

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley



PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223

Rev. Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

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Parish website: 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 OR



25th December 2022 – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

Masses for the Deceased: Veronica Kellert, Paul Compton, Brent Egan, JoAnn Marinelli, recently deceased; Karen Smith, Marica Greguric, Sadie and Samuel Mir, anniversaries; George and Therese Mir, Marija and Petar Obrovac, Norman Mir and deceased family members.

FEAST OF CHRISTMAS: The feast of Christmas is the celebration of a new age in the history of the world. A child was given to us by whose coming the whole of creation was transformed. Human life took on a completely new dimension from the supernatural power with which the child was to endow it. Death would no longer be an end; it would become a doorway to a new diving adventure without end. For Christ came to give life and give it abundantly.

Christ was the revelation of God to humankind. It was an astonishing moment in the history of human affairs when, what the Fathers of the Church called: “**The Abbreviated Word**”, came into our world clothed in human flesh and having human powers. This was God expressing himself in a human body. In eyes and mouth and ears and hands and feet for *the same God who bade light shine out of darkness has kindled a light in our hearts whose shining is to make known his glory as he has revealed it in the features of Jesus Christ*. In the Christmas crib is both God and man. Omnipotence make itself weak, immortality being set on death, timelessness having a birthday.

All this is a great mystery. It stems from another mystery, that of love. For God is love. He so loved the world that he sent his own Son into it. Centuries before Isaiah had prophesied: *And the glory of the Lord will be revealed*. Christ is that revealed glory. He is the splendour of God’s substance. His human love is the gateway to divine love. He said of himself that nobody goes to the Father except through him. God who in the beginning spoke to us through his creation and afterward through his prophets and his word in Scriptures, and now, finally, and most clearly, through the Word made flesh – full of grace and truth.

THE CHRISTMAS CRIB

During the Christmas Season, a feature of our churches is the Christmas Crib. This custom reputedly goes back to St. Francis of Assisi, who is thought of have made the first model of the Crib at Greccio in 1223. The figure of the Child Jesus was placed in the manger during the first Mass of Christmas on Christmas Eve, and the figures of the Magi are usually added on the Feast of The Epiphany (8th of January).



Father Paul's Christmas Message: Every Christmas brings a time of joy, celebration, the renewal of friendships as well as a time for putting aside personal grievances, for reconciliation, and making peace. It is a time for families, a time of generosity, and the giving of gifts. Christ is

the reason we celebrate. The Child in the manger is God's gift to us and the promise of reconciliation and peace. Today we celebrate Our Lord's birthday, his coming among us in the flesh, and with his birth he brings Light and Truth to the world – God's love for us. Wishing you the brightest joys of Christmas and many blessings for the coming year 2023.

ST JOSEPH'S OATLEY CHRISTMAS MASSES 2022

Christmas Eve Saturday 24th of December: 5pm, 7pm, 9.30pm
Mass (carols at 9.00pm). **NO MIDNIGHT MASS.**

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th of December: 8 am and 10 am.

Monday 26th December (Feast of St. Stephen): 9am only

Tuesday 27th December (St. John the Evangelist): 9 am only.

Friday 30th December 2022- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: 9am only.



PARISH CHRISTMAS MORNING TEA: The Christmas Morning tea for 2022 was held recently with a great turnout. We thank everyone who attended the morning tea as well the parishioners who donated the delicious cakes and snacks. The next morning tea will be held in

February 2023, further details will be posted in the parish bulletin in the new year

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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