

# 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.

# 6th August 2023 – The Transfiguration of the Lord

**Masses for the Deceased:** Paul Aloysius Hemsley, Anne Kellert, recently deceased; Father George Connolly, Father Christopher Sheehy, Catherine Mary Williamson, Elias Francis, Daniel Beljo, Kevin Graham, Rayma Papworth, Barica Celak anniversaries and the Souls of the deceased.

**THE TRANSFIGURATION:** The transfiguration of the Lord can sound embarrassingly magical. Jesus goes up onto a mountain with three of his trusted disciples, Peter, James, and John, and there in their presence his clothes become dazzlingly white. The Prophets, Moses and Elijah appear and talk to him. And then it is all over. Jesus tells Peter, James and John to say nothing, until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.

We should hold on to the absurdity of the incident. There is simply no reason for all this to have happened. In particular, there is no reason to put it into a gospel – St. Matthew makes no capital out of it, it is simply there.

And this is the strength of the Transfiguration as an historical incident. There is no reason for anyone to have invented it. It is not central to the Christian case. It is not used to win arguments. There is only one reason to put it into the Gospel, and that is because it happened. It is one of those cases of the evangelists writing things down without knowing why they were important, and their very puzzlement is what makes the incident so convincing.

Why, then, did it happen? Surely so that we could see and understand that Jesus is at once one of the prophets and the one that was prophesied by them; and that he is truly God, and lives for all eternity in a blaze of dazzling and unapproachable light. As St. Peter would write in retrospect in his second letter addressed to the Christian Community: *we were not slavishly repeating cleverly invented myths; no, we had witnessed his majesty with our own eyes. He received honour and glory from God the Father, when a voice came to him from the transcendent glory: 'This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased'.* We

*ourselves heard this voice from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.*

The true miracle of the Transfiguration is not the shining face or the white garments, but the fact that for the rest of the time, Jesus also truly human, hid his glory so well.

The lesson we learn from the Transfiguration is that the true path to glory is perseverance and the taking up one's cross.

**ANNUAL LEAVE:** Father Paul will be on annual leave from Monday, **31st July, to Friday 11th August**. There will be **no weekday Masses** in the parish during my absence.

**FATHER PAUL'S FAREWELL LUNCH-17th of September 2023 at 12pm:** An invitation to all the Parishoners of the Parish has been organised to farewell Father Paul Hilder and wish him all the best for his retirement. For further information refer to the posters/ brochures in the Church foyer or alternatively email : [jtperkins@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jtperkins@ozemail.com.au)

**CONFIRMATION applications are now open.** You can find the application form on the parish website [www.stjosephschurch.com.au](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au) in the Sacraments 2023 tab. **Additionally, click on the application form attached for further details and enrolment.** [APPLICATION AND ENROLMENT.](#) Hard copies were handed out in the schools in week 1 of term 3. The Sacrament will be held on the **10<sup>th</sup> of September 2023**. **The preparation classes are starting next weekend the 12th August.** Please email the Sacramental Co-ordinator Kylie Strode at [kyliestrode74@gmail.com](mailto:kyliestrode74@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL:** Next weekend, **12th and 13th August**, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney will be holding the second CWF Parish appeal, and the Development and Fundraising Office turns to you for your continued support in facilitating this appeal. Your generosity helps raise funds for many of the important works across the Archdiocese of Sydney, including providing family counselling, sharing the gospel to youth, forming our seminarians, outreach to Aboriginal communities, and support for our Catholic deaf community. The agencies which provide the above services includes Catholic Care, the

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, our seminaries and the Ephpheta Centre. Charitable Work Fund Envelopes are available in the foyer of the Church.

**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.

**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.

**TAX RECEIPTS for 2022-2023 are available.** Please email [eatleycc@bigpond.com](mailto:eatleycc@bigpond.com) if you wish to receive a tax receipt. Your receipts will be emailed to you. Alternatively, call the office on 9580-1864 for your tax receipt. Once again, we would like to thank all who have kindly contributed to our parish at St Joseph's Oatley.

*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) OR**



**DEFIBRILLATOR:** Please note a defibrillator is installed in the Parish Church Hall.