

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)

During the restrictions, the Sunday Mass will be live streamed on YouTube, and 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.

You can access the Mass on YouTube by following this link: [bit./stjoatley](https://bit.ly/stjoatley) Or



10th October 2021 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses for the Deceased: Brian and Peter Rayment, recently deceased, John Bernard McMillan, John Kevin McMillan, Marie Therese (Jeanine) Lee Yee, Ray Byers, Violet Goulden, Mary Brady, William (Ron) Parkin, Fr. Kevin Burton, Fr. John O'Donovan, Fr. John (Jack) Haseler, Fr. Emmet Costello SJ, Fr. Roth Delaney, Fr. Maurice Crittenden anniversaries.

THE CAMEL AND THE NEEDLE: There are people expert at the art of making money but have never learned the art of living. Some have amassed huge fortunes and ended their days by suicide. Others who become immensely rich have spent their last years in prison. Their wealth, which they no doubt thought would bring them security and happiness has only brought misery upon them. Riches should, if properly used, not only bring personal satisfaction but also be a means to eternal happiness. When Christ speaks in today's Gospel of the difficulty of a rich man entering Heaven, he is thinking of the fact that so often money or its equivalent becomes the be-all and end-all of a person's life. He is not condemning the possession of riches as such; only their misuse.

The apostles were astounded when Our Lord said: *It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter Heaven.* After all they were Jews and they had read of many rich men in Scriptures who had been friends of God – Abraham was an obvious example. But Jesus explained his meaning. Though money can so easily set up barriers between man and God, it can also be used in his service. The grace of God can so influence a rich man that he will use his wealth for good purposes. The possession of wealth involves duties toward those in need. This does not necessarily mean the giving away of all wealth like a Saint Francis of Assisi, but it does mean not making a god of it. A rich man can still arrive at perfection. In the case of the rich your man of the Gospel his wealth was spoiling his relationship with God, and it would have been the best thing for him to accept Our Lord's suggestion. One cannot say that his refusal was sinful; what he was doing was to refuse a grace offered. We are told that Jesus loved him since he had kept God's commandments from his youth. He was however unable to follow the counsel of perfection and give up everything for 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

You can also access it by going to the Archdiocese of Sydney website where there is a list of Churches who stream their Masses each week. Just click on the link for St. Joseph's Parish, Oatley.



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/167PkCSPBUuD0TPtlesuyz4paaDwzgs0s_5q7UwhrAe4/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. At this stage, no program will be run in Term 3. If the restrictions are lifted, we may run the Confirmation program in Term 4, 2021 (revised dates to be advised) and move the reconciliation program to Term 1, 2022. 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 time being. 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.

Closure of Churches due to the recent spread of the Corona virus.

From Saturday, 26th June 2021, Greater Sydney (which includes the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong, and Shellharbour) went into lockdown. Consequently, the Church has been closed until further notice (refer to recent changes, below).

However, *funerals are permitted* with a limit of 10 attendees, in addition to those essential for the service (celebrant, undertakers, musician/singer, streaming operator).

Weddings are now permitted for small groups: 5 guests only, in addition to those necessary for the liturgy (i.e. the couple, the two witnesses, the celebrant and probably a musician/singer, and photographer).

It seems clear that, because the new Delta strain of Covid virus is so infectious, we are being asked to be even more cautious than during the previous lockdown. “Stay home” means “avoid all unnecessary contact with other people, including family members who live in other households.” Those who live in the Liverpool, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Georges River, Fairfield, Cumberland, and Blacktown Local Government areas, are required to remain in those areas unless they have a valid reason to leave for work (which requires at

least one dose of a Covid 19 vaccine and a medical contraindication certificate which must be carried along with the required evidence of exemption to travel).

The Premier has now announced recent changes in relation to the easing of Covid restrictions. The following summarises the key changes and the approach we will take in Sydney Archdiocese, but no doubt further updates will be needed in the coming weeks. Not everything is clear yet!

Firstly, along with other Faith Groups, we are very grateful that, in her Covid Roadmap announcement, the Premier recognised that for people of faith worship is more like an essential service than a recreation. We now eagerly look forward to the opportunity to gather once more to celebrate our faith and give thanks to God. The re-opening of places of worship will be staged in line with the NSW Government Roadmap. These are the details as we presently understand them.

STAGE ONE – WHEN 70% ARE VACCINATED – ESTIMATED DATE 11 OCTOBER

The first stage commences when 70% of eligible people are fully vaccinated – this is expected to be 11 October. Even though we would be entitled on this date to open churches to the vaccinated only, following his recent consultation with us, the Archbishop has decided that **we will patiently wait the estimated two further weeks until we reach 80% fully vaccinated before re-opening our churches to the public**, and conducting public Masses etc. However, during this first stage, priests who are themselves fully vaccinated will be able to conduct ceremonies such as Baptisms for families that are fully vaccinated (apart from children not yet eligible for vaccination).

STAGE TWO – WHEN 80% ARE FULLY VACCINATED – ESTIMATED DATE 25 OCTOBER

At 80% fully vaccinated we will open our churches and ceremonies to “mixed” congregations (fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated and yet unvaccinated); the 4 sqm rule will apply, and masks must be worn indoors. We will not be required to check a person’s vaccination status. We continue to urge everyone to be vaccinated, and so to reduce their risk of infection. People who are especially vulnerable, who are vaccinated but anxious about mixing with the unvaccinated, or who are unvaccinated and do not want to risk contact with others, are free to remain at home and live-streaming of Masses will continue.

STAGE THREE – WHEN 90% ARE EXPECTED TO BE FULLY VACCINATED – 1 DECEMBER 2021 – “THE NEW NORMAL”

The Government has advised that from 1 December there will be no difference between the Covid safety requirements for all NSW citizens, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, or unvaccinated. The key requirement for churches will be the **2sqm rule at all indoor religious gatherings**, including weddings and funerals. There will be **no limit on the**

numbers at outdoor events, and so outdoor Masses will be an option. Covid Safe plans will be required for outdoor events with more than 1,000 people. At weddings, dancing will be permitted, as well as eating and drinking while standing up.

Once we have reached stage three masks will not be required inside a church (though some people may wish to wear a mask for added protection).

During the restrictions, the Sunday Mass will be live streamed on YouTube, and 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.

Mass will also be streamed on Thursdays at 12 md during school term for the teachers and children of St. Joseph's School who are at School or at home with their parents.

You can access the Mass on YouTube by following this link: [bit. /stjoatley](https://bit.ly/stjoatley) Or



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

Message from the Parish Priest

It has now been three months that our parish community in Oatley, along with the rest of New South Wales is in hard lockdown. The cases of infections from the Delta strain of the Corona virus are increasing each day, and there have been several deaths either from or with the virus. Viruses can never be totally eradicated and will continue to circulate in the community and infect many people. The solution is protection from the virus. To do this, we have been placed in a strict lockdown to curb the spread of the Corona virus, and isolated from one another. We cannot remain in this situation forever. Since the emergence of the Corona virus at the beginning of last year, effective vaccines have been developed, and, of course, the best protection from any virus is scrupulous hygiene and vaccination. We are fortunate the Corona vaccines (Pfizer, AstraZeneca and Moderna) are now readily available and rolled out. The Premier and her Health advisors are constantly urging us to have the vaccination whenever possible. This will be a passport to resuming a somewhat normal life as before the pandemic and to protect us from further outbreaks. I have been fully vaccinated with Astra Zeneca, and I urge all Parishioners who are eligible to be vaccinated as soon as practicable. Sound health advice says that we have nothing to fear from this, and any risks are far outweighed by the protection the vaccines afford.

We are all going through a very difficult time at present. The lockdowns have caused many people to lose their jobs and their incomes. Children are deprived of normal school attendance and face to face learning. People who live alone lack the company of friends and relatives and, people and families are separated from one another. Our spiritual wellbeing, as a Catholic Community, is centred on the Eucharist, the summit and source of our faith. It is the Eucharist that binds us together as one and nourishes and strengthens us to live our baptismal commitment as the Body of Christ. For some time now, we have been unable to assemble as a Christian Community or have only been allowed to assemble in smaller numbers. It is still uncertain as to when we will be able to come together once more in our parish Church to fully participate in the Liturgy of the Church and to be refreshed with the Body and Blood of our Blessed Lord by our reception of Holy Communion. Nevertheless, we are fortunate that we have the advantage with modern technology to be able to participate in Masses that are live-streamed. When I arranged for this facility to be installed in our parish last year it was at the time when things started opening again, and our congregation was returning to Mass, albeit with reduced numbers. Now, it has proved its worth and we are able to live-stream the Mass every week so you can participate at home. I have also started to live-stream Mass on Thursdays for the benefit of the children at school or at home. This, of course, is not the best solution, but it is the next best thing. Nothing will ever replace actual attendance at Mass with a real and conscious participation, and reception of Holy Communion. As the old saying goes: *Absence makes the heart grow fonder*, we should all take time in our isolation to reflect on the importance of the Mass and Sacraments in our lives and, in our hunger for the Eucharist, long for the time when we can come together again as a vibrant Christian community.

When we can open our Churches again to celebrate Mass and the Sacraments, possibly at the end of October, or sooner, certain rules will still apply, such as, social distancing of 4 square metres, no congregational singing, and check-in procedures for

congregants (QR code etc.). There are vaccines readily available, and it would be wise to seek vaccination so that we are all protected against the virus. Otherwise, we will not be able to enjoy the freedoms accorded to the fully vaccinated.

Each day when I say Mass in our empty parish Church, I recall all the faces that usually occupy the pews and I offer the Holy Sacrifice for the wellbeing of all members of our Parish family. May God bless you all and keep you safe.

Fr. Paul.

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY: During the period of lockdown, the Weekly is continuing its publication and is available to read, free of charge, as a digital edition. You can access this by clicking on the following link

[Digital Editions: The Catholic Weekly](#)

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.

10th October 2021 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.*

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (Refer to your Sunday Missal or Liturgy Sheet)

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY
TIME.**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, in prayer let us call on God, from whom all good things come.

1. For all who strive to follow Jesus as teacher and Lord. May we find healing for our divisions and unity of faith in God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. For those who guide peoples and nations. May they govern according to the wisdom that comes from God, to whom they must one day render an account. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. For those in failing health. May God's wisdom be their unceasing radiance and the care of family and friends their incomparable wealth. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. For those who have worldly wealth and many possessions. May generous use of resources liberate them for the kingdom of God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. For this parish community. May each of us be able to love more rightly and become more like Christ through worthy and regular reception of the Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. For those who lived the good news in this life. May they receive eternal life in the age to come. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
7. For greater devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church and Help of all Christians. May her prayer and intercession make us worthy of promises of Christ.

HAIL MARY.

Most loving Father we know that from you every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. We come before you with confidence that you will hear our petitions as we have gathered around your altar to hear your word and wisdom, and to be nourished by your beloved Son, who lives and reigns forever and ever. AMEN.

Pope Francis Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, our Salvation, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the Joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Our Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be *etc.*

Communion Antiphon

*The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord,
that, as you feed us with the nourishment
which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,
so you may make us sharers of his divine nature.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless us and keep us

May he let his face shine upon us
and show us his mercy.

May he turn his countenance towards us
and give us his peace.

And may Almighty God bless us all, in the name of the Father, and of Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord and glorify him in our lives. Thanks be to God.

If you wish to donate to the Church Account (Second Collection) there is a Bpoint facility on this website under "Donations" on the menu. Please follow the links. If you do not wish to make an internet or online payment, please email the Office oaileycc@bigpond.net.au or contact 9580 1864.

