

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223 Rev Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs Nicky Rodrigues – Parish Secretary (Thurs & Fridays)

Phone: 9580 1864 Fax: 9586 3074 Email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au **Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley**

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal Phone: 9580 6588

Schedule of Masses		Baptisms	By appointment (usually Sunday, 11am)
Saturday	5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)	Confessions	Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm
Sunday	8 am, 10 am	Benediction	Thursday at 11.30am
Monday	8am (Rosary 7.45)		
Tuesday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Wednesday	8am (Rosary 7.45),		
Thursday	12 Noon (Rosary 11.45)		
Friday	8am (Rosary 7.45)		
Saturday	8am (Rosary 7.45)		

15 December 2019 – Third Sunday of Advent

Masses and Prayers : Beatrice Beath (ann.21/12), Brian Jackson (ann.15/12), George Kent (ann.18/12), Maria Van Der Velden (ann.17/12),

THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA

This begins on the 17th December. At this point the Advent proclamation of the coming of the kingdom by the Prophets and John the Baptist gives way to the Christmas story in which the impending birth of Saviour and the Blessed Virgin Mary take centre stage. These days serve to prepare us more directly for Our Lord's birth. During this time, it is customary to erect the Christmas crib, to decorate the tree and to sing Christmas Carols.

THE O ANTIPHONS

These are also known as the greater Antiphons. In the Roman rite they are sung with the Alleluia as the verse before the Gospel on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas (17th December to 23rd). Each antiphon begins with the interjection "O". During the season of Advent. The Old Testament readings announce the coming of the Messiah, and the closer the feast of Christmas approaches, the more the liturgy accentuates the call of the Saviour with the cry "Come".

The seven antiphons: O Sapientia (Wisdom), O Adonai (the Lawgiver), O Radix Jesse (tree of Jesse), O Clavis David (Key of David), O Oriens Splendor (Dayspring from on high), O Rex Gentium (King of the Nations), O Emmanuel (God with us); in verse order form an acrostic from the initials of each invocation "ERO CRAS" (tomorrow I shall be there). This is the Lord's response to those who have faithfully prepared for His coming during the season of Advent through prayer and penitence.

A metrical version of the "O" antiphons is the hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

Christmas Masses 2019 at St Joseph's at Oatley: Confessions: Saturday 21st December 3.30pm to 4.45pm. Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December: 5pm Vigil, 7pm (Children's Mass, but all welcome) in the Church, 9.30 pm Mass (carols at 9.00pm). NO MIDNIGHT MASS. Christmas Day, Wednesday 25th December: 8am and 10am. Thursday, 26th December, 9 am only (Feast of St Stephen).

My Heartfelt Thank You to the Parish Community for their generous donations towards our Vinnies Christmas Appeal. We raised \$2,420. Wishing you all and your Families a very Blessed and Holy Christmas.

President Sue Vit, Oatley Conference

New Lectors : I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our current lectors and I would love to welcome any new readers that would like to be included in the next roster. Please email - caroline.dimeo09@gmail.com and include your mass time preferences. Proclaiming the work of the Lord is a rewarding way to be involved in our parish and everyone is welcome including members of our parish currently in high school or starting high school in 2020.

Church Wardens Needed: Over recent months our parish has lost three rostered Church Wardens. Wardens are required for three Masses over the weekend - 5.00pm Vigil on Saturday and 8.00am and 10.00am Masses on Sunday. Their duties involve managing the collections and attending to the sale of the Catholic Weekly at the table in the foyer. Initially experienced assistance will be provided.

As a reminder, the first collection supports the daily living expenses of the parish clergy and the second collection including planned giving program is the main source of income for the daily running of the parish. Parishioners are asked to consider this request and advise John Perkins on 0409077490 or Richard McMillan on 9580 5778. Enquiries close 14 Dec 2019.

Collections & Rosters

1st 682		2nd: \$283		Envelopes \$ 1402	
Money Counters Roster	Sun 17 Dec	Anna Merrick Sandy Cox arol Harland			
	Sun 24 Dec	George & Kathy Novak			
Masses	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens	
Sat 14 Dec 5pm	Vince Elliott	Richard McMillan	Anthony A Ivan G	Richard McMillan	
Sun 15 Dec 8am	Anne Lee	Vesna Zuvic	No Servers	Mario Cuenca	
Sun 15 Dec 10am	Joe Shakkal	Joseph Lucero	Lachlan H Ana Beretin L	Lewis DeGabriele	
Sat 21 Dec 5pm	Glenn McLachlan	Krystelle Boulos	Anna & Grace C	Brian Smith	
Sun 22 Dec 8am	Robert Dimeo	Jean Devine	No Servers	Mark Shad	
Sun 22 Dec 10am	Phillip Merrick	Joseph Lucero	Paris S Mavina K	David Lee	
Children's Liturgy		Rosary Leader	Altar Society		
Sun 15 Dec	Leilah Nelson	Lewis DeGabriele	Margaret Rayment Kath Richardson		
Sun 22 Dec	School Holidays	Brian Rayment	Marcia Smith		