

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)

Phone 9580 1864, Email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

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: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction from 11 am and
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 BACK

In line with the present guidelines regarding the opening of Churches, St Joseph's Church is now opened from 7 am to 6 pm daily, and the usual Mass timetable as above will apply from the 24th of October. Sunday Masses will resume on that date for both 8am and 10am Mass times. However, the 4 square meter rule will apply with a seating capacity of about 40 people, in the Church, and 20 in the Marion Hall.

24th October 2021 – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Deceased: Jeffery Lovisolo, Margaret Minolo, Brian and Peter Rayment, recently deceased, Mary Teresa Brady, Denzil Anthony Cleur, Fr. William Davis, Fr. Francis Xavier Roberts, anniversaries.

BLINDNESS: Faith is a vision. It is “the evidence of things that appear not”. It is the power of seeing the invisible; of viewing a world beyond our senses. The man in the Gospel had a vision of faith and not only did it earn him the cure of his bodily eyesight, but it also gave him an insight into the love and power in Christ which had brought it about. The Gospel tells us a double fact about the man, first that: *immediately his sight returned*, and secondly: *he followed him along the road*. The restoration of his eyesight was the mean by which he could not only see the living Christ, but also realise that here was a great and wonderful person who was well worth following.

All of us at times need to be cured of our blindness. There are so many objects which block our spiritual vision. The unseen world does not press upon us in the same way as the

world in which we live. And there are so many exciting and attractive things in this latter world which tend to draw us away from the former. The best way of restoring our sight is by prayer. All true prayer springs from a lively faith in Christ and his power. He will open our eyes to the things of the spirit. For faith is the response of men to God in Christ. It is a vision of God not 'face to face' but in the inner sanctuary of one's being. *Master, let me see again*, was the prayer of the blind man to Christ and it received its immediate reward. This must be our prayer also during the multitude of our daily duties so that they do not blind us to the presence of Christ and his great love for us. We must continue to keep this vision of Christ even when the world grows dark about us through troubles and afflictions. Our faith must be a living faith like that of the blind man who followed Christ along the road. We must not turn aside and follow our own selfish interests and become blind to those of Christ.

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



Mass will also be streamed on Thursdays at 12 md for the teachers and children of St. Joseph's School.

The Children's liturgy of the word for this Sunday can be access by clicking on the following link:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GQd8-lwFkzaYvGJZ2fi16denLTbN-WQO00L4dGaSNC4/present#slide=id.gee6f26b3d6_0_58

Sacramental Program for 2021: Please visit the Parish website:

www.stjosephschurch.com.au

Dear Parents and Carers, it is with regret that I advise, due to the recent COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the NSW government, the balance of our 2021 Sacramental Program for Confirmation and Reconciliation will be suspended. The reconciliation program will take place in Term 1, 2022. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place next year at St. Mary's Cathedral with the parishes of the St. George Deanery. Please email our sacramental program coordinator Sandra Green on sandragreen@optusnet.com.au should you have any questions. Fr. Paul.

SRE classes in public schools are postponed for the rest of the year. However, SRE Learning from Home lessons are available.

Catholic SRE Learning from Home materials can be accessed by clicking on the following link:
<https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

New Learning from Home lessons have been uploaded this week and are available for parents to access across NSW. These include user-friendly Click & Learn PowerPoints and home activity sheets.

The NSW Department of Education will also advise schools to inform families of the availability of these resources.

CHURCH RE-OPENING

With the news that NSW has now reached 80% double vaccination the Sydney Archdiocese has advised that, public Masses and other services are able to recommence for all who wish to attend.

So it is with great excitement that we can let you know that our church will be open for Masses commencing this Sunday 24th October at both 8am and 10am Mass times. We look forward to warmly welcoming everyone back especially this weekend.

As the 1 person per 4sqm rule will apply, there can only be a maximum of 40 people in the church for each Mass. To help with numbers, we will also be opening Marion Hall for the Saturday Vigil Mass and the Sunday Mass. People there will be able to view the livestreamed Mass and receive Holy Communion. This venue is limited to 20 people.

When you arrive for Mass at the Church or the Hall, you will also need to use the QR code OR use the 'pen and paper' system for official registration. This is the NSW Government compliance requirement.

It has been previously announced that everyone, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, or unvaccinated, will be able to attend Mass. We will be doing all that is reasonably possible to keep everyone safe who comes to Mass. There will be mask-wearing, good ventilation, hand sanitiser available, the enforcing of social distancing and cleaning of the church between Masses.

Live streaming

The Vigil Mass will continue to be live streamed on YouTube, and if you are unable to attend Mass physically, you are encouraged to connect prayerfully to this medium. The streaming will begin at 5pm on Saturday and can be accessed at any time after the Mass has concluded via [bit. /stjoatley](https://bit.ly/stjoatley) Or



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.

New Contributors: If you wish to become part of our regularly giving programme at St Joseph's Parish Oatley, please fill in the planned giving form, which can be accessed by opening the attached hyperlink <https://www.stjosephschurch.com.au/donations>.

Click on the button planned giving program to access and fill out form. Otherwise, you may obtain the form from the church foyer or contact the parish office for the application.

Please email the form to oatleycc@bigpond.net.au or drop it in to the Parish Office. Alternatively, you can post it to: St Joseph's Parish, 21C Frederick St, Oatley NSW 2223.

If you wish to donate to the Church Account (Second Collection) please scan the encryption below, with your mobile phone. This automatically directs you to the parish's Bpoint facility. Please follow the links. If you do not wish to make an internet or online payment, please email the office oatleycc@bigpond.net.au or contact 9580 1864.



TAX RECEIPTS for 2020-2021 are available. If you wish to receive an emailed tax receipt, please email the parish office. Once again, we would like to thank all who have kindly contributed to our parish at St Joseph's Oatley.

Thank you for 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.

Position of Catechist Coordinator Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst: We are seeking to appoint a person who would be responsible for overseeing the administrative duties important in ensuring the effective operation of the Catechist ministry in our parish of Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst. This will be a permanent, part-time, paid position that would require a total of 100 hours per annum. Interested applicants may obtain an Application Form and a copy of the Role Description by contacting the Parish Secretary via email at olfpeak@bigpond.com. Applications close: Friday 29th October 2021



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