

<p><b>SUNDAY MASS</b> Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm Sunday 9 am, 11 am</p> <p><b>WEEKDAY MASS</b> Monday (Springvale) 9.30am Tuesday 9 am Wednesday 9 am Thursday 9 am Friday 9 am Saturday 9 am</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY DURING LENT</b> 8.30 am Stations of the Cross followed by Mass at 9.00am</p> <p><b>1st Saturday of every month</b> 8.00 am Rosary 8.30 am Divine Mercy 9.00 am Mass</p>	<p><b>HOLY ROSARY</b> Tuesday—Friday 8.35am St Joseph's Church</p> <p>Wednesday 1pm St Joseph's Parish Centre <i>15 Decade-Rosary Mary Untier of Knots</i></p> <p>The <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> is available 30 minutes before each Mass or by appointment., <b>with the exception of Friday</b></p>
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**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 - Friday 9am—2pm  
*Deadline for Bulletin 12 noon Thursday*  
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 Safe-guarding 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)*

*The solemn obligation for baptised Catholics to attend regular Sunday Mass has been restored throughout the Archdiocese of Melbourne.*



**Recently Deceased**  
Theresa Freese

**Prayers for the Sick**  
Malcolm Russell,  
Mike Shaw

**Anniversaries**  
Jerry Daniels, Dixie Longstaff, Marie Antoinette Turnel, Deceased members of the Goden, Dayaw, Tuazon and McAllister families

**5th March; 2nd Sunday of Lent A**  
1st R: Gen 12:1-4  
2nd R: 2 Tim 1:8-10  
Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

**12th March; 3rd Sunday of Lent A**  
1st R: Ex 17:3-7  
2nd R: Rom 5:1-2, 5-8  
Gospel: John 4:5-42



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 OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

## 2nd Sunday of Lent 5 March 2023

A RARE DISEASE JOURNEY—NIAMH AND MAREE DALTON—Part 2

Weeks of Lent Themes – Week 2 – Forgiveness, Community



Niamh continued to be tested for every known disorder, with results always coming back as negative. It was a very stressful time and I sought assistance for myself and my mental state through counselling. The first counsellor lasted one appointment after she said to me "I think you're spending too much time seeking a diagnosis. You should just love you child". Listen lady, I love my child with my whole being, hence my desire to find out what it is that is afflicting her so I can ensure we are on the right path for treatments – is what I thought, but didn't say! The second counsellor was much better, listening without judgement and occasionally throwing words of wisdom my way.

With no diagnosis for Niamh's condition, her Paediatrician recorded Autism, as Niamh was displaying some Autistic tendencies. Niamh continued to be a happy child, but now our days were spent in different therapies, seeing further specialists and undergoing more testing. Speech and Physio took up her days, and Niamh's medical team recommended a Specialist School for Niamh for pre-school. With waiting lists and the like, we were eventually able to get Niamh into Frankston Special Development school, in their 4 year old Kinder program.

Niamh was fitted with a soft top helmet, in order to protect her precious head in the event of a drop seizure. I remember a child in a line at a McDonalds asking me if "she played rugby", with that child's mother rather embarrassed and trying to move him away. But I told her that was okay, and gave said child a full lesson on epilepsy and what that looked like!



A full psychological assessment was completed on Niamh in August 2012, as she neared the end of the Kinder program at Frankston. This was done in conjunction with her Paediatrician, who pointed out that regression in abilities was now becoming a concern for Niamh. This, of course, was no surprise to myself, Jane and Mark, as we watched my darling girl lose some words, fail in fine motor skills and struggle to walk. A Vineland Assessment was completed with the following findings:

- Significant delays in motor skills
- Significant language delays
- Significant safety concerns due to no awareness of dangers
- Full assistance for self-care
- Full adult support for education
- Niamh has a global developmental delay with regression after onset of seizures
- Recommendation of Specialist School with specialised teaching, therapists and equipment, and specialised medical care

With these results in hand, I was able to get Niamh into The Nepean School at Seaford for Prep 2013. This is a special school for children with disabilities who also suffer from severe health impairments. I cannot speak highly enough of the dedicated teachers, aides, therapists and personal care attendants who dedicate themselves to children like Niamh.

Continued in middle pages...

# PARISH CALENDAR

## SATURDAY 4 MARCH

4:30pm—Our Lady Star of the Sea Junior Legion of Mary—any enquiries or information please contact June Pereira on 0403 095 627

## SUNDAY 5 MARCH

11:00am Mass—Youth Choir. First Holy Communion for Eddie Dart followed by Morning Tea hosted by the Dart family  
12:00 Noon—Youth Group—Hall

## MONDAY 6 MARCH

10:00am Divine Mercy Prayer Group—Chapel  
6:30pm Rosary followed by Healing Mass—Springvale  
7:30pm—Men's Focus Group—Parish Centre

## TUESDAY 7 MARCH

10:00am Sacred Heart Prayer Group—Room1

## THURSDAY 9 MARCH

11:30am St Pio Prayer Group—Chapel  
7.00pm—Legion of Mary Bayside Curia

## FRIDAY 10 MARCH

8:30am Stations of the Cross—Church



The Stations of the Cross are a way for us to Pray and Meditate on the sacrifices that Christ made for us.

## ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,737  
Weekly average \$ 2,052.50



## St Vincent de Paul Society Week 3

Toiletries personal, toilet rolls, disinfectant, hand lotion, etc  
Please leave your donations in the Vinnies bin in the Church Narthex.



New volunteers for St Vincent de Paul Chelsea Conference are always welcome. Please contact Carole if you are available to help. 0404 335 419



## 11am First Sunday Youth Choir

Kids 8+ are warmly invited to join Jason & Bella singing at 11am Mass first Sunday of every month. Please email [raffymazzeo@gmail.com](mailto:raffymazzeo@gmail.com) if your child would like to join or for more information.



## Longbeach Parishes Social

Next Social - Wednesday 22 March for Dinner at Doyle's Hotel (The Bridge) Mordialloc starting at 6pm. All welcome. For bookings please ring Patricia Adams 0488-866-020 or Keith Reiter. 0417-350-733 or leave a message on 9772-7292.



## MenALIVE Seminar

8th March 7-9pm  
St. Benedicts Catholic Church  
301 Warrigal Rd Burwood.

Robert Falzon is guest speaker, offering practical advice on Fathering. All Dad's & Father figures welcome!  
To register, please visit—[menalive.org.au](http://menalive.org.au)



The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will be holding a Book and Plant Sale on Saturday 18 March 9am-2pm. 154 Cotham Road Kew. Proceeds from the sale will go to assist the many needs of the Missions.  
Enq: 9817 3715



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children.

## Please donate to Project Compassion 2023

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



Cleaner needed in Chelsea Heights for 2 hours a week, Wednesday morning preferred, but negotiable. The house is small and easy to maintain. Really good pay rate. Ring Pauline for more information on 0409024488



## 12–19 March 2023 Catholic Education Week 2023

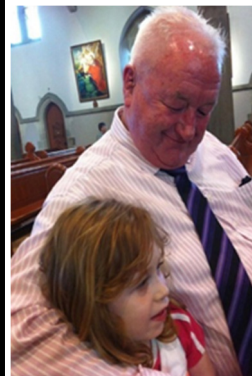
Catholic Education Week is an opportunity for all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate their Catholic identity, the pivotal role they play within their local community and the strength of the sector.



St Joseph's Youth Group will be meeting each fortnight on Sunday commencing 5 March after 11:00am Mass in the Hall. (Previously Saturday evening) Young people from 11 to 16 welcome. Please feel free to call Linda on 0422990127 or Bella on 0422377833 if you have any questions.



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Niamh was prescribed a large amount of medications to attempt to reduce the seizure activity, comprising of 7 tablets in the morning, 8 in the evening, a special Ketogenic diet (high fat, low protein and carbs), and CBD. She is still on all of these today. Some improvement, yes, with seizures reducing in numbers and severity, but unfortunately, not eliminating them.

2013 proved to be a very difficult year, as we lost my father at the way too young age of 65 very suddenly in June. Dad is forever missed by us all.

Part 3 next week

