

## SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm  
Sunday 9 am, 11 am

## WEEKDAY MASS

Monday *Springvale* 9.30 am  
Tuesday 9 am  
Wednesday 9 am  
Thursday 9 am  
Friday 9 am  
Saturday 9 am



## SATURDAY

8.30 am Divine Mercy  
8.30 am Reconciliation  
9.00 am Mass  
9:30–10:30 am  
Reconciliation

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 6pm–7pm  
Parish Centre Chapel

During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, Adoration will be held Tuesday to Saturday 8.30am–9am St Joseph's Church

## HOLY ROSARY

Tuesday–Friday 8.35am  
St Joseph's Church

Wednesday 1pm  
St Joseph's Parish Centre  
*15 Decade-Rosary  
Mary Untier of Knots*

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation

is available 30 minutes before each Mass, and between 9:30-10:30 am Saturday morning, or by appointment.

# PARISH OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

## Advent 2nd Sunday A 4th December 2022

### Where are we?

This the second week of a three part reflection, taking an opportunity during Advent to pause and see what changes have arisen in the parish after the last almost three years of COVID lockdowns and restrictions. And one of the biggest changes that parishioners comment upon is the alteration to the early Sunday morning Mass time.

When I first arrived at St Joseph's, we had two Sunday morning Mass times – 9:30 am and 11 am. I always found the half hour gap between the two Masses to be a little bit tight – most especially on big occasions like the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (2<sup>nd</sup> February, with its blessing of candles and procession) or on Palm Sunday (with its two Gospel readings, blessing of palms and procession). However, as I was only temporarily appointed as parish administrator, it was never my intention to make any alterations to the existing Mass schedule.

And then COVID struck.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020, all places of worship in the Archdiocese of Melbourne were closed. It was only on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 that there was a slight easing of restrictions as we staggered out of the first of six governmental lockdowns. At the time, we were only permitted ten people in the Church (and “those required to enable the service.”) The most odious requirement was – and I quote from the document promulgated by the Archdiocese on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 ... “Multiple liturgical celebrations or ceremonies can be held on the same day, BUT CLEANING MUST OCCUR BETWEEN CEREMONIES ... At least ONE HOUR must be allowed between liturgies or services to reduce the risk of crowds at entrances or exits.” As I was the only person guaranteed to be present at each Mass, I had to organise the schedule so that I could celebrate Mass, kick the parishioners out of the Church at the end of the service, lock the doors, and clean down the pews after Mass (if there were no able-bodied volunteers capable of helping me). I then had to set up for the next Mass and repeat the process again.

Needless to say – this was not possible between two Masses starting at 9:30 and 11 am on a Sunday morning!

In consequence, between 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we had to run the early Sunday morning Mass at 8:30 am to facilitate the governmental requirements of cleaning between Church services. Prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021, there was another slight easing of governmental restrictions. The hour gap between services was no longer required by law. At that stage, the early morning Mass was moved to its current time of 9 am.

The advantages of the altered timeslot are that it prevents the traffic jam on Palm Sunday, where the early morning Mass goes are leaving after a lengthened Mass time while the 11 am congregation are trying to arrive. The second advantage is that it enables confessions to be available most Sundays before the 11 am Mass. Since the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, I have heard far more positive comments regarding the altered Mass time than I have complaints, and so the early morning Sunday Mass will remain at 9am for the foreseeable future. With the exception of Christmas Day! Please note: there will only be one Mass on Christmas Day, and that will be at 10 am in the morning. The reason for this is, during 2020 to 2021, whenever we had additional Christmas Mass times available, comparatively few people would turn up for the later Mass times. So – learning from previous experiences, there will only be the 10 am Mass available on Christmas Day – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

God bless.  
Fr Kevin Williams  
Parish Priest

## PARISH PRIEST

Rev Kevin Williams

## PRESBYTERY & PARISH OFFICE

362 Station Street Chelsea 3196  
Tel. 9772 2211 Fax: 9776 0025  
Email: chelsea@cam.org.au

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 9–2pm

Thursday 10–3pm

Deadline for Bulletin 12 noon Wednesday  
Baptism, Weddings, Parish Centre enquiries:  
Parish Office 9772 2211  
Parish Website <http://pol.org.au/chelsea>

## SISTERS OF ST PAUL DE CHARTRES

78 Argyle Avenue, Chelsea  
Tel 9773 9295

## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Tel. 8773 1111  
Principal: Gavan O'Donnell  
[www.sjchelsea.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sjchelsea.catholic.edu.au)

*St Joseph's Parish is committed to the Safeguarding of Children and Young People in all aspects of Parish life.*

*To subscribe to St Joseph's Parish emailing list please email [chelsea@cam.org.au](mailto:chelsea@cam.org.au)*

*As of 27 November 2022, the solemn obligation for baptised Catholics to attend regular Sunday Mass has been restored.*



## Recently Deceased

Brian Eaton, Hilda Mendonza,  
Richard John Payne

## Anniversaries of death

Alwyn & D'Souza family members, Ellen Carroll, Jack Colwell, Maureen Day, Tony Gauci, Noel Larkins, Vera Liddicoat, Effie & John Lobo, Dr. Daly & Ann Dhanbhoora, Maggie & Aloysius Madtha, Pius Mendonza, Maurice Newman, Lucia Graciela Regogkysy & Milan, Trevor Thomas



## Prayers for the Sick

Tyrone & Benita Holdenbottle

## 2nd Sunday of Advent A

1st R: Isaiah 11: 1-10  
2nd R: Romans 15: 4-9  
Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12  
CCC 523, 717-720

## 3rd Sunday of Advent A

1st R: Isaiah 35: 1-6. 10  
2nd R: James 5: 7-10  
Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11  
CCC 227, 2613, 2665, 2772  
Patience

Please do not attend Mass if you are unwell.  
There are no numbers restrictions on attendees at church.  
Face masks are no longer mandatory inside the church,  
but their use has been strongly encouraged by the Archbishop.  
Please use the hand sanitiser provided.

# PARISH CALENDAR

## MONDAY 5 DECEMBER

10am *Way of the Cross Divine Mercy PG*  
St Joseph's Church  
7pm *St Vincent de Paul*  
St Joseph's Parish Centre  
*Mens Focus Group 730pm*

## THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER

### **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

1100am *St.Pio Prayer Group, St Mary's Chapel*  
(please note tight time-scale)  
12 noon *Legion of Mary Hour of Grace, St.Mary's Chapel(includes refreshments)*

## FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER

9am *Holy Anointing Mass*



### **Additional Adoration**

During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, Eucharistic Exposition will be held half an hour before weekday Mass

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings, 8:30 – 9am.

On Wednesday mornings during Advent, Eucharistic Exposition will start at 8am with the Morning Prayer of the Church (Divine Office).

8am Wednesdays -  
7, 14, and 21 December  
*All are welcome!*

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society Week 2**

Breakfast cereals, longlife milk, Vegemite, jams, tomato sauce

**Please leave your donations in the Vinnies bin in the church Narthex. Thank you for your donations**



## *St Joseph's Anima Christmas Lunch*

### **Tuesday 6th December**

(12 noon to 3pm) at Chelsea RSL  
Thames Promenade, Chelsea.  
Includes 2-course meal, and lots of Raffle Prizes! For any cancellations, please ring Daphne 9772 6312.

### **ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,737  
Weekly average : 2,365



### **Mass in Reparation for Abortion**

**Saturday 3 December 9am**

**St Patrick's Cathedral**

**Followed by Rosary Procession**

### **St Vincent de Paul's Flood Appeal**

for those who have been effected by devastating floods particularly in the north of the State. Contributions can be made by:

- Calling 13 18 12 - Visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>.

- at a Vinnies Shop

- via your local IGA where the purchase of a token for the recovery of Victorians devastated by the floods.

### **SC Longbeach Bursary**

Applications for the 2022 Longbeach Bursary are now open. Yr10 Parish students who intend completing Years 11 and 12 are eligible. This bursary aims to encourage a Christian way of life and assist families with educational expenses. Applications close on Monday 5 December

For further information contact Branch Chairman Keith Reiter on 0417350733 or Branch Secretary Les Garrad on 0417347592

*SVDP are currently welcoming new members. Please contact Carole 0404 335 419 for more information.*

*Thankyou!*

*T*hank you



**Congratulations to the cast and crew of Call of Guadalupe!** The Call of Guadalupe musical hit Chelsea last week over four performances in four days. The cast and crew must be exhausted after months of preparation and hard work. However, the effort was well worth it! The performances were simply breath-taking and profound. Please pray for the cast and crew that they can take a well-deserved rest from their labours. And please pray that we will be able to host this spectacular production at some stage in the not-so-distant future! Thank you to all parishioners who volunteered their time helping! God bless – and well done!

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### **Chelsea Community Christmas Lunch**

On the 25th December for guests who reside in our local Community who are either on their own, or needing and would appreciate a home cooked meal.

You can support by baking a dessert to bring to the Hall on Christmas morning before 11am (no nuts please). Please contact the parish office to arrange this.

Please feel free to invite anyone in need or alone on Christmas Day. Please call 9772 2211 to book a seat, or email [chelseacommunityxmaslunch@gmail.com](mailto:chelseacommunityxmaslunch@gmail.com)

Your generosity is much appreciated, CCCL Team.



## **Christmas Masses**

### **Saturday 24 December**

*Christmas Carols 5.30pm*

*Vigil Mass 6pm*

*Christmas Carols 8.30pm*

*Christmas Night Mass 9pm*

### **Sunday 25 December**

*Morning Mass 10am*

### **Reconciliation**

Holy Hour and Confessions

21-23 December 6–7 pm

Saturday 24 December

8.30am –10.30am

or by appointment

Please note: there will be no confessions available before any of the Mass times on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day



**St Joseph's Parish Shop** Open after week-end Masses Offers a range of Christmas items:

Columban Calendar 2023

Scripture Diaries Advent wreaths

Nativity sets Christmas Cards

