for frail priest, assistance in transitioning to retirement, health insurance, medical and dental expenses, assistance with board and lodging expenses, minor repairs, and maintenance of accommodation. Envelopes are on the pews and on the tables in the foyer.

**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION** 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023- This week The Parish of St Joseph's Oatley and the Diocese of Sydney are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people, and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work to build and support safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](http://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

**CALVARY AUXILIARY GARAGE SALE** on Saturday 16th September at 8am to 2pm. Come and purchase some household and general items (NO electrical). Address Corner of Rocky point road & Fitzgerald Ave, Kogarah.

**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.*



**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.