

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 23, 2021 - Pentecost Sunday

Entrance Antiphon: The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, send out Your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading - Galatians 5:16-25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires. Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - John 15:26-27; 16: 12-15

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset. I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: *All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.*'

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: They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

Enrolments for Prep in 2022 are now open, and Parish families are our first category for enrolments. If you have a child who will be starting school next year please contact the School Office (03) 9791 7553 or email principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au to arrange a meeting and tour with the Principal Mr Paul Cowan.

Please visit our website <https://www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au>

Take the Way of the Gospel : Re-imagining our Local Church as Mission Communities
A Pastoral letter from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli - Pentecost 2021

AT PENTECOST, the Spirit of the Risen Lord came among the household of disciples gathered in prayer, filling them with Gospel power, and sending them out on mission as the Church of Jesus Christ. On that day, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples new eyes and ears, and a fresh heart to form the family of the Church, and to proclaim the Kingdom of God to all nations.

On this great feast of Pentecost, I warmly welcome you home! After many long months we are finally opening our doors more fully, and it is time we return to gather as God's people – to worship together, to pray together and to prepare our lives to go out in mission together. And I write to you today – God's family of the Archdiocese of Melbourne – to invite you into a new conversation about our common mission for the years ahead.

To begin this conversation, I called two meetings over the past month – one with all the clergy of the Archdiocese and the other with lay representatives from each of our 209 parishes. These initial meetings had one purpose in mind: to open up the question as to how our local Church in Melbourne might best be organised into the future, such that:

The mission of the Gospel is at the heart of our life, worship and outreach;

Local faith communities are arranged to allow for them to flourish;

Our faith communities be effectively resourced – spiritually, ministerially and materially.

When I was appointed to Melbourne nearly three years ago, I saw a great need for us to find new and life-giving ground in which to plant the seeds of the Gospel. For decades, the clergy and faithful of Melbourne have been exploring ways to bring about a re-framing of the local Church to become more vital for God's people. The challenges, wounds and disruptions of recent years, coupled with the life-changing reality of the COVID pandemic, have opened my own eyes, ears and heart to recognise that our present way of doing things needs to be re-imagined in the face of the changing circumstances in which we live.

But what might this look like? In discerning this question, I have drawn insight from the first Archbishop of Melbourne, James Goold. When he came to Victoria in 1848, he did not set about arranging the Archdiocese into parishes, but instead established Missions into various localities. Each Mission comprised a family of local faith communities, gathered around a shared life of faith, worship and outreach. These Missions would then grow within them more local communities as the need arose. Each Mission comprised a family of local faith communities, gathered around a shared life of faith, worship and outreach.

When the day of Pentecost had come, the [disciples] were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Acts 2:1-3

It is a renewal of this vision for today that I want to explore with you over the coming months and years, so that we might walk together towards a more energised purpose for our local Church in the light of Pentecost. This will be a journey that will take time and effort, and we will need to take it together.

Our local Church, in all its vast spread, is wonderfully rich and varied in its many realities – be they parishes, language communities, or faith movements. But it is also true that our accompaniment and nurturing of these realities could, and should, be more life-giving. It falls to us to take on this task as Christ's disciples today.

Let me describe this task ahead by way of asking three questions:

Where might be the local Missions of our Archdiocese today?

Which parishes might organically fit together to form a family of communities?

How might we better resource these Missions – spiritually, ministerially and materially?

Why should we be doing this? The Way of the Gospel – the path of missionary discipleship – has always been adapted by every generation to fit the local circumstances. How this is arranged has varied according to time and place. Now is our time; here is our place. As Pope Francis has been reminding us, we must be open to change if renewal is to be possible, and sometimes new structures are required for apostolic spirit to gain momentum.

Our parishes will remain at the heart of the gathering of God's people locally, but we need to adapt the way we resource our local communities, including the placement of clergy, catechists and other lay leaders, to form Missions that comprise a family of faith communities.

My letter to you today is simply an introduction to this task. This is the beginning of a way of thinking and acting that will involve us all – bishops, clergy and laity. It will be a journey of listening and learning, and walking together. Bring it to prayer; begin to talk with one another; open your hearts to where the Lord is calling us; reach out to your neighbours in faith. More information will be made available soon, so the steps of discernment and consultation are readily available for everyone. I would like to note though that this is a period of growing and learning, not of haste. It is not about change overnight, it is not about parish closures or amalgamations, but a reframing of our thinking, and a resourcing of where our current need is, not where it was, in order to bring renewed life.

As the disciples gathered on that first Pentecost, might we now start this journey in prayer – together. Let us open ourselves to Christ Jesus with a new depth of trust and conviction in his guiding hand, so that we may discern our journey with compassionate and humble hearts and come to know the Spirit moving within and amongst us, and so be transformed.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Holy Mary, Mother of Church, pray for us.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

Our Lady Help of Christians - Rosary

On Monday, 24th May, in honour of the feast day of Our Lady Help of Christians, the Rosary will be said every hour on the hour from 10:00am, finishing at 4:00pm. We come together to pray for the end of the pandemic and also for the victims of Covid throughout the world, especially in India.

We invite all the parishioners to participate.

Knights of the Southern Cross Information Night

For men 18 years and older seeking to serve and wishing to find out more about what the Knights do.
Location: Community Centre, St Peter's Parish, 13 Mary Street, Clayton. Date: Thursday May 27, 7:30PM. Contact Andrew Vaccaro on 9795 7851, 0404 390 824 or e-mail avaccaro@internode.on.net, by Tuesday, May 25, for further information.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil Mass, May 22nd - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 5:30pm Stanley & Charlane Van Twest
(Remembrance)
and Annesley, Rita & Candice Fernando
(Remembrance)
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, May 23rd - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 8:30am Raymond Goudy & Peter Lister
(Remembrance)
Mass 10:30am Pro Populo
Baptism Welcome Rite
Mass 5:30pm Wayne Deabe & Jim Powell
(Remembrance)

Monday, May 24th -

Our Lady Help of Christians

Mass 9:15am Didier & Jasmine Donat
(Thanksgiving)
10:00am Rosary - beginning every hour
(finishing at 4pm.)

Tuesday, May 25th

Mass 9:15am Jane Cassar
(Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, May 26th

Mass 9:15am Margaret Thomas
(Anniversary of Death)

Thursday, May 27th - No Confessions

Mass 9:15am Óscar Leopoldo Lemos &
Lourença Lemos
(Remembrance)

Friday, May 28th

Mass 9:15am Colin Layton
(Remembrance)
10:00am Adoration until 12:00 Noon

Saturday, May 29th

Mass 9:15am Thérèse Rose
(Remembrance)

Please remember to pray for...

Our sick: Neil Biggins, Giovanna Mc Kercher, 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 & Cedric Rowland, Giuseppe Astone, George Borg, Jacqui Carr, Rosaria Biviano

The recently deceased: Frank Messina, Cathie, Balaswamy

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Wayne Deabe, Plomens Yohannan, Antonio Terlicher, Mervyn Struys, Stanley & Charlane Van Twest and Harvey James Westbrook

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 22nd

5:30pm B. Collins

Sunday, May 23rd

8:30am V. Noble

10:30am A. Pacificque

5:30pm J. Abraham

Saturday, May 29th

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, May 30th

8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am D. Naidoo, Sn

5:30pm J. Panicker

Saturday June 5th

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, June 6th

8:30am S. Hayman

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm B. Edwards

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 29,

Kronfeld Family & H. Perera

Saturday, June 5th,

Q. Roland, X. Fernando, T. Bui

First Holy Communions at St. Gerard's

Please be aware that First Holy Communion Masses will be held on Saturday, 5th June, at 5:30pm and Sunday, 6th June, during the 10:30am Mass.

Due to Government restrictions, we ask that when possible, parishioners attend the 8:30am and 5:30pm Sunday Masses for this dates, to allow more families the ability to attend the First Holy Communion celebrations.

We thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Mandatory Sign in to attend St. Gerard's Church

Dear Parishioners, we ask your assistance and diligence to sign in via the QR code when attending Mass or prayer at St. Gerard's. Writing your name on the sign up sheet is the last resort as the QR Code is mandatory. The Archdiocese of Melbourne strongly encourages us to remember to always sign in whenever we attend a venue outside our homes and the Church is included in this. If we do not adhere to these rules, the fines are huge for the parish, so we ask your help in ensuring we abide by the law.
God bless and stay safe, Fr Shanthaiah.

Car Park/Asphalt Works

Parish volunteers are currently working on repairing the asphalt in the School/Church carpark area this weekend. 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.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, May 24 to Saturday, May 29, 2021

Our Lady, Help of Christians - Monday, May 24

Entrance Antiphon: Who is this arising like the dawn, fair as the moon, resplendent as the sun, terrible as an army with banners.

Responsorial Psalm: You are the highest honour of our race.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing, that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, by the Lord God Most High, above all women on the earth; for He has so exalted your name, that your praise shall be undying on our lips.

Tuesday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time - May 25

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; He saved me because He delighted in me.

Responsorial Psalm: To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Saint Philip Neri - Wednesday, May 26

Entrance Antiphon: The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us.

Responsorial Psalm: Show us, O Lord, the light of Your kindness.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Son of Man came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for all. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: As the Father loves Me, so I also love you; remain in My love.

Thursday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time - May 27

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; He saved me because He delighted in me.

Responsorial Psalm: By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows Me will have the light of life. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Friday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time - May 28

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; He saved me because He delighted in me.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord takes delight in His people.

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

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Saturday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time - May 29

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; He saved me because He delighted in me.

Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the fullness of His message live within you. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

