

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223

Rev. Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs Nicky Rodrigues and Mrs. Nancy Miletic, Parish Secretaries (Wed, Thurs, & Fri.)

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Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal. ‘Phone 9580 6588

24th May 2020 – Ascension of the Lord

THE TRANSFORMATION OF MAN: We are people of two worlds and yet very intricately connected. We live at present in a world of beliefs and unbelief, of hopes and fears, of hates and loves; a world where there is lust and cruelty existing side by side with devotion and kindness. The world on which Christ's footsteps trod was no different from this. He knew what was in man and how little human beings differ in their ways from one generation to another. He also knew of the thirst that we have for a meaning to life and he came to give a vision, a way out of darkness, frustration and disillusionment to a new world which would redress the balance of the old. It was a completely new life that he offered us and offered it abundantly. He both showed a way to a good life and opened out visions of the truth behind the world of our senses. He taught us how we could raise ourselves from our dead selves to a new risen spiritual existence and how to save ourselves from nonentity to become individuals with external power for whom he was willing to die.

Finally, he gave us a public demonstration of how to rise above material things as he rose above the earth to return to his Father in Heaven. At the same time, he said he would be in our world to the end of time. Heaven was not to be for us a separate existence. It was to have its beginning within us through his indwelling presence. Only its beatific vision of perfect joy was to be denied to us until the day we would ascent with Christ to the place in Heaven which he had gone to prepare for us. Thus the human nature which the God of love had created and which man's sin had soiled, would be transformed through a shared glory with God's Son who said at his last meal on earth as he prayed to his Father "The glory you have given to me I have given to them". Together with Christ we go to the Father. "I ascend," he said "to my Father and to your Father."

Masses and Prayers: Fr. Pat McAuliffe, Fr. Peter Morrissey, Fr. Ray Farrell and Eunice Morris (recently deceased), Fr. Les Campbell, Daniel Andreallo, Anthony Constantine, Frances Canham, Joan Sproule, Lucy McCallum, (anniversaries), Sadie and Samuel Mir, Therese and Norman Mir and all their deceased family members. Leslie Kelly (ann26/5), Maureen Stevens (ann.31/5).

Restricted Opening of the Church for Mass: As you may already be aware, Services can resume in our Churches provided the number of congregants does not exceed ten. At this stage I do not plan to have any extra Masses during the week or on Sunday. At present, Mass is celebrated in the Church at 8 am each day. The weekday Masses are attended by those who, hitherto normally come each day, albeit on a roster basis. I invite parishioners who wish to attend the Sunday Mass at 8 am to contact Nicki, the Parish Secretary, on Thursday or Friday, to make a reservation (9580 1864). If you cannot be accommodated for one Sunday, she will allocate you for another Sunday. Please note, only ten persons can attend.

When the restrictions are eased further, and the number of congregants can be increased, I plan to resume the normal Mass timetable for the weekend, i.e. 5 pm (Vigil), 8 am and 10 am.

Because of cleaning and sanitizing requirements that are mandated by the Health Authorities, it is not feasible at this stage to open the Church for private prayer or for Confessions. If anyone requires the Sacrament of Penance, I am available by appointment 0400 346 301.

Baptisms are now permitted with the same restriction of ten persons.

Note from St Joseph's Primary School.

Friday, 29th May, is the closing date for kindergarten enrolments. Could all applications be returned to the school office by this date.

Sunday Mass

24th May 2020

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.*

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

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,
for the Ascension of Christ your Son
is our exaltation,
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,
the Body is called to follow in hope.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (See Bulletin Liturgy Sheet)

Profession of Faith

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit
the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us offer our petitions through the Lord Jesus, who was taken up to heaven and intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father.

1. For all who share one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Adorned with a rich variety of gifts, may the Church bear witness to the ends of the earth. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. For all races and nations. May the children of the one God and Father of all, make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. For prisoners of conscience and those held captive. By the gift of grace, may they persevere in humility and patience. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. For the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in this community and throughout the Church. May their work of ministry build up the body of Christ in unity of faith. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. For all medical professionals, nurses and research scientists who are working towards the defeat of the Corona virus, and who are risking their own lives in the process. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. For those who consecrate their work, professions, and business to Christ. May they receive the strength to fulfill their duties in a Christian manner. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
7. For those taken from our sight by death. May they be with Christ in glory at the right hand of God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
8. May the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Help of Christians and Patroness of Australia, guard and prosper the faith in our country, and make us worthy of promises of Christ. **HAIL MARY.**

Father, you glorified your Son, and in him we will be glorified. Welcome our prayers because we belong to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. 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

*Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,
who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries,
grant, we pray,
that Christian hope may draw us onward
to where our nature is united with you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING FOR ASCENSIONTIDE

May almighty God bless us,
for on this very day his Only Begotten Son
pierced the heights of heaven
and unlocked for us the way
to ascend to where he is. Amen.

May he grant that,
as Christ after his Resurrection
was seen plainly by his disciples,
so when he comes as Judge
he may show himself merciful to us for all eternity. Amen.

And may we, who believe he is seated
with the Father in his majesty,
know with joy the fulfilment of his promise
to stay with us until the end of time. Amen.

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

