

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

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.

17th September 2023 – Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Deceased: Sister Moya Lantry rsm, Patricia Mortimer, Gabriela Dzieciol, Paul Zuvic recently deceased; Janice Scully, Peter Nelson, June Roebuck, David McIntosh, Ray Byers, Gregory Boyd, Tony Kilgannon anniversaries, and Amadeo Alvaro, Elias and Emily Francis.

FORGIVENESS: The Holy Scriptures are a continuous story of forgiveness. They begin with a promise and culminate in a cross. The promise is carried forward in the story of Israel. Without God's constant forgiveness, not even a remnant of Israel would have survived to usher in a new order of things in which the most sublime act of forgiveness took place. Faithlessness, fickleness, downright ingratitude were overlooked again and again; sins 'red as scarlet' were pardoned so that new starts were made, new hope inspired, new ground won and, what was most astonishing, sin so vile and evil became a 'happy fault' through the advent of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



Our blessed Lord is the embodiment of forgiveness. He was generous towards failures and weaknesses and ever ready to be merciful towards what was most hateful in people. At the same time, he expected his followers to have the same spirit of forgiveness that he had. In the parable in today's Gospel, the unforgiving servant was thrown into

prison and the lesson from his action given universal application by our Lord: So also my heavenly father will do to everyone of you, if you do

not forgive your brother (and sister) from your heart. Thus our Lord made forgiveness an obligation; it was not merely to be a magnanimous gesture. Someone has said: “Only the brave know how to forgive. A coward never forgives; it is not in his nature”. It is indeed hard for a person to learn the lesson of forgiveness; yet to do so is necessary for the protection of one’s own personality. Without it, one becomes case-hardened, imprisoned within a hard coating of insensitivity. The first Christian martyr, Stephen, a man full of the Holy Spirit prayed as he lay dying battered with stones: Lord, do not count this sin against them. This was the great Christian cry that has been echoed down the ages, a cry that was first heard from a cross coming from the Son of God so fulfilling the promises made to humankind at the beginning of history.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION-Applications for the Sacrament of Reconciliation 2023 (Year 2 and above) are now open. Please visit the parish website www.stjosephschurch.com.au and click on the **tab Sacramental Dates 2023** for further details. Alternatively, click on the link attached for the [Reconciliation 2023 program and application form](#).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL OATLEY will be celebrating their Festival Mass with the St George Region, Sutherland Region and Kingsgrove/Bankstown Region on **Wednesday 27th of September 23 commencing at 7pm**. For all details, please see the invitation on the Church notice board in the foyer of St Joseph’s.

The Priests’ Retirement Foundation of the Archdiocese of Sydney appeal was made last weekend, 10th September. I like to thank all parishioners who generously contributed to the appeal. The Foundation was established to ensure all priests can receive the accommodation, health care and support they need in their retirement. It covers need such as: Convalescence care, Nursing home and hostel care for frail priest, assistance in transitioning to retirement, health insurance, medical and dental expenses, assistance with board and lodging expenses, minor repairs, and maintenance of accommodation. If you missed the

opportunity to contribute to the appeal, Envelopes are still available on the tables in the foyer.

Welcome to Children's Liturgy



CHILDREN'S LITURGY: We are looking forward to our young parishioners joining in the Children's Liturgy group on Sunday's during the 10am Mass. We are very fortunate to have some volunteers to lead this work where the Children are led through prayer, songs, craft, and readings. Please encourage your children to join the group.

CURRENT PLANNED GIVING: Planned Giving Envelopes for the new financial year are now available in the foyer of the Church, please take your set of envelopes.

Thank you to all who have kindly contributed to our parish. If you wish to support your Parish, St Joseph's Oatley, please pick up a copy of the application form in the Church Foyer and become one of our regular givers. Alternatively, you may wish to go to our website www.stjosephschurch.com.au for a copy, or if you are online click on the tab below.

[DONATE](#)

[PLANNED GIVING
PROGRAM](#)

The Parish now has the facility to stream our Sunday Masses: You can access this on YouTube by following this link: bit.ly/stjoatley



DEFIBRILLATOR: Please note a defibrillator is installed in the Parish Church Hall.