

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



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.melbocatholic.org/s/chelsea>

SISTERS OF ST PAUL DE CHARTRES
78 Argyle Avenue, Chelsea Tel 9794 8350

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
Tel. 8773 1111
Principal: Martine Verhagen
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
The solemn obligation for baptised Catholics to attend regular Sunday Mass has been restored throughout the Archdiocese of Melbourne.*

Recently deceased
Brendan Cooke, Thomas Cubby Kelaart, Elena Flores Tuca

Prayers for the Sick
Marie Claire Aziz, Derick D'Costa, Margaret Dunne, Jamie Fleming, Bev Garing, Leonie Gilchrist, Rick Hayes, Eddie Hennessy, Jessie Jackson, Andrea Hazel Pereira, Juliette Ronald, Josephine Russell, Josephine Sanjorja, Len Scott, Danielle Spencer, Toni (Marie) Wilton, Baby Area Maria (Cathy) Meehan's Great Granddaughter)

Anniversaries
Francis Michael Bartosy Snr, Graeme Riddell, Marie Therese Stanley. Kim Troy, Francesa, Antonio, Pina, Vincenzo, Matia, Flippo, Giuepina, Liliana and Antonio Interlandi, Milina Salvatora Gangi, John Ryan

Special Intentions
Healing for Anita and Olivia Boags

17th May; Ascension of the Lord A
1st R: Acts 1:1-11
2nd R: Eph 1:17-23
Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

24th May; Pentecost Sunday A
1st R: Gen 11:1-9 (Vigil) Acts 2:1-11 (Sunday)
2nd R: Rom 8:22-27 (Vigil) 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13 (Sunday)
Gospel: John 7:37-39 (Vigil) John 20:19-23

PARISH OF ST JOSEPH CHELSEA

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

17TH MAY 2026

A REFLECTION FOR THE ASCENSION

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus, celebrated forty days after Easter, commemorates the moment when the risen Christ, in the sight of his apostles, ascended bodily into heaven (Acts 1:9-11). It marks the completion of his earthly mission and the beginning of his exaltation at the right hand of the Father, where he intercedes for us as our eternal High Priest. The Ascension is a reminder that heaven is our true home and that Jesus, fully God and fully man, has gone before us to prepare a place for us in the Father's house.

The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord should be celebrated is on Thursday 14th May 2026 (exactly forty days after Easter Sunday). However, many countries throughout the world (such as Australia) transfer the feast to the nearest available Sunday (which in 2026 is the 17th May).

MARY MAGDALENE AND THE WITNESSES TO THE RISEN CHRIST

The days leading up to the Ascension are full of wonder and hope. After Jesus rose from the dead, he appears first to Mary Magdalene and then to the apostles. These post-resurrection appearances are key to the Church's proclamation that Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day, just as he foretold (Matt. 16:21).

A few common questions arise, e.g., how many saw Jesus ascend? Scripture indicates that the core group of his disciples, particularly his apostles, were present (Acts 1:2-3). The Ascension was not only a miraculous event, but Jesus, just prior to his ascent, also reaffirms that his apostles are to evangelize the whole world (Acts 1:8; cf. Matt. 28:18-20). So he prepares them for the coming on Pentecost of the Holy Spirit, who will empower the Church in fulfilling her mission (Acts 2:1-4).

THEOLOGICAL MEANING OF THE FEAST

The Catholic Feast of the Ascension is not simply a historical remembrance. It holds deep theological significance. The feast day of the Ascension marks the exaltation of Christ and the completion of his earthly ministry.

Jesus ascends not to abandon us, but to intercede for us at the right hand of God, and to make way for the promised Holy Spirit—the advocate or “Counsellor”, (John 14:16, 26; 15:26)—on Pentecost.

Through his Ascension, Jesus affirms his divine authority and points to our ultimate destiny. Where he has gone, we hope to follow (John 14:1-3). When we ask, “Where is Jesus?” or “When does Jesus come back to earth?” we are expressing our longing for the Second Coming and the fulfilment of his promise to return and take us to heaven (Matt. 25:31-34, 46).

Full article found: <https://www.catholic.com/tract/the-ascension-of-jesus-catholic-answers-guide>



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 16 MAY

4:30pm Junior Legion of Mary—PC

SUNDAY 17 MAY

12:00pm Parish Amalgamation Session—Hall after 11am Mass

MONDAY 18 MAY

10:00am Divine Mercy PG—PC

TUESDAY 19 MAY

10:00am Sacred Heart Prayer Group—PC

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY

12:30pm Parishioners Luncheon—Chelsea Heights Hotel
1:00pm 15 Decade Rosary—PC
6:30pm Legion of Mary—PC

THURSDAY 21 MAY

10:00am Film and Light Lunch—Lunch will be supplied—PC
4:30pm St Joseph's Junior Choir—Church
7:00pm Parish Amalgamation Session—Hall

FRIDAY 22 MAY

7:30pm St Joseph's Fridays—PC



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Pledge \$ 2,518
Weekly average \$ 2,320.89



St Vincent de Paul Society

Donations to Vinnies are gratefully accepted in the Blue Vinnie's Bin in the narthex.

Week 4 Washing powder, dishwashing liquid, household cleaning items etc



Parish Amalgamation

Following Bishop Tony Ireland's visit in 2024, one of the things he directed your parish priest to do was to run a series of talks, informing the parishioners of St Joseph's about the amalgamation of parishes occurring within the Archdiocese of Melbourne. This is important information that all active parishioners of St Joseph's need to know about. With the invaluable help of the Parish Pastoral Council, there will be two sessions, run from **12pm Sunday 17th of May**, and **7pm Thursday 21st May** in the Parish Hall. Each session should only take around one hour. There will be sign-up sheets available up the back of the Church for parishioners to indicate which session they will be attending. I would encourage everyone to attend: this is part of the consultation process deciding the future of St Joseph's parish. Fr Kevin



3rd Wednesday Parishioner's Luncheon

Wednesday 20th May at Chelsea Heights Hotel CNR Springvale and Wells Road.
12:30pm. Contact either Pat Adams on 0448-866-020 or Keith Reiter 0417-350-733—Alternatively leave a message on Keith's landline 9772-7292 if you would like to attend—we would love to see you there!!!



Men's Hour and Men's Breakfast due to occur on Sat 16th of May **have been postponed** until June. Further details in regards to dates will be sent out soon!!



Yearly Mass Counts will be occurring over the first 4 weekends in May at the request of the Vicar General. Thank you!!!



Franciscan Jubilee Year

Anima Pilgrimage to St Francis' Church

Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Thursday, 28 May 2026

Travel by Train

(Bring Myki card)

Depart 10am Chelsea Station
Exit Melbourne Central

Short video presentation on the history of St Francis' Church, followed by Mass at 12.30pm BYO Lunch or buy in the City

Clipboard now available.
Please register if you are attending, as this is a requirement by St Francis Church

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE

Sunday 24 May

For all enquiries, please ring
Daphne Kelly 0439 006 494
Sue Hyde 0408 547 791
Mary Howard 0411 209 083

Saturday 23 May

YOU'RE INVITED TO A FRIENDLY SOCIAL EVENING WITH PARISH FAMILIES

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

St Joseph's Families Dinner

BRING A PLATE TO SHARE
(QUANTITY TO FEED YOUR FAMILY)
BYO DRINKS AND A DESSERT IF YOU LIKE

RSVP YOUR ATTENDANCE BY 16 MAY TO RAFFY
0424 325005 RAFFYMAZZEO@GMAIL.COM

PLEASE ADVISE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES

St Joseph's Care and Concern

Single Men's Movie and Lunch

Wednesday 10th June 2026

10am in the Parish Centre

RSVP via Sign up sheet in the Narthex or to Sue on 0408 547 791

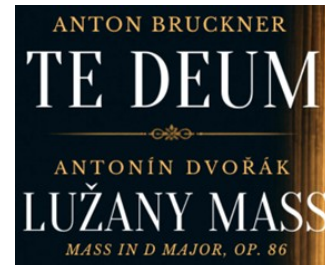
FILM AND LIGHT LUNCH

Thursday 21st May

10:00am in the Parish Centre.

All are Welcome!

Our good friends at Gateway Funerals will be supplying lunch so no need to bring a plate this month!! Come along and enjoy some time with fellow parishioners in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere!



Over 120 passionate musicians from three ensembles will join together to present a spectacular concert in historic All Saints Anglican Church in East St Kilda on Saturday 23rd May at 8pm.



There have been 3 instances recently of Parishioners receiving text messages purportedly from Father Williams, asking for urgent contact/money. Father will NEVER ask for money for the Church this way!! If you have received or do receive any of these messages, please let Maree know in the office as we are reporting these to the Archdiocese! Unsure? Contact Maree

SCAM ALERT