

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)

WELCOME BACK

So it is with great excitement that we can let you know that our church is now opened from 7 am to 6 pm daily, and the usual Mass timetable as above will apply. We look forward to warmly welcoming everyone back in the weeks to come.

31st October 2021 – Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Deceased: Jeffery Lovisolo, Jose Eduardo Alvarez Garcia, recently deceased, Joseph Degabriele, Chafik and Berta Labbad, Camille and Robet Yamine, Terry Sano, Patricia Callaghan, Veronica Sheila Woods, anniversaries, and all the Holy Souls.

Monday is the Solemnity of All Saints, and Tuesday is the Commemoration of All Souls. The month of November is traditionally the month of the Holy Souls, and all my Masses will be offered for all your deceased relatives and friends.

LOVE OF GOD AND MAN: We all belong to a human community and as such have no right to try and opt out of it. We cannot and should not try to make ourselves divisible from our brothers and sisters. *The man who loves God must be one who loves his brother as well* wrote St. John. The refusal to acknowledge this duty of love will result in the contraction of the personality. Instead of love there will be only selfishness, self-love, and isolation. Christ said that the greatest commandment is to love God with all one's strength and one's neighbour as oneself. The love of others is by no means always easy. There is a legend that Abraham one day was visited in the desert by an Arab who complained loudly about his host's food, wine, and lodging. Finally, Abraham got fed up and was about to get rid of him.

At that moment God appeared and said “Abraham, I have stood this man for forty years, can’t you put up with him for one day?” That legend, though expecting rather a lot from human nature at least is an expression of the universality of love. It should be extended even to the difficult and ungrateful. After all Christ did say: *love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.*

We should wish all well, should desire, not only their spiritual welfare but also their temporal in so far as it helps them on their way to salvation. We should try to realise that all people are created by God in his own image and likeness and that Christ shed his blood for them and desires to live in them. Our love then both for God and our brothers and sisters should not be confined to desires or words, it must show itself in action even at the cost of self-sacrifice. *It is not those who say Lord, Lord, who will enter the kingdom of heaven, said Our blessed Lord, it is those who do the will of my Father in Heaven.* There are so many opportunities of showing love in action. The poor, the lonely, the elderly, the sick, to mention only a few, call for a loving response. Like the good Samaritan we must do our best to bring joy into their lives.

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.

The Children’s liturgy of the word for this Sunday can be access by clicking on the following link:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18IDNyvBNIfzumHgdkMWr19ccSQe9x8uvj0xChuyRc8c/present?slide=id.gee6f26b3d6_0_58

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. The reconciliation program will take place in Term 1, 2022. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place next year at St. Mary’s Cathedral with the parishes of the St. George Deanery. 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 rest of the year. 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.

CHURCH RE-OPENING

With the news that NSW has now reached 80% double vaccination the Sydney Archdiocese has advised that, public Masses and other services are able to recommence for all who wish to attend.

So it is with great excitement that we can let you know that our church is now open for weekday Masses and Sunday Masses at 5pm (Saturday Vigil), 8am and 10am, Sundays. We look forward to warmly welcoming everyone back in the weeks to come.

As the 1 person per 4sqm rule will apply, there can only be a maximum of 40 people in the church for each Mass. To help with numbers, we will also be opening Marion Hall for the Saturday Vigil Mass and the Sunday Mass. People there will be able to view the livestreamed Mass and receive Holy Communion. This venue is limited to 20 people.

When you arrive for Mass at the Church or the Hall, you will also need to use the QR code OR use the 'pen and paper' system for official registration. This is the NSW Government compliance requirement.

It has been previously announced that everyone, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, or unvaccinated, will be able to attend Mass. We will be doing all that is reasonably possible to keep everyone safe who comes to Mass. There will be mask-wearing, good ventilation, hand sanitiser available, the enforcing of social distancing and cleaning of the church between Masses.

Live streaming

The Vigil Mass will continue to be live streamed on YouTube, and if you are unable to attend Mass physically, 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 via [bit. /stjoatley](https://bit.ly/stjoatley) Or



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.



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.

Position of Catechist Coordinator Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst: We are seeking to appoint a person who would be responsible for overseeing the administrative duties important in ensuring the effective operation of the Catechist ministry in our parish of Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst. This will be a permanent, part-time, paid position that would require a total of 100 hours per annum. Interested applicants may obtain an Application Form and a copy of the Role Description by contacting the Parish Secretary via email at olfpeak@bigpond.com. Applications close: Friday 29th October 2021



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