

St Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223

Rev Paul Hilder – Parish Priest

Mrs Nicky Rodrigues – Parish Secretary (Tues, Thurs & Fridays)

Phone: 9580 1864 Fax: 9586 3074 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

Schedule of Masses		Baptisms	By appointment (usually Sunday, 11am)
Saturday	5 pm (Vigil for Sunday)	Confessions	Sat 17th, 3:30-4:45 pm
Sunday	8 am, 10 am		Sat 24th, 3.30- 4.45pm
Monday	8am (Rosary 7:45)	Exposition	Thursday, 9am to 11:45am (with benediction at 11:30am)
Tuesday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Wednesday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Thursday	12 noon (Rosary 11:45)		
Friday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Saturday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		

18th December 2016 4th Sunday of Advent

Masses and prayers: Raymond Caramsing (ann.08/11), Dulcie Perkins (rec dec 2/12) Dominic Colagiuri (ann. 3/12), Karen Smith (ann.14/12),Dores Attard (ann.27/12),Betty Beath (ann.21/12), Ronald Stonebridge (ann. 20/12), Rita Wagstaff (ann.20/12) deceased members of CWL, and those who are sick, including, Terri & Chris Sarno, Marcella Hill, Carole Tesoriero ,Henry Pak, Patricia Dolan and who need our prayers including Philip Trinder.

4th Candle of Advent: is for the Angels, who heralded Christ's birth and sang their hymn of joy.

Christmas Masses

Saturday 24th December: **5pm** Vigil Mass in church.

7pm Mass in the undercroft of the school (All welcome)

Midnight Mass, starting with carols at 11.30.

Sunday 25th December: 8am (dawn Mass); 10am .

THE CHRISTMAS CRIB

During the last week of Advent and during the Christmas Season, a feature of our churches is the Christmas Crib. This custom reputedly goes back to St. Francis of Assisi, who is thought of have made the first model of the Crib at Greccio in 1223. The figure of the Child Jesus is placed in the manger during the first Mass of Christmas on Christmas Eve, and the figures of the Magi are added on the Feast of The Epiphany (6th January).

THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA

This begins on the 17th December. At this point the Advent proclamation of the coming of the kingdom by the Prophets and John the Baptist gives way to the Christmas story in which the impending birth of Saviour and the Blessed Virgin Mary take centre stage. These days serve to prepare us more directly for Our Lord's birth. During this time it is customary to erect the Christmas crib, to decorate the tree and to sing Christmas Carols.

THE O ANTIPHONS

These are also known as the greater Antiphons. In the Roman rite they are sung with the Alleluia as the verse before the Gospel on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas (17th December to 23rd). Each antiphon begins with the interjection "O". During the season of Advent the Old Testament readings announce the coming of the Messiah, and the closer the feast of Christmas approaches, the more the liturgy accentuates the call of the Saviour with the cry "Come". The seven antiphons: O Sapientia (Wisdom), O Adonai (the Lawgiver), O Radix

Jesse (tree of Jesse), O Clavis David (Key of David), O Oriens Splendor (Dayspring from on high), O Rex Gentium (King of the Nations), O Emmanuel (God with us); in verse order form an acrostic from the initials of each invocation "ERO CRAS" (tomorrow I shall be there). This is the Lord's response to those who have faithfully prepared for His coming during the season of Advent through prayer and penitence.

A metrical version of the "O" antiphons is the hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

Due to recent NSW State Government Legislative changes that take effect from 01/01/2017, it will not be possible to provide tax deductibility on Planned Giving donations made after 31/12/2016. A tax deductible receipt will however be provided for any contributions made for the period 01/07/2016 to 31/12/2016. The Parish Finance Committee will be contacting everyone on the Planned giving program to provide them with further information.

Congratulations to Thomas Kossenberg who topped the State in Religious Studies II, in the HSC. He attended Waverley College. Congratulations also to all our young people who successfully completed their HSC.

SILVER CIRCLE Winners Week 10 (Final Week):-1st.Prize \$100. No18.Margaret. Tighe 2nd Prize \$50.

No. 44. Ray Byers.

Christmas Masses Rosters

	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens
Sat 24 Dec 5pm	Sam Attard	Carreon Family	Jacob & Eva T	David Lee
Sat 24 Dec 7pm Undercroft of school	Danny Clarke Vince Cordi John Romanous	TBA	Matthew V George B Jocelyn Ho	TBA
Midnight Mass	Joe Shakkal	TBA	Naomi A	TBA
Sun 25 Dec 8am	-	Jean DeVine	Emma & Luke D	Mark Shad
Sun 25 Dec 10am	Phillip Merrick	Danny Klepac	Audrey & Alana G	George Batthika

Collections Last Week

1st: \$1335	2nd: \$536	Envelopes: \$1876
Money Counters Roster	Sun 20 December Brian & Marcia Smith	
	Sun 27 Dec Anna Merrick Sandy Cox Tom Ryan	

Parish Liturgy Roster

	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens
Sat 17 Dec 5pm	Sam Attard	Lewis DeGabriele	John M Thomas B	John Perkins
Sun 18 Dec 8am	Anne Lee	Darren McDowel	Isabella & Krystelle B	Tom Ryan
Sun 18 Dec 10am	Phillip Merrick	Jamie & Melissa Dimeo	Mitchell B Alex P	Maureen Owens
Children's Liturgy		Rosary Leader	Altar Society	
Sun 18 Dec	Danielle Purser	Lewis DeGabriele	Margaret Rayment Kath Richardson	
Sun 25 Dec	School Holidays	N/A	Marcia Smith Joan Gilmore	