St. Joseph's Catholic Church Oatley

PO Box 105 (21C Frederick Street) Oatley 2223
Rev Paul Hilder – Parish Priest
Mrs Nicky Rodrigues – Parish Secretary (Thurs & Fridays)
Phone: 9580 1864 Fax: 9586 3074 Email: oatleycc@bigpond.net.au
Parish website: www.stjosephschurch.com.au**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)		
Sunday	8 am, 10 am		
Monday	8am (Rosary 7.45)	**Confessions**	Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm
Tuesday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Wednesday	8am (Rosary 7.45)	**Exposition**	Thursday, 9am to 11.45am (with benediction at 11.30am)
Thursday	12 Noon (Rosary 11.45)		
Friday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		
Saturday	8 am (Rosary 7:45)		

2nd September 2018 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Masses and Prayers, Charles Dwyer (ann.8/9), Shaun Fleming (ann.6/9), Judith Byers (ann.3/9), Kathleen Lloyd (ann.6/9), Domenica Puopolo (ann. 3/9), members of CWL, and those who are sick.

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The Washing of Hands: There are two examples in the Gospels of washing of hands. One has so printed itself on the imagination of people that it has become part of our proverbial language. This was Pontius Pilate washing his hands to show that he did not want to be involved in the whole business of the murder of Christ. He was trying to pass on the responsibility of it to others; something he could not do in his position. It was against all he stood for – Roman justice. When the Pharisees washed their hands they also were condemning themselves as Christ pointed out. They were acting as hypocrites by insisting upon external observances and not bothering about the true worship of God in their hearts. Christ declared that good or evil are not the results of external circumstances. They arise from within, from our thoughts and loves. Pilate was relying on an external sign to extract himself from a difficult position. Political expediency took over from his feelings and judgment. The Pharisees did not wash their hands for that kind of reason but to put on a show, to demonstrate that they were followers of the law of Moses and its true interpreters. But neither Pilate nor they acted with real virtue. Pilate offended against justice; the Pharisees against honesty and sincerity. Christ was not condemning the actual washing of hands by the Pharisees; it was the acting out of a lie that he hated. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for they shall see God", Our Lord said in the Sermon on the Mount. It is this inner purity of heart that he is speaking of in the Gospel. Outward observances of religious practices mean nothing unless they are accompanied by an inner love and devotion. For example, it is not sufficient to attend Mass every Sunday because it is the done thing. It must be entered into with true devotion of the heart arising from the presence of Christ, who lived and died and rose again out of love for us.

Fathers' Day: Today we honour all Fathers, living and deceased. We are grateful for their for their example and special care for us. May all the Fathers in our parish community be blessed on this, their special day.

Ember Days mark the beginning of each of the four seasons. In Australia, the Church observes the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) as special days of prayer and penance, focussing on the environment, the seasons and God's providence. We are experiencing a severe drought at present and we should especially at this time reflect on our dependence on God for the gifts of rain and the resources of the earth.

Retired Priests Foundation: Special thanks to all our parishioners who responded generously last weekend to the appeal for our retired Priests who have served us over many years.

Father Paul's completion of Annual Leave: I will be away on annual leave from Wednesday 29th August until Friday 14th September. Father Pat Keenan CSSR will be supplying for the Parish during my absence.

Confirmation Classes: Saturdays: 1st September 3.30pm, 8th September 3.00pm.

St John Bosco College, Engadine, is celebrating our 40th year of education in 2018. One of the anniversary events is a special Mass for former students and staff, scheduled at the College on Sunday 9 September.

COLLECTIONS AND ROSTERS

1st: 716	2nd: $486	Envelopes: $1644

Money Counters Roster	Sun 4 Aug	Marcia & Brian Smith
	Sun 11 Sept	Lynne Ekholm Leo Sullivan

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	Acolytes and Ministers	Lectors	Altar Servers	Mass Wardens
Sat 1 Sept 5pm	Glenn McLachlan	Lewis DeGabriele	Sorcha M Sophia S	Brian Smith
Sun 2 Sept 8am	Tom Ryan	Chris' Mitchell	No Servers	Tom Ryan
Sun 2 Sept 10am	Phillip Merrick	George Novak	Mavina K Marita B	Maureen Owens
Sat 8 Sept 5pm	Joe Shakkal	Emma Bennett	Anthony A Lachlan H	Rafe Kowron
Sun 9 Sept 8am	Robert Dimeo	Caroline Dimeo	Ana Beretin L Chloe R	Seb Arena
Sun 9 Sept 10am	Danny Clark	Andrew & Thomas Clark	Felicity & Audrey G	George Battikha

Children's Liturgy		**Rosary Leader**	**Altar Society**
Sun 2 Sept	Jenny el Khabbaz	Brian Rayment	Susan Canham Angela Nadile
Sun 9 Sept	Jenny el Khabbaz	Marcia Smith	Lynne Ekholm