

## ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9.00am-2.00pm

**Parish Phone:** 9792 4422 **Parish Email:** dandenongnorth@cam.org.au

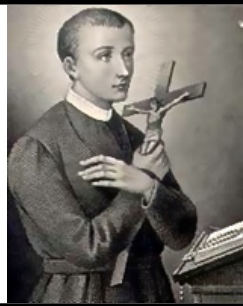
**Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato

**Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer:** Sumitha Moses

**Website:** www.stgerards.org.au **Facebook:** facebook.com/saintgerardparish

**Principal of St. Gerard's Catholic School:** Mr. Paul Cowan

**School Phone:** 9791 7553 **Email:** principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



Welcome to St. Gerard's parish, where we foster the wellbeing and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All our parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, please contact the Safeguarding Officer.

**"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"**

<https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/>

### **Readings for Mass (Year B) - May 2nd, 2021 - Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord, for He has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations He has shown His deliverance, alleluia.

#### **First Reading - Acts 9: 26-31**

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise You, Lord, in the assembly of Your people.

#### **Second Reading - I John 3: 18-24**

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Live in Me and let Me live in you, says the Lord; My branches bear much fruit. *Alleluia!*

#### **Gospel Reading - John 15: 1-8**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

**Stewardship Collection:** *Covering church and parish expenses.*

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in Me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**Presbytery Collection:** *For the domestic needs of the priests and for the support of retired clergy.*

### **ADULT CONFIRMATIONS 2021**

The Sacrament of Adult Confirmation at St Patrick's Cathedral 2021, will be held on May 23, at the 11am Solemn Mass. Adult Confirmation Candidates must be prepared by their local parish priest and receive a Confirmation Card on completion of their preparation. Candidates are required to attend an information session on Thursday, 20 May, 2021 at 7:30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. For more information, please contact Julie Allan, on 9662 2233 or email [cathedral@cam.org.au](mailto:cathedral@cam.org.au).

### **Seville Mercy Conference Centre - Retreat**

To register your interest or enquire regarding the Tropical Retreat in Nature - Five day walking retreat based in Cairns and Far North Queensland, please email [priscilla@mcauleyministries.org.au](mailto:priscilla@mcauleyministries.org.au) or call 07 4047 8103. Date 12-18 July 2021. Cost \$2,200 (inc. GST) which includes single room accommodation with shared bathroom, all meals, excursions and guided trips to key places in the Far North. Please see the notice board for more information.

### Thanksgiving Envelopes

**Please collect your thanksgiving envelopes from the foyer of the Church. We thank you most sincerely for your generosity and support of St. Gerard's.**

### **The True Vine: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see Sirach 24:17–24).

In Baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, Paul encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see Matthew 7:16–20).

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will "prune" us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see Hebrews 12:4–11).

We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see Colossians 3:16), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfill our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

### **Aid to the Church in Need Australia:**

ACN distributes over one million Bibles and religious books thanks to the help of our benefactors every year. Jesus commanded "Go out into the whole world and preach the Gospel to all creation." ACN takes this command seriously by spreading the faith through these Children's Bibles. Often in poor countries, the Children's Bible is the first book that children receive in their own language and frequently, it is the only picture book that they will ever hold.

Visit [www.aidtochurch.org/bibles](http://www.aidtochurch.org/bibles)

### **Corpus Christi College & Catholic Theological College - Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal**

*Support the training of priests for tomorrow's Church*

Your (tax deductible) donation will support the living arrangements and education for the Corpus Christi College seminarians. Donate via our website:

[www.ctc.edu.au](http://www.ctc.edu.au)

### **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

Come and learn how to keep/rekindle the passion in your relationship and how to keep your love growing! The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. The next residential weekend is on 21-23 May 2021 in Wantirna South (Book early to avoid disappointment). Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676

or Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

### **Act of Consecration to St. Joseph**

O Glorious Patriarch and Patron of the Church! O Virgin Spouse of the Virgin Mother of God! O Guardian and Virginal Father of the Word Incarnate! In the presence of Jesus and Mary, I choose you this day to be my father, my guardian, and my protector.

O great St. Joseph, whom God has made the Head of the Holy Family, accept me, I beseech you, though utterly unworthy, to be a member of your "Holy House." Present me to your Immaculate Spouse; ask her also to adopt me as her child: With her, pray that I may constantly think of Jesus, and serve Him faithfully to the end of my life. O Terror of Demons, increase in me virtue, protect me from the evil one, and help me not to offend God in any way.

O my spiritual father, I hereby consecrate myself to you. In faithful imitation of Jesus and Mary, I place myself and all my concerns under your care and protection. To you, after Jesus and Mary, I consecrate my body and soul, with all their faculties, my spiritual growth, my home, and all my affairs and undertakings. Forsake me not, but adopt me as a servant and child of the Holy Family. Watch over me at all times, but especially at the hour of my death. Console and strengthen me with the presence of Jesus and Mary so that, with you, I may praise and adore the Holy Trinity for all eternity. Amen.



**MASS and INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, May 1st**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Mass 5:30pm Mark Payton  
(Remembrance)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

**Sunday, May 2nd**

Mass 8:30am Thanksgiving for blessings

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

12 Noon Baptisms

Mass 5:30pm Joaquim de Jesus Afonso &  
Maria Henriques Afonso  
(Remembrance)

**Monday, May 3rd**

Mass 9:15am George Gelderbloem  
(Anniversary of Death)

**Tuesday, May 4th**

Mass 9:15am Patrick Collins Snr  
(Remembrance)

11:00am Funeral Mass -  
Jean-Claude Martin

**Wednesday, May 5th**

Mass 9:15am Sabato Leone  
(Remembrance)

**Thursday, May 6th**

Mass 9:15am Peter & Cecilia Donald  
Thanksgiving

**Friday, May 7th**

Mass 9:15am Forgotten Souls in Purgatory  
Donald Family Intentions

10:00am Adoration until 12:00 Noon

**Saturday, May 8th**

Mass 9:15am Birthday Thanksgiving

(Please note: Sunday, May 9th, Tamil Mass  
will be held at 3:30pm)

**Please remember to pray for...**

**Our sick:** Neil Biggins, Giovanna McKercher, Hercules Pillay, Kateri Byrnes, Victoria Briglia, William Issaef, Karen Daniells, Annemarie Bonica, Brian Edwards, Francesca Antonucci, Alex Severino, Kees Van Strijp, Debbie Juchno, Solomon, Jude Aldons, Patrick Scanlon, Zac Planko, Sergio Dib, Kurt Nguk Yan, Rosemary Zaher, Elisa, Jacqueline & Priscilla Harrattia, Blanche Bowers, Francis Archer, Irene Young, Doris Mifsud, Fred Beirouty, Dulcie Loyal Selleck, Mary Perera, Sherwin D'Santos

**The recently deceased:** Peter Hart, Clara Jose, Bernard Mannas, Donovan Joseph, Jim Powell, Rev. Erwin Lazrado, Rev. Bosco Vaz, Jean-Claude Martin, M. Chacko, Sr Maria Alliegro

**Anniversaries/Remembrances:** Modesto Vaccaro

**Please note:**

If you are unable to read or clean on your allocated date, please contact another person to take your place. Should you require a cleaning or reader's roster, please call or email the office for a copy. We thank you for your help and cooperation.

**Reading Roster**

**Saturday, May 1st**

5:30pm A. Miranda

**Sunday, May 2nd**

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am A. Zaher

5:30pm B. Edwards

**Saturday, May 8th**

5:30pm P. Kroon

**Sunday, May 9th**

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am D. Naidoo, Jn

5:30pm J. Panicker

**Saturday, May 15th**

5:30pm S. Moses

**Sunday, May 16th**

8:30am R. Valadon

10:30am M. Lourdunathan

5:30pm M. Yallapa

**Church Cleaning**

**Saturday, May 8,**  
Moses Family, Vincent & Mary

**Saturday, May 15,**  
Legion of Mary

**Baptism Congratulations**

We wish to congratulate the following children, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, 2nd May.

*Liana Isabel Becerra*  
*Diora Maelly Caballero*  
*Bethany Isabella Cook*  
*Charlotte Siegle*  
*Logan Siegle*

**Adoration**

Every Friday, Adoration will commence after the 9:15am Mass and conclude at 12:00 Noon. There will not be a sign up sheet for Adoration. Please sign in via the QR code or by signing in on the sheet on the table in the foyer of the Church to register your attendance for contact tracing. Thank you.

## **Daily Antiphons - Monday, May 3 to Saturday, May 8, 2021**

### **Saints Philip & James - Monday, May 3**

**Entrance Antiphon:** These are the holy men whom the Lord chose in His own perfect love; to them He gave eternal glory, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Their message goes out through all the earth.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; Philip, whoever sees Me sees the Father. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us. Whoever has seen Me, Philip, has seen the Father also, alleluia.

### **Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 4**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of His Christ, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your friends tell the glory of Your kingship, Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead, and so enter into His glory. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia.

### **Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 5**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let my mouth be filled with Your praise, that I may sing aloud; my lips shall shout for joy, when I sing to You, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** Live in Me and let Me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord has risen and shone His light upon us, whom He has redeemed by His Blood, alleluia.

### **Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 6**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let us sing to the Lord, for He has gloriously triumphed. The Lord is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Proclaim His marvellous deeds to all the nations.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** My sheep listen to My voice, says the Lord I know them, and they follow Me. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** Christ died for all, that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and is risen, alleluia.

### **Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 7**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise You among the nations, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** I call you My friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told Me. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** The Crucified is risen from the dead and has redeemed us, alleluia.

### **Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 8**

**Entrance Antiphon:** You have been buried with Christ in Baptism, through which you also rose again by faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ***Alleluia!***

**Communion Antiphon:** Father, I pray for them, that they may be one in Us, so that the world may believe it was You who sent Me, says the Lord, alleluia.