

<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 OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

## 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time 5 February 2023

### The Presentation of the Lord

On Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, we celebrated the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the Church's remembrance of when Mary and Joseph, observing what is written in the Law of Moses, presented the infant Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem forty days after his birth.

The Presentation of the Lord is not an easy feast to preach about – not because of a lack of subject material, but because of its super-abundance! Here are a few things that could be mentioned about the feast:

1) It is the absolute final feast of the Christmas season, falling traditionally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, which is forty days after the celebration of Christmas Day, and therefore forty days after Jesus was born (symbolically, if not historically). Because of its connections to Christmas Day, there is an ancient Church tradition that Nativity Sets can be displayed up until the feast of the Presentation. Although I have never done this in any parish, I do tend to keep my Christmas cards up until this time!

Speaking of which ... with everything else that was going on at the beginning of this year, I completely forgot to thank the parishioners of St Joseph's for their generosity with all the Christmas cards and gifts I received this year. So, belatedly: "Thank you, and may God bless you!"

2) The Gospel reading for the feast of the Presentation of the Lord is of Jesus being presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph, and the prayer of the holy man, Simeon. This prayer is called the Nunc Dimittis in Latin, from the words "now you may dismiss." The Nunc Dimittis is an integral part of Compline/Night prayer in the Divine Office, sung by priests, religious, and many lay people throughout the world.

3) Traditionally, Compline concludes with a Marian antiphon. There is an old custom that the Marian antiphon changes throughout the year: The Regina Coeli ("Queen of Heaven, rejoice! Alleluia!") during the Easter season Salve Regina ("Hail holy Queen") during the Sundays of Ordinary Time after Pentecost Alma Redemptoris Mater ("Sweet Mother of our Redeemer") from the beginning of Advent until the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. And, the Ave Regina Caelorum ("Hail Queen of Heaven") from the 2<sup>nd</sup> February until the end of Lent.

4) Because it is the time when the Marian Anthem changes, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord could be considered a time of transition, leaving the Christmas season behind and preparing for the beginning of Lent. Interestingly enough, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord also falls at the half-way point between the winter solstice and spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere, where the Church's liturgical calendar originated.

5) One of the things the feast of the Presentation of the Lord is most fondly remembered for is the tradition of blessing candles at the beginning of Mass. These blessed and burning candles are then carried in procession by the congregation as they enter the Church. It is this tradition of blessing candles which has led to the alternative title of the feast: "Candlemas" (the Mass of candles).



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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 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**  
June Jeeves

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

**Anniversaries**  
Mary Parker, Lucy Davy Mortimer,  
Deceased members of the Interlandi family, Justin Hulland, Shane Myers

**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

**12th February; 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time A**  
1st R: Sir 15:15-20  
2nd R: 1 Cor 2:6-10  
Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37



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 5 FEBRUARY

11:00am—Youth Choir at Mass  
3:00pm—Baptism Preparation Meeting - Parish Centre.

## MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY

7:30pm Men's Ministry Focus Group — Room 1

## TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY

10:00am Sacred Heart Prayer Group—Room 1  
11:00am Prayer Service—June Jeeves  
7:30pm KSC Branch Meeting—Nazareth Room  
7:30pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting—Pastoral Centre Room 2

## WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY

10:00am St Josephs Care and Concern Meeting—Nazareth Room

## THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY

11:30am St Pio Prayer Group—Chapel  
7:00pm Legion of Mary Bayside Curia—Nazareth Room

## SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY

Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes

## SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY

Pastoral Care Appeal—CatholicCare



**Lent is less than THREE weeks away!**

## Pastoral Care Appeal 2023

Next weekend (12/02) is the Pastoral Care Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year a special collection is conducted in all Parishes, so that the vital work of the Catholic Chaplains can continue.

## 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  
Thank you for your donations



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

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

**2023 Scripture Diaries** have now arrived and are available at the Piety Shop after Mass.

## The Word Among Us Lent 2023 Edition

*Subscribers to the magazine can collect their current issue from the Church narthex after Mass today.*

## 11am First Sunday Youth Choir

Kids 8+ are warmly invited to join Jason & Bella singing at 11am Mass every first Sunday of the month. Practice is at 10.15am before Mass. Please email [raffymazzeo@gmail.com](mailto:raffymazzeo@gmail.com) if your child would like to join or for more information.

## ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

*Weekly Pledge \$ 2,737  
Weekly average \$ 2,111.90*

## Faith, Family and Football with Matthew Kennedy

Matthew Kennedy currently plays football for Carlton in the AFL. He has an inspiring story about the ups and downs of life in the AFL and the importance of faith and family. This will be a great evening for the whole family. He will be joined by his friend Fr Brendan Lane, parish priest of St Mary's Dandenong. Kids are welcome to attend (must be accompanied by parents).

Matthew has generously offered to autograph any footys, jumpers (any club!), etc. on the night. There will also be a Carlton jumper signed by the team auctioned off on the night.

**Speaker:** Matthew Kennedy and Fr Brendan Lane

**Topic:** Faith, Family and Football with Matthew Kennedy

**Date:** Wednesday 15th February

**Time:** 6.30pm for a meal, 7.30pm for the talk

**Venue:** Matthew Flinders Hotel, 667 Warrigal Rd, Chadstone

God and Beer will be held in the 'Longitude Room'.

*(God and Beer will return to the Nott in April once renovations there are complete)*

**Cost:** Free, however, places are limited so please [register](#) to avoid disappointment and to hear about future events. Meals and drinks available for purchase from the main bistro area.

**RSVP:** [GodandBeer.com.au](http://GodandBeer.com.au)

**Contact:** John Smyth - [jtsmyth@gmail.com](mailto:jtsmyth@gmail.com) - 0406 747 123

## God and Beer

God and Beer brings together men and women of all ages from across the south-east suburbs several times a year. The aim is to inspire and strengthen Christians by providing ideas and inspiration for renewal by drawing on the truth, beauty and goodness of the Christian faith in

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6) As a final point of interest, two of the candles that were blessed on the feast of Candlemas are then used the following day (3<sup>rd</sup> February), on the feast of St Blaise. St Blaise is the patron Saint of those who suffer ailments of the throat. He is also incredibly popular amongst singers and public speakers (who rely heavily upon their voices, and therefore try and avoid any ailments of the throat!). The candles that are blessed at Candlemas are formed into the shape of a Cross and pressed against the recipient's throat, while the ordained minister prays: "Through the intercession of St Blaise, Bishop and martyr, may you be preserved from all ailments of the throat, and from all other afflictions."

It is a beautiful Catholic tradition! Sadly, I have never had the courage to have the candles lit while imparting the blessing! (Hey, the Church has already burned down once. I don't want to have to rebuild it again!) If you are upset that you can never get to Candlemas then don't panic! The feast of the Presentation of the Lord is one of the very few feasts that can take precedence over a Sunday of Ordinary Time. The next time that this will happen is on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the year 2025.

God bless.  
Fr Kevin Williams

