

# 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.

# 13th August 2023 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Masses for the Deceased:** Paul Aloysius Hemsley, Anne Kellert, recently deceased; Michael Allen, Father Michael O’Sullivan, Joan DeGabriele, Margaret McMillan, Father Laurence Bayliss, James Devereux Croke, Father Anthony Sahade, Father Barry Brundell, Marco Sollazzo, Margaret Johanna McMillan, anniversaries.

**IT IS A GHOST:** Today’s Gospel gives us both a strange and attractive picture. The lonely Christ prays to his Father on the hillside overlooking the lake. After the strains and stresses of the day he needed strength and refreshment of spirit and this he finds in communion with his Father. Nor was it for his own self alone that he prayed. He had others in mind. When his prayer is over he looks across at the boat tossed about by a storm which seems about to overwhelm it. We can almost picture it ourselves; the night illumined by moonlight, the lake, like polished steel rising and falling as though molten by a furnace and the boatmen struggling to reach the farther shore.

There is symbolism in the scene. The boat with its crew toiling to survive and reach the shore is the church with its first members making their way through a stormy world. It is a world without hope until Christ appears. Unable to reach them by boat he walks upon the water as though it were solid ground. He knows that without him all their efforts will be in vain. And they, looking up from their labours, see something that fills them with fear. In the pale moonlight a figure appears silhouetted against the water and treading on it. It is a ghost, they cry. Two fears grip hold of them: that of the storm and the apparition. This is what our Lord wants. This is a dramatic parable that he has prepared. He wants to show them how different everything is once he is with them. His presence produces a great calm both in their hearts and on the water. Now they can easily make their way to the shore in peace.

There is a lesson here for us all. Life is a struggle, and we need the help of Christ to bring us to our true destination. There may well be storms

along the way, but his presence will provide a deep peace so that in the end, all will be well.

**Tuesday 15th August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of obligation). Masses will be at 8 am, 9.15 am (with the school), and 7 pm.**

### **Pope Francis (Portugal -World Youth Mass August 2023)**

“We, too, need light, a burst of light that is hope to face so much darkness that assails us in life,” the Pope said. That light, he explained, “is Jesus, because He is the light that does not go out, the light that shines even in the night.” It is Jesus, he said, “that enlightens our eyes, enlightens our heart, enlightens our mind, enlightens our desire to do something in life, always with the light of the Lord.”

At the same time, he warned that “we do not become luminous when we focus the spotlight on ourselves.” Instead, “We become luminous, we shine, when, welcoming Jesus, we learn to love like Him. To love like Jesus: that makes us luminous, that leads us to do works of love.”

**FATHER PAUL’S FAREWELL LUNCH-17th of September 2023 at 12pm:** An invitation to all the Parishoners of the Parish has been organised to farewell Father Paul Hilder and wish him all the best for his retirement. For further information refer to the posters/ brochures in the Church foyer or alternatively email : [jtperkins@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jtperkins@ozemail.com.au)



**CONFIRMATION:** The children of the parish who are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, have begun their classes and preparation to receive the Sacrament at St. Joseph’s Oatley on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> of September. Please keep them in your prayers and encourage them to faithfully practice their faith.

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

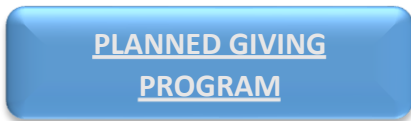
**The Charitable Works Fund Appeal** will be made at all Masses this weekend. Envelopes are on the pews and in the foyer of the Church. Please be generous in supporting the pastoral works of the Archdiocese of Sydney.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We are looking forward to our young parishioners joining in the Children's Liturgy group on Sunday's 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.

**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.

**TAX RECEIPTS for 2022-2023 are available.** Please email [oatleycc@bigpond.com](mailto:oatleycc@bigpond.com) if you wish to receive a tax receipt. Your receipts will be emailed to you. Alternatively, call the office on 9580-1864 for your tax receipt. Once again, we would like to thank all who have kindly contributed to our parish at St Joseph's Oatley.

*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)**

**OR**

