

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 **Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley**

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal Phone: 9580 6588

Schedule of Masses		Baptisms	By appointment (usually Sunday, 11am)
Saturday	5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)		
Sunday	8 am, 10 am		
Monday	8am (Rosary 7.45)	Confessions	Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm
Tuesday	8 am , 9.15am school		
Wednesday	8am (rosary 7.45)	Exposition	Thursday, 9am to 11.45am (with benediction at 11.30am)
Thursday	12 Noon (Rosary 11.45)		
Friday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Saturday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		

17th March 2019 – 2nd Sunday of Lent

Masses and Prayers: Maryanne Donnelly (rec dec), Maree Sherman (rec dec., Jim Cranney (rec dec), Jannette Battikha (ann. 15/3), members of CWL, and those who are sick, including Marcella Hill.

INTO THE UNKNOWN: In a sense everyone makes a journey into the unknown since his future is never completely guaranteed. He may be quite sure of himself and be morally certain where he is going, but he cannot be absolutely certain of his arrival at a proposed destination. Many a man has set off from home and never arrived because of some unforeseen accident. President John Kennedy was no doubt sure that he was going to deliver a speech at Dallas; he never reckoned that an assassin's bullet would make it impossible.

Abraham made a journey into the unknown but of a different character. He probably did not know where he was going; his journey was undertaken in complete faith in God. His was a journey of faith. All faith implies a journey into the unknown. When, for example, Christ extended his invitation to men to follow him, they did not know where their acceptance would lead them, but they had an abiding faith in Christ.

When he led Peter, James and John up the mountain side to witness the splendour of his transfigured presence they little realised that it would soon be followed by another journey into the darkness of the shadow of Olivet where their Master would lie prostrate in agony.

Every Christian who has real living faith makes a journey into the unknown. It entails a journey from the seen life about him into the unseen life of the supernatural. It means entering a world of mystery which no human eye can see or ear hear or fingers touch. "Come into a land which I will show you" is God's invitation to the Christian. God promised Abraham that his journey would bring blessings upon all mankind. God promised that every journey of faith will bring untold blessings. "Blessed are they who have not seen but have believed.

Solemnity of St. Joseph, Patron of our Parish in Oatley. Tuesday 19th March. This special day will be celebrated with our Parish Mass at 8 am in the Church, and a special Mass with the School in the undercroft of the School at 9.15 am. Please pray for our Parish and School under the patronage of St. Joseph

PROJECT COMPASSION: Tati lives in the remote forest of West Kalimantan in Indonesia.. She is a mother of three who was earning an income working in the local rubber plantation. Since taking part in eco-tourism training with Caritas Australia and its partners, Tati can now afford to send her children to school with new hope and commitment. Tati aspires to a future

free from poverty for her family. **Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year you are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities.**

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others (almsgiving). In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. As we imitate our Saviour, we confront our own human weakness and remind ourselves of the brevity of life and our need for salvation which only comes through faith and imitation of Christ.

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.

Aid to the Church in Need visiting speaker: Kylie Cullen fmvd_ from the international Catholic aid organisation, Aid to the Church in Need, will speak briefly at the end of each Mass next weekend. ACN was founded in 1947 by Dutch priest Father Werenfried to alleviate the sufferings of the millions of displaced persons after World War II. Today ACN is the only International Catholic Organization that focuses on the spiritual and pastoral support of suffering Christians.

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) or Natalie Heymann (0481 558635 or natalie.heyman@gmail.com)

SVDP Oatley Conference is participating in an Appeal to assist the country communities affected by drought. This appeal is from **Saturday, 16th March to Friday 29 March**. Items for collection are non perishable food items & toiletries. Please place them in the baskets provided. Thank you for your assistance. **Paschal Lambs:** a special symbol of Easter. If you would like to order them, fill in the form in the foyer. Sue Vit, SVDP President.

COLLECTIONS AND ROSTERS

1st 857	2nd: \$499	Envelopes \$ 1372
Money Counters Roster	Sun 19 March	Anna Merrick Sandy Cox Maria Pak
	Sun 26 March	Vince & Jenny Elliott

	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens
Sat 23 March 5pm	Glenn McLachlan	Jean Devine	John M Alex P	John Perkins
Sun 24 March 8am	Robert Dimeo	Ana Simurina	No Servers	Mark Shad
Sun 24 March 10am	Phillip Merrick	Jade Serban	Paris S	George Battikha
Children's Liturgy		Rosary Leader	Altar Society	
Sun 24 March	Joseph Lucero	Brian Rayment	Marcia Smith	