

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

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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

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6th SEPTEMBER, 2020 – TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SHARED PRAYER: Christ, in today's Gospel tells us that “where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”. Our Lord is not just a presence in the sense that he takes no part in those who gather for prayer. He is an active partner working through the inspiration of his Spirit. In a sense we can say that the Church started through group prayer. Its first members gathered in the Upper Room and the Holy Spirit came upon them giving them extraordinary gifts and powers. In the Acts of the Apostles we are given pictures of Christians coming together to share their prayer. There is a special value in this kind of prayer when it is united. By shared prayer one does not mean that several people happen to come together and say individual prayer of their own. True shared prayer means a sharing of insights, experiences, and a common bond of love.

One great advantage of this type of prayer is its openness; it helps to prevent narrowness of disposition. One is not wrapped up in oneself and one gets a certain strength and power from the sense of union created.

After all nothing brings people together more closely than the shared experience of the presence of the Spirit of Christ and the reliance of that Spirit to bring about unity. Difference of race, of status, of any class distinctions which can create prejudice are eliminated by this type of prayer. It may take place in all kinds of ways – in family groups – in house masses, or simply by a desire of getting together to know God better and deepen one's relationship with Christ. For such a group to be successful there must be at the outset a realisation of the presence of the Spirit of Christ and the desire to experience this presence as a shared experience. This can bring about a transformation of one's spiritual life and an understanding of Christ that one had not experienced before.

***Social Justice Statement 2020-21:** The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at*

<https://agora.catholic.org.au/e/576423/SocialJustice-2020/nf41c/517738070?h=6Sv7JdsoDHUMfCvf6HRBnLVu-cLCvNZHkhIGFc5iAK8>

Masses and Prayers: Clement Rossland, Lina Kolozsi, Lorna Margaret Davey, Michael Christopher Barsi, Ana Sousa (recently deceased), Tony Kilgannon (ann.8/9), Mary Sainsbery (ann.8/9), Hendrikus Emans (ann.12/9), Joseph O'Connell (ann. 7/9), Kathleen Lloyd (ann.6/9), Peter Nelson (ann.15/9), Giuseppe Baroni (ann.13/9), Gregory Boyd (ann.15/9),

We thank Father Danai Penollar for supplied for the weekend Masses on the 23rd and 30th of August, during my absence from the parish on annual leave.

Imposition of restrictions concerning Churches. From Friday, 24th July, further restrictions have been imposed due to a spike in the number of new infections. There is now a limit of 100 people who can attend Mass, provided the 4 square metre per person rule is adhered to. However, our Church will hold at least forty persons according to this regulation, any overflow would have to be accommodated in the Marion Hall. There is still the requirement of taking names and contact details of attendees.

The Government has recommended the wearing of face masks when people are in crowded places, such a shopping centres, supermarkets, public transport, and *places of worship*. This is not mandatory, but recommended given the length of time people are together at Mass.

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.

Please note, with the social distancing rule, only a maximum of fifty persons can be accommodated in the Church.

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



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

This weekend marks the start of the **Priests' Retirement Father's Day Appeal** – set up with the aim of looking after our sick and retired priests, it provides them with appropriate accommodation and assistance with transition into retirement, medical and dental care, pastoral and other practical support – to give them a life of relative comfort and dignity in retirement.

As a way of expressing your gratitude for our priests who have nurtured your Catholic faith and provided guidance, friendship and mercy through the years, we hope that you will consider giving back and donate to the Priests' Retirement Foundation.

To make your donation, please go the Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au and click *Help support our Parish during the Coronavirus pandemic*. Then click the Biller Code - 1726496 "Other". Then type in your full name and 'phone number and state "PR Retirement Foundation" as the purpose of the payment.

Sister Gabriel of Our Lady's Nurses, Coogee, advises that due to the Coronavirus pandemic they will not be holding their usual annual fete in October this year. On behalf of Our Lady's Nurses, she thanks everyone who has supported them over the years.

Today is Father's Day and we remember especially the example, care and encouragement our fathers have given us to mould our lives, and build our character. We pray in our Mass today for all Fathers, living or dead.

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 eatleycc@bigpond.com.

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 eatleycc@bigpondnet.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 as 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.

Sunday Mass

6th September, 2020

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

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.

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.

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
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 (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 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

*My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray to the God of love in
the name of Jesus who has promised to be present where two or three are
gathered in his name.*

1. For the Church, the people of God: May we practice in our own community life the commandment of love that we preach to others. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. For **Francis**, our Pope, **Anthony** our Bishop, all bishops, theologians and canon lawyers: May all who exercise authority in the church manifest the values of the Gospel, showing respect and engaging in dialogue. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. For the priests who serve us, and particularly those who are retired: May we always be mindful of the influence they have had in our lives, keep them always in our prayers and give them our support as they faithfully minister in our parishes. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

4. For all Fathers in our community: May they be blessed on this their special day, and also by us who are grateful for their care and example. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. For vocations: May the Lord continue to provide His vineyard with workers engaged in the challenging yet rewarding ministry of announcing the Good News, and that those He has called will not fear to live their lives in service to their brothers and sisters through sacred ministry. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. For those who were bound on earth to Christ and to this faith community: May they be bound in heaven to the communion of the blessed. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
7. For greater devotion to the Holy Mother of God, Mary, Queen of Peace: May her intercession draw us closer to the Word incarnate. **HAIL MARY.**

Lord God, our Father, grant the prayers of your people. We join them to the intercession of Jesus in our midst, our brother, priest, and king, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. 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

*Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless us and keep us.

May he let his face shine upon us
and show his mercy towards us.

May he turn his countenance towards us
and give us his peace

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!

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