

<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>SATURDAY</b> 8.30 am Divine Mercy 8.30 am Reconciliation 9.00 am Mass</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.</p>
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**PARISH PRIEST**  
Rev Kevin Williams

**PRESBYTERY & PARISH OFFICE**  
362 Station Street Chelsea 3196  
Tel. 9772 2211 Fax: 9776 0025  
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**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 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)

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



**Recently Deceased**  
Bonnie Garrad, Val Scroggie

**Prayers for the Sick**  
Danielle Spencer

**Anniversaries**  
Helen da Crama Pinto, Mary Parker

**Birthday Remembrance**  
Peter Freese

**29th January; 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time A**  
1st R: Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13  
2nd R: 1 Cor 1:26-31  
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

**5th February; 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time A**  
1st R: Is 58:7-10  
2nd R: 1 Cor 2:1-5  
Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

# PARISH OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

## 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time 29 January 2023

**In honour of our National Feast Day during the week, I will present something a little lighter in the reflection – from Fr Paul Newton, who is probably as frustrated with bureaucratic red tape as I am!**

### IF NOAH LIVED IN AUSTRALIA...

And the Lord spoke to Noah and said, "In one year, I am going to make it rain and cover the whole Earth with water until all flesh is destroyed. I want you to save the righteous people and two of every kind of living thing on the Earth. Therefore, I am commanding you to build an Ark." In a flash of lightning, God delivered the specifications for an Ark. In fear and trembling, Noah took the plans and agreed to build the Ark. "Remember," said the Lord, "You must complete the Ark and bring everything aboard in one year."

Exactly one year later, fierce storm clouds covered the Earth and all the seas of the Earth went into a tumult. The Lord saw Noah was sitting in his front yard weeping. "Noah!" he shouted. "Where is your Ark?"

"Lord, you must forgive me!" cried Noah. "I did my best, but there were big problems. First, I had to get a permit for construction and your plans did not comply with the codes. I had to hire an engineering firm and re-draw the plans. Then I got into a fight with the occupational Health & Safety Commission over whether or not the Ark needed a fire sprinkler system and flotation devices. Then my neighbour objected, claiming I was violating zoning ordinances by building the Ark in my front yard, so I had to lodge a Rezoning Application with the City Council and it is now with the Land & Environment Court. I had problems getting enough wood for the Ark, because there was a ban on cutting trees to protect the Kookaburra. I finally convinced the Dept of Conservation & Land Management that I needed the wood to save the kookaburras. However, National Parks & Wildlife won't let me catch any kookaburras; so, no kookaburras.



The carpenters soon formed a union and went out on strike. I had to negotiate a settlement with the Dept of Industrial Relations before anyone would pick up a saw or a hammer. Now, I have 16 carpenters on the Ark, but still no kookaburras. When I started rounding up the other animals, I got sued by the RSPCA. They objected to me only taking two of each kind aboard. Just when I got the suit dismissed, the EPA notified me that I could not complete the Ark without filing an environmental impact statement on Your proposed flood. They didn't take very kindly to the idea that they had no jurisdiction over the conduct of the Creator of the universe. Thought it was a bit much.

Continued on middle page.....

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

## SUNDAY 29 JANUARY

11:00am Mass Intention—the Call of Guadalupe.

## MONDAY 30 JANUARY

Term 1 Commences  
Divine Mercy Prayer Group recommences  
7.30pm Men's Ministry Focus Group  
Parish Centre

## TUESDAY 31 JANUARY

Feast Day of St John Bosco

## THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

9.00am Mass—Presentation of the Lord, with Blessings of candles at the beginning of Mass

## FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY

9:00am Mass— Feast day of St Blaise with Blessing of Throats at the end of Mass



A reminder that the **Divine Mercy Prayer Group** celebrates the Stations of the Cross on the last Monday of each month at 11:00am in the Church. Every other Monday, the group meets in the Chapel at 10:00am for Prayers and the Rosary.



## ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,737  
Weekly average \$ 2,279

## St. Vincent de Paul Society

### Week 2

Breakfast cereals, long-life milk, Vegemite, jams, tomato sauce

*Thank you for your donations.*



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



The **2023 St Josephs Parish Calendar** is now available for collection after Mass from this weekend. One copy per family. Please note that information in the Calendar was correct at time of printing.

Additionally, the Piety Store has a limited number of **2023 Columban Calendars** available for purchase.



The 11:00am Mass on Sunday the 29th of January is offered for the cast and crew of the Call of Guadalupe. The tireless work of all involved has been inspiring. Lunch for the amazing COG team will be held in the Hall after Mass.

From front page....

Then the Dept of Land and Water Conservation demanded a map of the proposed new flood plain. I sent them a complete set of UBDs, Melways & a Gregory's. Right now, I am trying to resolve a complaint filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that I am practising discrimination by not taking godless, unbelieving people aboard! The Australian Tax Office has seized my assets, claiming that I'm building the Ark in preparation to flee the country to avoid paying taxes. I also have to wait for the registration of my ABN for the GST. I just got a notice from the Waterways Authority that I owe them some kind of user tax and failed to register the Ark as a 'recreational water craft'. I also need a Boat Drivers Licence but they are debating about how to classify the craft. I am getting continual visits from Greenpeace, the RSPCA, Work Cover, the Sheriff's Office & numerous other government departments. Finally, the Australian Council for Civil Liberties got the courts to issue an injunction against further construction of the Ark, saying that since God is flooding the Earth, it is a religious event and therefore unconstitutional."

Noah concluded by wailing, "God, I really don't think I can finish the Ark for another 5 or 6 years!"

The sky began to clear, the sun began to shine and the seas began to calm. A rainbow arched across the sky. Noah looked up hopefully. "You mean you are no longer going to destroy the Earth, Lord?"

"No," said the Lord sadly. "I don't have to. The bureaucracy has beaten me to it. I think I'll just send a drought instead!"

God bless.

Fr Kevin Williams

**Thank you from the Kelly Family on the passing of their beloved son, husband and father Simon.**

Words seem inadequate to express our thanks to St Joseph's Parish Family for the overwhelming love, support and reaching out to us during what was our most anguished days. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to each and every one of you who have sent us expressions of comfort, through messages, cards, flowers, food and visits, and we hope we are forgiven for not being able to respond individually at the time, as our grief was unbearable. Thank you to Fr Williams for his invaluable support to us and for the magnificent liturgy celebrated by him and Fr Jossy for our beloved son; to the ladies who lovingly prepared the flowers in the sanctuary, with a special touch of using greenery from our garden; to members of St Joseph's Choir and music ministry; to the altar servers who gave of their valuable holiday time to honour Simon; to St Joseph's School for their presence and for the use of St Joseph's Hall for refreshments. Special thanks to all the ladies and men of the Parish who organised the refreshments in the Hall, the standard was so high that we had many requests asking us to recommend the caterers! We are indeed blessed to be a part of St Joseph's Chelsea. As we embark on uncharted waters, please keep us in your Prayers. On behalf of Vanessa, Tess and Anna, we will be eternally grateful to the Parish for making this such a special day in our family.

God bless,

**Peter and Daphne Kelly**

