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| <b>SUNDAY MASS</b><br>Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm<br>Sunday 9 am, 11 am                                         | <b>The Sacrament of Reconciliation</b><br>Is available 30 minutes before each Mass, between 9:30-10:30 am Saturday morning, or by appointment. | <b>HOLY ROSARY</b><br>Tuesday to Friday 8:30am<br>St Joseph's Church<br><br>Wednesday 1pm<br>St Joseph's Parish Centre<br>15 Decade-Rosary<br>Mary Untier of Knots |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASS</b><br><br>Tuesday 9 am<br>Wednesday 9 am<br>Thursday 9 am<br>Friday 9 am<br>Saturday 9 am | <b>Eucharist Adoration</b><br>Half an hour before each weekday Mass<br>St Joseph's Church                                                      |                                                                                  |

### PARISH PRIEST

Rev Kevin Williams

### PRESBYTERY & PARISH OFFICE

362 Station Street Chelsea 3196

Tel. 9772 2211 Fax: 9776 0025

Email: [chelsea@cam.org.au](mailto:chelsea@cam.org.au)

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Friday 9am to 2pm

Deadline for Bulletin 12 noon Thursday

Baptism, Weddings, Parish Centre enquiries:

Parish Office 9772 2211

Parish Website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/chelsea>

### SISTERS OF ST PAUL DE CHARTRES

78 Argyle Avenue, Chelsea Tel 9418 6329

### 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 email 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

Lolita Silen

### Prayers for the Sick

Marie Claire Aziz, Lina Blake, Henfi Chun, Margaret Dunne, Jamie Fleming, Rick Hayes, Jessie Jackson, Juliette Ronald, Josephine Russell, Josephine Sanjorja, Danielle Spencer, Toni (Marie) Wilton, Baby Area Maria (Cathy Meehan's Great Granddaughter)

### Anniversaries

Father Michael Flanagan, Milina Salvatore Gangi, Francesca, Antonia, Pina Vincenzo, Matia Giuseppina, Filippo Giuseppe and Antonia Liliana Interlandi, Maree Stonehouse, Dmitri Tretiakou



### 14th December; 3rd of Advent A; Gaudete Sunday

1st R: Is 35:1-6, 10

2nd R: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

### 21st December; 4th of Advent A

1st R: Is 7:10-14

2nd R: Rom 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

## PARISH OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### 14TH DECEMBER 2025

The Gospel this week looks at John the Baptist's doubt in Jesus while he is imprisoned by Herod, and facing execution. John has uncertainties about Jesus and sends some of his followers to ask Jesus if he is the one they are expecting or if they should be looking for someone else.

Jesus tells John's disciples to report back with the miracles they have seen – a blind person who can now see, a lame person now walking, lepers being healed, a deaf person who can now hear, and the dead being raised back to life. He also told them about the Gospel being preached to the poor. Jesus then adds a vital statement: "Blessed is the one who is not offended by me". This signifies the possibility for people to be disappointed or hesitate in their faith because Jesus does not fit their expectations of a king who would immediately free the imprisoned – that is, John the Baptist.

There are a number of messages for us to take away from this reading and they do relate to our busy lives today. There is acknowledgment of doubt and questioning, which are part of our Christian journey, even for those devoted to God like John the Baptist. We can ease these doubts with conversations with the Lord through prayer. Talk to Jesus often and ask him to help you with your questions.

Jesus' miracles and His teachings show us that He is the promised Messiah and that He is fulfilling the prophecies that were foretold in the Old Testament.

Jesus states "Among those born of women, no one has risen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matt 11:11). John did not live to see Jesus complete His work, or His death and resurrection – but we live in a post-Easter world, where we know that death is not the end. We know that God will prevent all pain and suffering and that His kingdom will come in all its richness.



*St John the Baptist in Prison Visited by Two Disciples*  
By Giovanni di Paolo (1403-1482)



**FEELING SICK?**  
**PLEASE STAY HOME**

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.  
Please use the hand sanitiser provided.

# PARISH CALENDAR

## SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER

10:00am Church Working Bee for Christmas  
4:30pm Junior Legion of Mary—PC  
6:00pm Men's Choir at Mass—Church

## SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER

Gaudete Sunday  
Blessing of Nativity sets at Mass  
4:00pm Chelsea and District Inter-Church Council Christmas Carols—LF Payne Hall Station St Chelsea

## MONDAY 15 DECEMBER

10:00am Divine Mercy Prayer Group—  
Last gathering before Christmas—PC

## WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER

12:45pm Parishioners Lunch—The Cove—Patterson Lakes  
1:00pm—15 Decade Rosary Mary Untier of Knots—Parish Centre  
6:30pm Legion of Mary Chelsea—PC

## THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER

6:30pm Reconciliation—Church

## FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER

6:30pm Reconciliation—Church



### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,603  
Weekly average \$ 2,687.10  
Altar Society \$ 795.40

### St Vincent de Paul Society

Donations to Vinnies are gratefully accepted in the Blue Vinnie's Bin in the narthex.  
**Week 3** Toiletries, personal products, toilet rolls, disinfectant, hand lotion, sunscreen etc  
**A reminder that the Vinnies Christmas Appeal is currently on going through until February.** Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. The Chelsea St Vincent's team wish all a happy and holy Christmas and thank you for your ongoing support and assistance. Merry Christmas!



**FREE EVENT**  
Gold Coin  
Donation  
appreciated

Tea, Coffee  
and Christmas  
Cake follow  
the service



**Chelsea and District Inter-Church Council**

## Christmas Carols

Ecumenical Service

**SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER**  
4:00PM - 5:30PM  
**LF PAYNE HALL - STATION ST, CHELSEA**

**ALL WELCOME**

With A Special  
Visit from Santa



### CHURCH WORKING BEE—THIS SATURDAY!!!!

Saturday 13th December 2025  
10:00 until midday. Let's have our Church sparkling in time for the birth of our Lord!!!



Preparation of rosters for **Lectors and Special Ministers** for Jan-Mar 2026 has commenced.

Please contact Chris Bennetts on 0402 823 0404 or [cjbennetts@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cjbennetts@optusnet.com.au) by 19/12 if you are unavailable during this time.



The 3rd Wednesday Parishioner Luncheon (and last for this year!) is on **Wednesday December 17th** at The Cove Hotel Patterson Lakes at 12:45pm. For bookings please advise either Pat Adams 0448-866-020 or Keith Reiter 0417-350-733 to make your place at the table. Alternatively leave a message on Keith's Landline 9772-7292



The Film and Light Lunch monthly gathering has concluded for the year and will recommence in February 2026!



## Christmas Mass Schedule

**20-21 December**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
6pm Saturday Night Vigil, 9am and 11am Sunday Morning

**Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday 24 December**  
5:30pm Christmas Carols followed by 6pm Vigil Mass  
8:30pm Christmas Carols followed by 9pm Night Mass

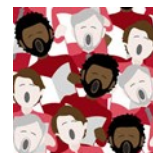
**Christmas Day**  
**Thursday 25 December**  
9:30am Christmas Carols followed by 10am Christmas Dawn Mass

**Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration**  
Thursday 18 December 6:30pm – 7:30pm  
Friday 19 December 6:30pm – 7:30pm  
Tuesday 23 December 6:30pm – 7:30pm



St Joseph's Men's Choir will be gathering for **6.00pm Vigil Mass** this coming **Saturday 13th December**.

Practice is scheduled for 4.30pm before Mass.



**We need your support to remain sustainable. Your presence definitely will make a big difference. All welcome.**



## PILGRIM WALK

Saturday 13th  
December 2025

Two Pilgrimages, both beginning with pilgrim prayer, travelling through the Holy Doors at St Patrick's & the Holy Angels  
Car Children & Rosary St Mentone

**Pilgrimage 1**  
7:45 am – Depart St John Vianney Church Parkdale  
8:30am – Arrive through the Holy Doors at St Patrick's Mentone  
8:45am – Rosary, Mass, Prayer, Jubilee Prayer and Final Blessing

**Pilgrimage 2**  
8:00am – Depart St Joseph's Blackrock  
8:30am – Arrive at Stella Maris Beaumaris  
8:45am – Rosary, Mass, Confession, Benediction  
11:00am – Depart Stella Maris  
12:00pm – Arrive through the Holy Doors at St Patrick's Mentone  
12:15pm – Prayers, Jubilee Prayer and Final Blessing

**Blessing of Nativity Sets**  
Weekend  
Masses 13th and 14th December  
Bring your home Nativity to Mass at St Joseph's for Blessings!



A wonderful time was had by all at the ANIMA Christmas Lunch at Chelsea RSL, with festive food, wonderful prizes and terrific company!

Thank you to the ANIMA group for a brilliant event! Please find link to some photos from the day: <https://cam-parishwebfiles-public.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/0012w00000LOj4VAAT%2FAnima-Christmas-Lunch-2025-9086.pdf>

