

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

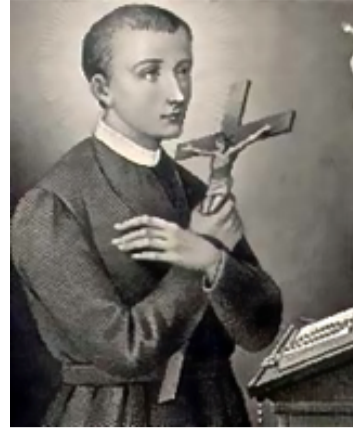
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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, Sumitha Moses.

"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"
<https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/>

Readings for Mass - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, 25th July, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

First Reading - 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat', Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some left over, as the Lord had said.

Responsorial Psalm: The hand of the Lord feeds us; He answers all our needs.

Second Reading - Ephesians 4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited His people. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - John 6: 1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover. Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Church Closed

Sadly, we moved into another lockdown as of 11.59 pm, Thursday 15 July 2021. This will now be in place until Tuesday, 27 July.

We will live-stream Mass this weekend, Sunday 25th July, at 10:30am via this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/4391914327514597/>. You can view this Mass even if you are not registered on Facebook.

The office will be closed during this time but we will be working remotely. Phones will be diverted between 9am and 3pm daily.

Please email dandenongnorth@cam.org.au or visit our website stgerards.org.au.

Take care, stay safe and God bless.

Daily Antiphons - Monday July 26 to Saturday July 31, 2021

Saints Joachim and Anne - July 26, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Let us praise Joachim and Anne, to whom, in their generation, the Lord gave Him who was a blessing for all the nations.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Father gave us birth by His message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of His creation. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: They received blessings from the Lord and mercy from God their Saviour.

Tuesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 27, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to Him will live for ever. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Wednesday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 28, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: Holy is the Lord our God.

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: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Saint Martha - July 29, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Jesus entered a village, where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.

Responsorial Psalm: I will bless the Lord at all times.

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: Martha said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into this world.

Friday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 30, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing with joy to God our help.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola - July 31, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Responsorial Psalm: Oh God, let all the nations praise You!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: Thus says the Lord: I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were kindled.

MASS and INTENTIONS

During lockdown, Fr Shanthaiah will continue to offer these Masses privately

Saturday Vigil Mass, July 24th

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Maria Nhuom Pham
(Anniversary of Death)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Please contact Maronites directly for information on their live-stream during lockdown.

Sunday, July 25th

Mass 8:30am Thanksgiving for blessings

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Mass 5:30pm Charles Lovett
(Birthday Remembrance)

Monday, July 26th

Mass 9:15am Anthony Maurice Domingo
(Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday, July 27th

Mass 9:15am Rose & Rupert
(Thanksgiving)

Wednesday, July 28th

Mass 9:15am Marco Pradel &
Rosalia Imbriano
(Anniversary of death)

Thursday, July 29th

Mass 9:15am Sarah Dennis
(Anniversary of Death)

Friday, July 30th

Mass 9:15am Karl Girraufflé
(Birthday and Thanksgiving)

Saturday, July 31st

Mass 9:15am John Baptist Huu Bui
(Anniversary of Death)

Due to the lockdown Confirmations will now be held on Friday, 6th August.

Please remember to pray for...

Our sick: Neil Biggins, Giovanna McKercher, Hercules Pillay, Kateri Byrnes, Victoria Briglia, Karen Daniells, Brian Edwards, Peter Shaw-Dennis, Rosemary Zaher, Allan Welsh, Vilena Savannah, Kusum Wickremasinghe, Carl DeRozario

*Please note that this list has been edited. Should you wish to add a name, please notify the office. Thank you.**

The recently deceased: William Issaef, Gratiaen Jones, Jacques Duhau, June Polglaise, Mariano Fernandes, Augusta Soares, Dalton Fernandez, Alfonse Hart, Luigi Giudice

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Benoy Varkey, Marco Pradel, Rosalia Imbriano, Eugene Duhau, Edward Baldsing, Stefanija Los and Anton Los

The Precious Blood of Jesus

Please pray as we honour the Precious Blood of Jesus in a special way during the month of July.

O God, who by the Precious Blood of Your only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of Your mercy, so that, ever honouring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits.

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Marian Coronavirus Prayer

O Clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Mary, we, your children of every nation, turn to you during this pandemic. Our troubles are numerous; our fears are great. Grant that we might deposit them all at your feet, take refuge in your Immaculate Heart, and obtain peace, healing, rescue and timely help in all of our needs. You are our Mother -
Pray for us to your Son, Amen.

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>

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on 14 August, Saturday 10:00 - 11:45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For more information:

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HDILaY>.

Read More: <https://www.cam.org.au/permanent-diaconate>.

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Australian Young Christian Students

Midway through July 2021 we see ourselves in Melbourne, and indeed the whole of Victoria, and in other parts of Australia as well, in lockdown *again*. This has brought home to us that the COVID-19 Pandemic is far from over.

On the 28 June 2021 Pope Francis spoke about the continuing impact of this continuing crisis in marking the Feasts of Saints Peter and Paul: “This year we will celebrate Saints Peter and Paul in a world still struggling to emerge from the dramatic crisis caused by the pandemic. This scourge has tested everyone and everything. Only one thing is more serious than this crisis, and that is the risk that we will squander it, and not learn the lesson it teaches. It is a lesson in humility, showing us that it is not possible to live healthy lives in an unhealthy world, or to go on as we were, without recognising what went wrong. Even now, the great desire to return to normality can mask the senseless notion that we can go back to relying on false securities, habits and projects that aim exclusively at pursuing wealth and personal interests, while failing to respond to global injustice, the cry of the poor and the precarious health of our planet.” <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2021/june/documents/20210628-patriarcato-costantinopoli.html>

For Australian Catholics this is a timely reminder of the economic and social challenges of the Pandemic; and of the need to act. Catholic organisations around Australia have been responding in various ways to the crisis which has laid bare old injustices and unmet needs. For Catholics, the challenges of the Pandemic go beyond the delivery of education, health and welfare services. The point Pope Francis makes is that we need to learn from the crisis: we need to understand its impact, reflect on the values that societies should live by, and respond to the crisis. This is a responsibility of Catholic organisations and individual Catholics. Put simply, Pope Francis is calling us to “see, judge and act”.

Earlier in June 2021 the Australian Young Christian Students (YCS) in Melbourne published a Pandemic Enquiry aimed at this very task. The Pandemic Enquiry is entitled *Shaping our Post-Pandemic World, An Enquiry for Secondary Students*. It comprises five sessions, which explore “How the Covid-19 Pandemic has affected me, my country and our world; why it should concern me; and what I might be able to do about its consequences”. The social effects of the Pandemic may last for years. The Pandemic will be a major reality, if not the overarching reality, in the lives of students for some time yet. It will particularly affect students; in their studies and in its impact on their hopes and plans for their future lives.

The Pandemic Enquiry is free. It can also be downloaded from the YCS website, which includes a promotion by Archbishop Mark Coleridge; <https://www.aycs.org.au/pandemic-enquiry> For further enquires please contact Lys Crowe, Project Officer, Melbourne YCS, lysbeth.crowe@aycs.org.au.

Bread Left Over: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today’s liturgy brings together several strands of Old Testament expectation to reveal Jesus as Israel’s promised Messiah and King, the Lord who comes to feed His people.

Notice the parallels between today’s Gospel and First Reading. Both Elisha and Jesus face a crowd of hungry people with only a few “barley” loaves. We hear similar words about how impossible it will be to feed the crowd with so little. And in both the miraculous multiplication of bread satisfies the hungry and leaves food left over.

The Elisha story looks back to Moses, the prophet who fed God’s people in the wilderness (see Exodus 16). Moses prophesied that God would send a prophet like him (see Deuteronomy 18:15–19). The crowd in today’s Gospel, witnessing His miracle, identifies Jesus as that prophet.

The Gospel today again shows Jesus to be the Lord, the good shepherd, who makes His people lie down on green grass and spreads a table before them (see Psalm 23:1, 5).

The miraculous feeding is a sign that God has begun to fulfill His promise, which we sing of in today’s Psalm—to give His people food in due season and satisfy their desire (see Psalm 81:17).

But Jesus points to the final fulfillment of that promise in the Eucharist. He does the same things He does at the Last Supper—He takes the loaves, pronounces a blessing of thanksgiving (literally, “eucharist”), and gives the bread to the people (see Matthew 26:26). Notice, too, that twelve baskets of bread are left over, one for each of the Apostles.

These are signs that should point us to the Eucharist—in which the Church founded on the Apostles continues to feed us with the living bread of His Body.

In this Eucharist, we are made one Body with the Lord, as we hear in today’s Epistle. Let us resolve again, then, to live lives worthy of such a great calling.

Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

○ Glorious Patriarch and Patron of the Church! ○ Virgin Spouse of the Virgin Mother of God!

○ 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.

○ 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. ○ Terror of Demons, increase in me virtue, protect me from the evil one, and help me not to offend God in any way.

○ 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.