

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

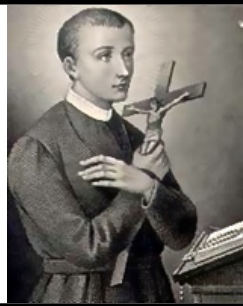
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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 9, 2021 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Entrance Antiphon: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed His people, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations His saving power.

Second Reading - I John 4: 7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - John 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

Stewardship Collection: Covering church and parish expenses.

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

Communion Antiphon: If you love Me, keep My commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and He will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Message from Fr Shanthaiah for Mother's Day

Happy Mother's day to our wonderful mothers for this Sunday. We thank you for all that you do to support, care and nurture those around you. May God bless you all.

Prayer to the Mother of the Lord, and for all mothers: Mary, on this day when we honour all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's Word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Dear mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love- the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son. On this Mothers day, Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us who have recourse to you.

Amen.

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.

Begotten by Love: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Sixth Sunday of Easter

God is love, and He revealed that love in sending His only Son to be a sacrificial offering for our sins.

In these words from today's Epistle, we should hear an echo of the story of Abraham's offering of Isaac at the dawn of salvation history. Because Abraham obeyed God's command and did not withhold his only beloved son, God promised that Abraham's descendants, the children of Israel, would be the source of blessing for all nations (see Genesis 22:16-18).

We see that promise coming to fulfillment in today's First Reading. God pours out His Spirit upon the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, as they listen to the word of Peter's preaching. Notice they receive the same gifts received by the devout Jews who heard Peter's preaching at Pentecost—the Spirit comes to rest upon them and they speak in tongues, glorifying God (see Acts 2:5-11).

In His love today, God reveals that His salvation embraces the house of Israel and peoples of all nations. Not by circumcision or blood relation to Abraham but by faith in the Word of Christ, sealed in the Sacrament of Baptism, people are to be made children of Abraham, heirs to God's covenants of promise (see Galatians 3:7-9; Ephesians 2:12).

This is the wondrous work of God that we sing of in today's Psalm. It is the work of the Church, the good fruit that Jesus chooses and appoints His Apostles for in today's Gospel.

As Peter raises up Cornelius today, the Church continues to lift all eyes to Christ, the only one in whose name they can find salvation.

In the Church, each of us has been begotten by the love of God. But the Scriptures today reveal that this divine gift brings with it a command and a duty. We are to love one another as we have been loved. We are to lay down our lives in giving ourselves to others—that they too might find friendship with Christ and new life through Him.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia

ACN Australia has just launched its new *Healing the Wounds of Religious Extremism in Africa* Global Campaign. Tragically, Africa is the continent with the highest number of murdered priests, religious and catechists and it is also home to 234 million Catholics. As such, ACN views its task in supporting the Catholic Church there as necessary. To help support our brothers and sisters in Africa visit [www.aidtochurch.org/africa]www.aidtochurch.org/africa.

Junior Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary celebrates 100 years this year.

A huge celebration is planned in September in Dandenong for this region. We therefore appeal to all young people of St. Gerard's to enrol in the Monday Junior Praesidium held between 4pm & 5pm in the Library room, so that we can be well represented. Please contact Jenny for more information on 0413 663 886.

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 Website: 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 Vigil Mass, May 8th
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Nihal Wijesekera & to Our Lady
(Remembrance)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, May 9th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Melissa, Gino & Family

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Devasia Devasia and Sr. Abhaya Kuriakose Aykarkunnol
(Remembrance)

Monday, May 10th

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving & Intentions of Ralph & Felicia Martyn

Tuesday, May 11th

Mass 9:15am Nihal Wijesekera & to Our Lady
(First Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, May 12th

Mass 9:15am Maria Natércia Henriques & Carlos Afonso Henriques
(Remembrance)

Thursday, May 13th

Mass 9:15am Rosina Cardamone
(Anniversary of Death)

and

Regis Michel
(Recently Deceased)

Friday, May 14th

Mass 9:15am Private Intention

10:00am Adoration until 12:00 Noon

Saturday, May 15th

Mass 9:15am Maria Sandarin
(Remembrance)

(Please note: Sunday, May 16th,
French 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, Deborah & Frederick Rowland

The recently deceased: Jim Powell, M. Chacko, Alphonse Leo, Rita Mohan, Ali, Deith Shaw, K.T. Jose, Regis Michel, Nelly Able.

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Karl Girauflé, Sister Abhaya Kuriakose Aykarkunnol and Devasia Devasia

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 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 G. Markezic

10:30am M. Lourdunathan

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Saturday, May 22nd

5:30pm B. Collins

Sunday, May 23rd

8:30am V. Noble

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm J. Abraham

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 15,

Legion of Mary

Saturday, May 22,

Gonsalves family,
M. Ferdinands & L. Harper

Car park Asphalt Works

Parish volunteers are currently working on repairing the asphalt in the School/Church carpark area. Please note that some car spaces may be made unavailable during this time and will be indicated by bollards or a fence. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and, will do our best to ensure the works are carried out with minimal disturbance to you. Thank you.

Chaplaincy Appeal 2021

Next weekend is the Chaplaincy Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year, a special collection is conducted in all parishes for the purpose of supporting the vital work of our Catholic chaplains. The chaplains support thousands of Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and youth justice centres, and those living with HIV/AIDS. Chaplains provide a listening ear, a compassionate presence, along with assistance to cope with emotional pain and loneliness. Please give generously. You can donate using the envelope available in the foyer of the Church or online at www.ccam.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, May 10 to Saturday, May 14, 2021

Monday of the Sixth Week of Easter - Monday, May 10

Entrance Antiphon: Christ, having risen from the dead, dies now no more; death will no longer have dominion over Him, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord takes delight in His people.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of truth will bear witness to Me, says the Lord, and you also will be My witnesses. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Jesus stood in the midst of His disciples and said to them: Peace be with you, alleluia.

Tuesday of the Sixth Week of Easter - May 11

Entrance Antiphon: Let us rejoice and be glad and give glory to God, for the Lord our God the Almighty reigns, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Your right hand has saved me, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I will send you the Spirit of truth, says the Lord; He will lead you to the whole truth. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: The Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead, and so enter into His glory, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Sixth Week of Easter - May 12

Entrance Antiphon: I will praise You, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of Your name to my kin, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, says the Lord, to be with you for ever. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, and have appointed you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last, alleluia.

Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter - May 13

Entrance Antiphon: O God, when You went forth before Your people, marching with them and living among them, the earth trembled, heavens poured down rain, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations His saving power.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Saint Matthias - May 14

Entrance Antiphon: It was not you who chose Me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of His people.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go out and bear fruit that will last. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: This is My commandment: Love one another as I love you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Saturday of the Sixth Week of Easter - May 15

Entrance Antiphon: O chosen people, proclaim the mighty works of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: God is king of all the earth.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I went from the Father and came into the world; and now I leave the world to return to the Father. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Father, I wish that, where I am, those You gave Me may also be with Me, that they may see the glory that You gave Me, alleluia.

