

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)

22nd August 2021 – Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

A HARD SAYING: There is no doubt that much in Christian teaching is sometimes hard to accept. It is much easier to say with the disciples in today's Gospel: *Who can listen to it*, and block one's ears to it. Christ never promised an easy passage to salvation. He spoke of a "narrow way" to it. What the disciples found difficult in the Gospel was Christ's teaching about himself as food and drink. But Christ is not blaming them for finding it difficult, nor for want of understanding of his teaching. Could anyone blame them for not grasping his meaning? It must have sounded almost completely unintelligible. *How can this man give us his flesh to eat?* Would not we all have been overwhelmed by these words? They certainly would have sounded to us enigmatic. What Christ was demanding was not understanding, but faith in himself. After all, these were his disciples. They knew him. They must have known him, unless they were blinded by prejudice, as a most wonderful person who spoke with complete sincerity and truth. They must have known of his claim to messiahship. Therefore, they should have had faith in him. Their attitude should have been "though we don't understand we know what you are saying is the truth". Instead, as the Gospel tells us: *After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went with him.*

What happened then still happens in the twenty-first century. There are those who find Our Lord's sayings hard, and because of lack of faith no longer go along with him. The Christian sees many difficulties in accepting Our Lord's teaching, but as Cardinal John Henry Newman said: "Ten thousand difficulties do not make one doubt." Faith feeds on difficulties. It is for all of us to say with St. Peter: *Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* We do not know where to go for the answers, but for the acceptance of their truth.

Masses for the Deceased: John Ryan (Father of Fr. Chris Ryan), Leo McInerney, Paul Bateman recently deceased. Mary Catherine Williamson, Michael Kevin Allen, Fr. Laurence Bayliss anniversaries.

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



You can also access it by going to the Archdiocese of Sydney website where there is a list of Churches who stream their Masses each week. Just click on the link for St. Joseph's Parish, Oatley.

Sacramental Program for 2021: Please visit the Parish website:

www.stjosephschurch.com.au

Dear Parents and Carers, it is with regret that I advise, due to the recent COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the NSW government, the balance of our 2021 Sacramental Program for Confirmation and Reconciliation will be suspended. At this stage, no program will be run in Term 3. If the restrictions are lifted, we may run the Confirmation program in Term 4, 2021 (revised dates to be advised) and move the reconciliation program to Term 1, 2022. Please email our sacramental program coordinator Sandra Green on sandragreen@optusnet.com.au should you have any questions. Fr. Paul.

SRE classes in public schools are postponed for the time being. However, SRE Learning from Home lessons are available.

Catholic SRE Learning from Home materials can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

New Learning from Home lessons have been uploaded this week and are available for parents to access across NSW. These include user-friendly Click & Learn PowerPoints and home activity sheets.

The NSW Department of Education will also advise schools to inform families of the availability of these resources.

Closure of Churches due to the recent spread of the Corona virus.

As from 6pm on Saturday, 26th June 2021, Greater Sydney (which includes the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong, and Shellharbour) has gone into an indefinite lockdown. Consequently, the Church is closed until further notice.

However, *funerals are permitted* with a limit of 10 attendees.

Weddings, however, *are not permitted*.

Baptisms *are not permitted*, except in case of emergency. Similarly, the anointing of the sick, and sick calls generally, are permitted in case of emergency only.

It seems clear that, because the new Delta strain of Covid virus is so infectious, we are being asked to be even more cautious than during the previous lockdown. “Stay home” means “avoid all unnecessary contact with other people, including family members who live in other households.” Those who live in the Liverpool, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Georges River, Fairfield, Cumberland, and Blacktown Local Government areas, are required to remain in those areas unless they have a valid reason to leave for work (which requires of Covid test every three days).

During the lockdown, the Sunday Mass will be live streamed on YouTube, and you are encouraged to connect prayerfully to this medium. The streaming will begin at 5pm on Saturday and can be accessed at any time after the Mass has concluded.

Mass will also be streamed on Thursdays at 12 md for the teachers and children of St. Joseph’s School who are at School or at home with their parents. Parishioners may also wish to connect with this mass each Thursday.

You can access this on YouTube by following this link: bit.ly/stjoatley

or.



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

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – BISHOPS’ STATEMENT

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29th of August. The Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis’ invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven *Laudato Si* Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

Please refer to the attached link for a copy of the 2020-21 Social Justice Statement.
<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Social-Justice-Statement-2021-22.pdf>

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 oadleycc@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 oadleycc@bigpond.net.au or contact 9580 1864.



TAX RECEIPTS for 2020-2021 are available. If you wish to receive an emailed tax receipt, please email the parish office. Once again, we would like to thank all who have kindly contributed to our parish at St Joseph’s Oatley.

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.

22nd August 2021 – Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.*

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful
to unite in a single purpose,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be fixed on that place
where true gladness is found.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (Refer to your Sunday Missal or Liturgy Sheet)

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF
ORDINARY TIME**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let this household of faith now present itself before the Lord God, praying to the One whose mighty deeds are known to all.

- 1 That the difficult teachings of Jesus may not discourage Christians but challenge us to ask for the grace to embrace the cost of discipleship. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 2 That those on whom society has turned its back may not despair but be comforted to find that Christ's disciples will not abandon them. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 3 That those whose faith is tested may not walk away but stay near Christ who has the words of eternal life. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 4 That the people of Haiti affected by the catastrophic earthquake devastating their country may be assisted by our prayers and practical help, and may those who have lost family members and loved ones, be comforted by our prayers. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 5 That we may not lose heart in our isolation with sacrifices we are asked to make to fight the contagion affecting our state. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 6 That this assembly may find Christ's words to be spirit and life, and that Christ's very flesh and blood be the source of life within us. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 7 That those who served God and remained loyal to Christ in this life may see Christ, who has ascended to where he was before. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- 8 That that prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of heaven, assist us in all our necessities. **HAIL MARY.**

Father, your Son has the words of everlasting life, we have nowhere to go but to him. Our prayers are offered in his name, the Lord of the Church, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. AMEN.

Pope Francis Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, our Salvation, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the Joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Our Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be *etc.*

Communion Antiphon

*The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray,
the healing work of your mercy
and graciously perfect and sustain us,
so that in all things we may please you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless us and keep us

May he let his face shine upon us
and show us his mercy.

May he turn his countenance towards us
and give us his peace.

And may Almighty God bless us all, in the name of the Father, and of Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord and glorify him in our lives. Thanks be to God.

If you wish to donate to the Church Account (Second Collection) there is a Bpoint facility on this website under “Donations” on the menu. 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.

