

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.)

‘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

7th March 2021 – Third Sunday in Lent

During the Fridays in Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7.30pm. This is a good way to observe our Lenten Journey by Journeying with Our Lord in his passion and cross.

TEMPLES: Jewish tradition said: *He that has not seen the temple of Herod has never known what beauty is.* It was this lovely mass of snowy marble and glittering gold rising terrace upon terrace that was reduced to rubble by the invading Roman army. The historian Josephus described the setting fire to its colonnades and went on to tell how a soldier inspired “by a certain diving fury” snatched a burning brand and, lifting himself up on the shoulders of a comrade thrust the fire through a golden window and the flames ran through the holy sanctuary of God.

Christ said of himself in today's Gospel: *Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it up again.* This temple was destroyed and desecrated by unholy hands. It lay as a corpse on a cross facing the Jerusalem temple, of which he was to be the substitute. As this divine temple was being profaned the veil of the ancient temple was rent in two as a sign that the old order of things had given way to a new, and a long history had reached its climax in Christ. In him a new and glorious temple, a new priesthood and a new sacrifice came into being.

And because of this new temple of Christ *not made with hands* we too can become temples of God. St. Paul writes: *Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?* Yet we know it is possible for us, like the other temples, to be destroyed. We can allow evil to desecrate it and bring it to ruin. However, we have the consolation even then of knowing that if this should happen, we can with the help of Christ, build it up again. The “bricks and cement” which keep our temple in being are prayer and our faith in the fact that: *No other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Masses for the Deceased: Marcia June Elliott (rec dec), Pauline Elias (anniversary), Buyung Elias, Mary Elias, Josephine Wong, Frederika Streiff, Christina Salim, Alexander Arifin, Agnes Arifin, Brother Arifin. David O'Connor (ann.10/3), Sonja Moore (ann.8/3), Gay Ball (ann.10/3), Anselmo Ansellotti (ann.16/3),

The Enrolment period for Kindergarten 2022 runs from March to 30 April 2021.

Enrolment packs are now available from the school office.

School tours will be available on the following afternoons for new families interested in enrolling their children at St Joseph's. (Monday 22 March through Friday 26 March, 3:30-4:00pm).

Please contact the school office on 9580 6588 if you wish to attend one of the tours.

Congratulations to all the Children of the parish who will made their first Communion this week, and to their parents. Through frequent reception of the Eucharist may their love grow deeper for Jesus, really and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. Special thanks are due to Ms. Sandra Green, our Sacramental Co-ordinator, and her helpers, who prepared the children for this important milestone in their journey of faith.

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



You can also access it by going to the Archdiocese of Sydney website where there is a list of Churches who stream their Masses each week. Just click on the link for St. Joseph's Parish, Oatley. I apologise that last Sunday's Mass was not able to be streamed due to some difficulty with the YouTube signal.

Sacramental Program for 2021: Please visit the Parish website:

www.stjosephschurch.com.au

Parish 2020 – A Call for Renewal On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 12th December, 2020, Archbishop Anthony Fisher launched our new Archdiocesan Mission Plan *Go Make Disciples* which, with the assistance of the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, seeks to inspire and support the renewal of our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ for the faithful and beyond.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will all join together in prayer, calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. A summary of the Mission Plan is available in the porch of the Church.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: This year has been designated by Pope Francis as the Year of St. Joseph. This is significant for the Parish as it is under the patronage of St. Joseph. St. Joseph's Feast Day will be celebrated on the 19th March and we pray that under his patronage and protection, our Parish will grow and prosper with a resurgence of faith and devotion to the Mass and Sacraments.

Imposition of restrictions concerning Churches: From Friday, 12th February, an unlimited number of people can attend Mass, provided that the one person per 2 metre square rule is observed. However, our Church will only hold at least eighty according to this regulation, any overflow would have to be accommodated in the Marion Hall where the Mass can be viewed on the TV monitor. Because of the easing of the restrictions, the Archbishop has lifted the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation. ***Parishioners are once again obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation when this is reasonably possible.*** Those of great age, have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risks of Covid19 are free to remain at home and find another way of keeping the Sabbath holy. There is still the requirement of taking names and contact details of attendees. The use of a QR code is recommended for those with iPhones or smart phones. The NSW Services app would need to be install on your phone to access the code. The first time you use the code, it will ask you to provide your name and contact number. It will then send you a code to enter with your details and the app will then be active. It is then used every time you attend Mass, or when and where you visit other venues that have a QR code registration system in place.

The wearing of masks is no longer mandatory, but strongly recommended where social distancing is not possible. They are, however, still mandatory when travelling on public transport.

Parishioners who elect to attend Mass during the pandemic should consider the safety of other parishioners by staying away if they are unwell, and if so, getting tested and self-isolating while awaiting the results. It is also advisable that parishioners only attend Mass in their own parish and not move from parish to parish.

Confessions are now available before the 5 pm Vigil Mass (4 pm to 4.45 pm).



The need is acute!

Low-income communities are not asking us for money or gifts. They reject degrading dependence. They want you to share your skills to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty.

The call is to all trades and professions to assist build the ability of their people and the capacity of their organisations. To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you do need to [enquire now](#).

Visit palms.org.au , call Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email palms@palms.org.au

 CCareline 131819 CatholicCare.org	CCareline: helping Sydney families with relationships, parenting, ageing services, disability, addictions and mental health concerns. connect@catholiccare.org
---	--

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.

TAX RECEIPTS for 2019-2020 are now available, if you wish to receive a tax receipt please email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

New Contributors: Please refer to the planned giving form, which can be accessed on the website under **DONATIONS**, if you wish to become part of our regularly giving programme at St Joseph's Parish Oatley. Upon completion of the form please email to oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

Alternatively, if you wish to donate on an ad hoc basis to the Church Account (Second Collection), there is a Bpoint facility below on this website under "Donations" on the menu. Please follow the links.

Envelope packs are available in the Church foyer to be picked up after Mass if you have not done so yet.

Thank you for your 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.

7th March 2021 – Third Sunday in Lent

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.*

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.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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

Collect

Let us pray.

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (Refer to your Sunday Missal or Liturgy Sheet)

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us come before the Lord our God, whose steadfast love embraces all generations.

1. That the temple of God's church may be ever cleansed from within and fashioned more perfectly as the living image of the risen Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. That those who control worldly power and shape human wisdom may attend to the law of God and respond to the needs of the lowly. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. That the innocent victims of greed and violence may find in Christ crucified, new strength in their suffering, and in Christ's disciples, wise allies in their struggle. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. That our Lenten observance may prepare us to renew our baptismal vows, and with the elect preparing for baptism, to profess Jesus as the Christ, the Saviour of the world.
5. That those who in life were fashioned as living stones into the temple of Christ's body may be raised up from death to eternal joy with Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. That the prayers of Mary, Mother of the Church, may assist us in our journey of faith and make us worthy of the promises of Christ. **HAIL MARY.**

We humbly beseech you, Almighty God, to look favourably upon the prayers of your servants. Stretch forth the right hand of your Majesty, to be our defence against all our adversaries. 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

*The sparrow finds a home, and a swallow a nest for her young;
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful,
and in your kindness grant your servants this grace:
that, abiding in the love of you and our neighbour,
we may fulfil the whole of your commands.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

And 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 oadleycc@bigpond.net.au or contact 9580 1864.

