

# 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](http://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.

# 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Deceased:** Dolores Carreon, the three boys and grandfather of the family of David and Elise Smith (tragic plane crash), recently deceased; Fr. Louis Breslan, Noel Smith, Marie Therese Jeanine Leeyee, Cardinal Sir Norman Thomas Gilroy, anniversaries, deceased members of the Valastro, Mangano and Arena families, and Amadeo Alvaro.

**THE BANQUET:** The Oriental has always set a great store by hospitality. This is clear if one reads the Scriptures. From the account of meals in the Old and the New Testament it is evident that they were signs of a special relationship, not merely of friendliness, but of friendship. Food taken in common had a unifying force. This is particularly clear in the New Testament where meals are often mentioned. Christ took pleasure in being present at a marriage feast, joining with the bride and the bridegroom and their guests in an act of joy and love. For him a meal had a messianic significance; he likened his kingdom on earth and in heaven to a banquet. He gave himself to the apostles in the form of food and drink and offered himself to all in the same manner. This divine food and drink was to be a preliminary to a great festive banquet over which God Himself would preside for ever.



It was about this banquet that Christ gave us a parable. Though he was addressing the Jews he had a much wider audience in mind. The master of the house sent out

invitations to the feast to the notable citizens of the town. When all was ready, they suddenly began to excuse themselves. Naturally he was angry at their insults and so had no further truck with them. Instead, he sent out his servants to fill up the vacant places with anybody they could find however poor and feeble. To the Jewish elders, the parable was clear enough. The leaders of Israel refused all invitations of our Lord so the poor and the down-trodden and the Gentiles would come and enjoy the good things provided. The parable is an echo of our Lord's words: Blessed are the poor in Spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. All are invited to the heavenly banquet, the good as well as the evil. But the latter must repent and enter the feast wearing the wedding garment of charity. As always in our Lord's teaching, only those who love can enter his kingdom.

My final Masses at St. Joseph's prior to leaving the parish to retire will be over the weekend 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October. As advised, the parish will be twinned with St. Declan's at Penshurst. I was able to welcome Father Chris Ryan, our new Parish Priest and introduce him to the parishioners over last Sunday Masses. As you are aware, Fr. Chris is Parish Priest at St. Declan's at Penshurst, and Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima at Peakhurst. He is a Missionary of God's Love and leads a pastoral team of three Priests who will cover the three parishes. I am sure that all will welcome the new direction our parish will be taking and make the Missionaries feel at home here in Oatley.



**MORNING TEA INVITATION:** Please join us at our next parish morning tea this coming **Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> Of October, at 10.30am** in the Marion Hall. This will be Father Paul's last morning tea as Parish Priest at Oatley. **All are welcome.**

**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](http://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](#).

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We are looking forward to our young parishioners joining in the Children's Liturgy group this **Sunday 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 each Sunday during the 10am Mass.

**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](http://www.stjosephschurch.com.au) for a copy, or if you are online click on the tab below.*



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



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