

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

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Rev. Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

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Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oatley

Mrs Kylie Brakel – Principal. ‘Phone 9580 6588

25th April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter (Anzac Day)

THE GOOD SHEPHERD: It is often very difficult for a Christian in modern days to hold firm by his principles and to see clearly the tents of his faith. There are so many voices raised against traditional Christian teaching on faith and morals and so many influences coming from television and cinema screens, from newspapers, novels, and radio which are opposed to him. Materialism also can easily clog his spiritual life. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote:

*The world is so full of a number of things I'm sure
we should all be as happy as kings.*

Indeed, we should be happy provided we make the right use of things and do not use them that the supernatural is excluded.

Christ has told us that he is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In today's Gospel he expresses this in vivid metaphor. He is the Good Shepherd, and we are his sheep. If we are true Christians, he tells us we will listen to his voice and follow him. We will have no ears for false teachers. He will lead us safely amid the moral problems and puzzles of life. He will guard us against evil attacks. But always we have our part to play. We can wander off and leave the shepherd and go our own way of self-satisfaction. He will only go in front of his sheep and lead them; he will not force them along the road from behind. Always he is prepared to give us strength so that we will not be tempted more than we can bear. At the same time, he will not guarantee that the road will not be rough and full of dangers. The lesson for us is clear. We must use the means provided for us. We must speak to the Shepherd in prayer. We must receive with devotion the sacraments he has offered us that we must study and meditate the message he has left us in the Gospels. Above all we should learn to appreciate his action of love in that he "lays down his life for his sheep"; the implication of those words is so tremendous that we can never exhaust their content.

ANZAC DAY 25th APRIL: This Sunday is Anzac Day, although in the Liturgy a Sunday in Easter takes precedence over this commemoration. However, the Easter prayers and readings will provide suitable texts for remembering the fallen. Sunday Masses will remember the men and women of our Defence Forces and those who have given their lives in love and service to our country. Lest we forget.

Masses for the Deceased: Father Michael McCarthy, former Parish Priest of Oatley, Cardinal Edward Edris Cassidy, recently deceased, Bede Smith (ann.18/4), Val Harrington (dec), Margaret Haines (ann.22/4), Joan Sproule (28/4).

From this Thursday, 29th April the daily Mass will revert to 12 midday to allow the children from the School to attend Mass as a class. Of course, the other days of the week Mass will be at 8 am as usual.

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.

Sacramental Program for 2021: Please visit the Parish website:
www.stjosephschurch.com.au

Parish 2020 – A Call for Renewal On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 12th December, 2020, Archbishop Anthony Fisher launched our new Archdiocesan Mission Plan *Go Make Disciples* which, with the assistance of the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, seeks to inspire and support the renewal of our parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ for the faithful and beyond.

In the weeks and months ahead, we will all join together in prayer, calling on the Holy Spirit, to prepare the hearts of each of us and of all our parishes and Eucharistic communities to receive anew the fire of God's love and the desire to be ever more faithful witnesses of Jesus Christ. A summary of the Mission Plan is available in the porch of the Church.

Imposition of restrictions concerning Churches: From Friday, 12th February, an unlimited number of people can attend Mass, provided that the one person per 2 metre square rule is observed. However, our Church will only hold at least eighty according to this regulation, any overflow would have to be accommodated in the Marion Hall where the Mass can be viewed on the TV monitor. Because of the easing of the restrictions, the Archbishop has lifted the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation. *Parishioners are once again obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation when this is reasonably possible.* Those of great age, have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risks of Covid19 are free to remain at home and find another way of keeping the Sabbath holy. There is still the requirement of taking names and contact details of attendees. The use of a QR code is recommended for those with iPhones or smart phones. The NSW Services app would need to be install on your phone to access the code. The first time you use the code, it will ask you to provide your name and contact number. It will then send you a code to enter with your details and the app will then be active. It is then used every time you attend Mass, or when and where you visit other venues that have a QR code registration system in place.

The wearing of masks is no longer mandatory, but strongly recommended where social distancing is not possible.

Parishioners who elect to attend Mass during the pandemic should consider the safety of other parishioners by staying away if they are unwell, and if so, getting tested and self-isolating while awaiting the results. It is also advisable that parishioners only attend Mass in their own parish and not move from parish to parish.

Confessions are now available before the 5 pm Vigil Mass (4 pm to 4.45 pm).



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CCareline 131819
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connect@catholiccare.org

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.

TAX RECEIPTS for 2019-2020 are now available, if you wish to receive a tax receipt please email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

New Contributors: Please refer to the planned giving form, which can be accessed on the website under **DONATIONS**, if you wish to become part of our regularly giving programme at St Joseph's Parish Oatley. Upon completion of the form please email to oatleycc@bigpond.net.au

Alternatively, if you wish to donate on an ad hoc basis to the Church Account (Second Collection), there is a Bpoint facility below on this website under "Donations" on the menu. Please follow the links.

Envelope packs are available in the Church foyer to be picked up after Mass if you have not done so yet.

Thank you for your 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.

25th April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

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.

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
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 ANZAC DAY.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, gathered to remember those who gave their lives for the freedom of our nation, let us come to the merciful Father with our intentions for prayer.

1. That the Church will promote peace and defend freedom. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. That those who died for our land may enjoy eternal life in Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. That families still suffering the cruel effect of war will find the healing of memories. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. That God will guide the men and women who serve in our Defence Forces. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. That we will welcome victims of oppression who come to live in our nation. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. That our beloved nation Australia may build on the sacrifices of the past and continue to preserve and promote justice, peace and freedom. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
7. That the patroness of Australia, Mary, Help of Christians, may assist us with her prayers. **HAIL MARY.**

Almighty and ever living God, who are the author of peace and lover of concord, as we commend to your mercy those who died for our freedom, grant the prayers of your people, offering the sacrifice of your Son, who lives and reigns for ever 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 Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son
was pleased to confer on us
the gift of redemption and of adoption,
give us gladness by his blessing.

Amen.

May he, by whose redeeming work
We have received the gift of everlasting freedom,
make us heirs to an eternal inheritance.

Amen.

And may we, who have already risen with Christ
in Baptism through faith,
by living in a right manner on this earth,
be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

Amen.

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.

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