

# 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.**

**The Parish now has the facility to stream our Sunday Masses:** You can access this on YouTube by following this link: [bit.ly/stjoatley](http://bit.ly/stjoatley) OR



# 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Second Sunday of Advent

**Masses for the Deceased:** Ruzica Rados, recently deceased; George and Marie Nol, Elias Francis, Emilia Kolesynk, Maria (Mia) Van Der Velden-Hundscheid, John Saunders, Ronald Rowley, Max Rowley, Judith Sinclair, anniversaries.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December. Not a Holy Day of Obligation but a very special Feast Day in honour of our Blessed Mother proclaiming the doctrine that by God's grace she was conceived without original sin and remained sinless throughout her life. *Mass in the Parish Church will be at 12 md.* There will also be a Mass for the School children and their parents in the undercroft of the school at 9.15 am.

## THE ADVENT WREATH.

### Symbolism of the Wreath:

**Circle:** Represents the eternity of God and the continuity of the first and second coming of Christ.

**Green foliage:** suggests growth, life and hope.

**Red apples, pomegranates, holly and berries:** suggests the first creation, the forbidden fruit – the fall of our first parents Adam and Eve that merited a Redeemer in Christ who suffered and died for us on the Cross.

**Snow-tipped pine cones:** The winter of our existence in old Testament times before the coming of the Saviour.

**Pomegranate:** In the middle ages it was often thought that the forbidden fruit eaten by Adam and Eve was a pomegranate. A pomegranate is full of seeds which will bring forth new life. On the wreath, this would symbolize death and the hope of resurrection.

**Candles:** God gradually revealing His plan for our salvation throughout human history up to the coming of Our Lord and Saviour. The three mauve

candles represent the first, second and fourth Sundays and the pink or rose candle is for the third Sunday.

**The First Candle:** is for the Prophets who foretold the coming of the Messiah.



**The Second Candle:** is for Bethlehem, the city of King David from whence would come forth the promised Messiah.

**The Third Candle:** is for the Shepherds and for all who seek the Lord in humility.

**The Fourth Candle:** is for the Angels who heralded Christ's birth and sang their hymn of joy.

## THE JESSE TREE.

The idea of the Jesse Tree for Advent comes from the traditional window in many medieval Cathedrals whose design is based on the descent of Jesus from the royal line of King David in most cases springing from Jesse, the father of David, and ending in Jesus or the Virgin and Holy Child, with intermediary descendants placed on scrolls of foliage branching out of each other. Some have the descent as recorded in St. Luke's Gospel and others recorded in St. Matthew's Gospel. A simple Jesse tree for children in primary school has cards the children have prepared and coloured, representing Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Joseph, Moses, Jesse, David, Solomon, Jonah, Mary and Joseph. Famous Jesse windows can be seen in the cathedrals of Wells, in England, and Chartres, in France. There is a depiction of a Jesse Tree in the window of the Church porch.

## St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal:



Beautiful handmade Angel jewellery and gifts will be available for sale on the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December after Mass. All funds collected will go to St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal. The Angels have been made into earrings and can also be used for either a mobile phone case tag, a Christmas tree decoration or to put in a Christmas card for someone special. Prices range from \$6 to \$4 for each individual angel.

**Confirmation Photos are available:** The photos of Confirmation celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August 22 are now available at the Parish. Please contact the presbytery directly on 9580 1864 to arrange collecting of the photos.



**PARISH CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA:** Please join us on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, at 10.30 am in the Marion Hall. All are welcome.

**MASS READERS: Volunteers are needed** to read at the Masses on the weekend. Please contact the office 9580-1864 or email [oatleycc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oatleycc@bigpond.net.au) if you are able to assist on some weekends.

**SINGERS REQUIRED TO FORM A CHRISTMAS CHOIR:** As Christmas is nearly upon us (in four weeks' time), an appeal is made for singers to form a Choir for the 9pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Marion Binns, our Organist at the 10am Mass on Sunday, would like to hear from you if you can help in this regard.

*Thank you to all who have kindly contributed to our parish. If you wish to support your Parish, St Joseph's Oatley, please click on the tab below.*

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