

<p>SUNDAY MASS Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm Sunday 9 am, 11 am</p> <p>WEEKDAY MASS Monday (Springvale) 9.30am Tuesday 9 am Wednesday 9 am Thursday 9 am Friday 9 am Saturday 9 am</p>	<p>FRIDAY DURING LENT 8.30 am—Stations of the Cross followed by Mass at 9.00 AM</p> <p>SATURDAY 8.30 am Divine Mercy 8.30 am Reconciliation 9.00 am Mass</p>	<p>HOLY ROSARY 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 Sacrament of Reconciliation is available 30 minutes before each Mass or by appointment, with the exception of Friday.</p>
---	--	---

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



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

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

Sacrament of Baptism
Chloe Agius, Cody Marshall, Xavier Williamson

Prayers for the Sick
Malcolm Russell, Mike Shaw

40 day Remembrance
Bonnie Garrad

Birthday Remembrance
Lom Vaisutis

Anniversaries
Rosina Fiumara, Rose Morrison

26th February; 1st Sunday of Lent A
1st R: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7
2nd R: Rom 5:12-19
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

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



PARISH OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

1st Sunday of Lent 26 February 2023

A RARE DISEASE JOURNEY—NIAMH AND MAREE DALTON

Weeks of Lent Themes – Week 1 – Temptation, Confession, vigilance, God's promises

My beautiful daughter and only child Niamh (pronounced Neeve) was born at 3:24am on the 16th of May 2007. I drove myself to Casey hospital, arriving at 3:00am and Niamh arrived very soon after, prior to my sister and support person making it! Niamh's father and I had separated prior to my finding out that I was pregnant and I remember the fear I felt as I lay in bed at night prior to her birth – how was I going to do this? How would I look after my child and work to support us both? I prayed and had conversations with God. Physically, I had a trouble-free pregnancy, with no medical issues at all. The minute I held Niamh in my arms all my fears disappeared. I had a healthy baby and we would make life work.



Niamh was baptised on the 2nd of September 2007 at Our Lady Help of Christians in Narre Warren, a joyous occasion for our extended family. I chose Maree as her Baptismal name. Niamh is an Irish Gaelic name and means brightness and radiance, traits clearly evident in Niamh with her red hair and sparkly blue eyes. Niamh was a wonderful baby, a good sleeper and eater, and she hit all the milestones in the blue maternal health care book right up until the age of 2 – crawling, babbling, talking, walking, fine and gross motor skills etc.

Niamh started having epileptic seizures at about age 2, starting with absence seizures, which saw her gazing into space, followed by drop seizures, causing her to fall to the floor. There was no warning when a seizure occurred. Our GP referred us to a Paediatrician who in turn sent us off to a Neurologist. Metabolic specialists also became involved. A barrage of testing then occurred in order to try and identify what was occurring in Niamh. Tests for known epileptic disorders such as Dravet's Syndrome & Lennox Gastaut all returned negative results, as did those for Huntington's Disease, Autism and ADHD to name just a few. And let me tell you, Doctor Google is not your friend when attempting to work out medical issues!



We spent many weeks in Hospitals, both the Children's and the Austin. An example of testing included 5 days of EEG monitoring on Niamh's brain, with video recording of seizures as they occurred. I stayed with Niamh for the 5 days, and every time I thought she was having a seizure, I had to press a button to record this. The room lights were on and bright 24/7, and as you can imagine, the sleep deprivation, coupled with the anxiety of what I would find out about my darling girl, ensured I was an emotional wreck by the end of the week. Results? Yes, she is having seizures. Why? We don't know.



I live with my sister Jane, her husband Mark and their son Sebastian who have proven to be our rocks, caring for Niamh as if she was their own. Jane often "jokes" – "you can leave anytime Maree, but Niamh stays with us". The photo here is just after Niamh turned 2, and the 5 of us went to Fiji for a family holiday. It was at about this time that the seizures started and our world would be turned upside.

Part 2 next Week

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 26 FEBRUARY

3:00pm Baptisms

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY

10:00am Divine Mercy Prayer Group—Chapel
12:00pm Way of the Cross—All welcome—Church

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

Rare Disease Day
10:00am Sacred Heart Prayer Group—Room1

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH

1:00pm Divine Mercy 15 Decade of the Rosary—Chaplet of Divine Mercy
6:30pm Legion of Mary Chelsea Praesidium—Parish Centre
7:45pm Parish Finance Committee Meeting—Presbytery

THURSDAY 2 MARCH

St Josephs Primary School Open Day 9am-3pm with Principal address at 9:30am and 12:30pm

FRIDAY 3 MARCH

World Day of Prayer
8:30am Stations of the Cross—NO RECONCILIATION
9:00am Mass with the Anointing of the Sick
1:30pm Ecumenical Prayer Service—Church of Christ Chelsea

Did you know that ...

The practice of saying goodbye goes back centuries, with first evidence of the interjection found around 1565–75. **It's a contraction of the phrase "God be with ye."**



St. Vincent de Paul Society

Week 2

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

Thank you for your donations.



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



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 or

Men Alive



11am First Sunday Youth Choir

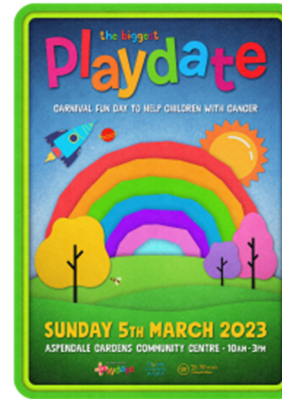
Kids 8+ are warmly invited to join Jason & Bella singing at 11am Mass first Sunday of every month. Please email raffymazzeo@gmail.com if your child would like to join or for more information.



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,737

Weekly average \$ 2,425.13



The Biggest Playdate is a fundraiser for Monash Children's Cancer Centre on Sunday 5th March 2023. If you would like to assist in supporting this event, please consider baking for their Cake Stall (Please list all ingredients). **If you wish to donate please call the Parish Office on 9772 2211.**

St Joseph's Parish School Open Days

Thursday 2nd March and 27th April with the school open for viewing from 9am to 3pm. Enrolments for children entering Prep in 2024 are now open. Call 03 8773 111 to book a tour or for more information.



Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

WEB: www.palms.org.au



After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.

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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.