

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

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

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

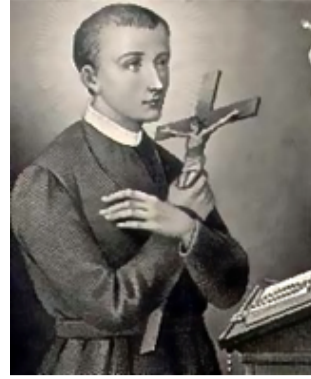
Office Hours: Monday to Friday - 9.00am-2.30pm

Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses

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/>

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 29th August, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

First Reading - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading - James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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!***

Gospel Reading - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

MASS and INTENTIONS

****Please note that during lockdown, Fr Shanthaiah will offer the Masses privately for the allocated intention.****

Saturday Vigil Mass, August 28th

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm For Holy Souls

Sunday, August 29th

Mass 8:30am Salvatore & Arcangelo
Rizzuto
(Remembrance)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Mass 5:30pm Ninette Loos
(Anniversary of Death)

and

Frank Donaldson
(Anniversary of Death)

Monday, August 30th

Mass 9:15am Anthony Maurice Domingo
(Anniversary of Death)

Tuesday, August 31st

Mass 9:15am Fr. Joseph Hien Dinh
(Anniversary of Death)

and

Anton Adolphus
(Remembrance)

Wednesday, September 1st

Mass 9:15am Michael Thompson
(Remembrance)

Thursday, September 2nd

Mass 9:15am Hervé Latouche (First
Anniversary of Death) &
Suzanne Latouche
(Anniversary of Death)

Friday, September 3rd

Saint Gregory the Great

Mass 9:15am Anton Adolphus
(Remembrance)

Saturday, September 4th

Mass 9:15am Jennifer and William
Gelderbloem
Thanksgiving - 50th
Wedding Anniversary

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, Kusum and Dinuk Wickremasinghe, Carl DeRozario, Anton Jayamaha, Joseph Irudairaj, Cedric & Deborah Rowland, Michelle Bugone

The recently deceased: Aliya Marie Wylie, Christopher and Joseph, Lisa Andrews, Marie Therese Villena Savanah

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Amalija Mohar, Elisabetta Lamanna, Renee Templin

Reading Roster

Lockdown August 5th to September 3rd.

September

Sat. 4th 5:30pm P. Kroon
Sun. 5th 8:30am M. Jose
10:30am D. Naidoo, Jnr
5:30pm M. Yallapa

September

Sat. 11th 5:30pm D. Franklin
Sun. 12th 8:30am G. Van Hees
10:30am M. Naidoo
5:30pm B. Collins

Church Cleaning

Lockdown August 5th to
September 3rd.

**Saturday,
4th September,**
Kronfeld Family &
H. Perera

**Saturday,
11th September,**
Q. Roland,
X. Fernando &
T. Bui

Church Closed

Due to the lockdown, the Church remains closed.

This current lockdown commenced at 8:00 pm, Thursday 5th August, and at this stage has been extended until 3rd September.

We will live-stream Mass on Sunday 29th August at ***the usual time of 10:30am.***

Please visit the following link to watch:

<https://fb.me/e/1aCJkhUcX>

St. Gerard's website will be consistently updated with revised information regarding the parish as it comes to hand. Please visit stgerards.org.au.

Our staff will work remotely, Monday to Friday from 9.00am-2.30pm. Please phone 9792 4422 or email dandenongnorth@cam.org.au or visit our website stgerards.org.au for updates.

Please stay safe and healthy and be assured that we will continue to pray for you all.

God bless you, Fr Shanthaiah Marneni

LET US PRAY and REFLECT

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.

Daily Prayers for Healing of Body, Mind and Soul

My Most Loving Father, You have promised, "I am the God who heals you." (Exodus 15:26) I place in Your loving care, my sick body, worried mind, my emotional wounds and sinful nature. I believe that only You have the power to heal me completely. Loving Father, I trust in Your love for me, help me to love You more. Help me to increase my faith in You. I surrender to You (mention your illness or emotional hurt). Cleanse me with the precious blood of Jesus, purify me and set me free from anger, resentment, hatred, unresolved hurts and greed. Help me to remember that the power of the Holy Trinity dwells within me and all power to forgive and overcome sin is in me. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and Your peace. Amen.

Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary, please protect us.

Lord Jesus, heal me. Heal in me whatever You see needs healing. Heal me of whatever might separate me from You. Heal my memory, heal my heart, heal my emotions, heal my spirit, heal my body, heal my soul. Lay Your hands gently upon me and heal me through Your love for me. Amen.

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.

Pure Religion: Scott Hahn reflects on The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light as one having authority to interpret God's law. Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic (see Isaiah 29:13). In observing the law, the Pharisees honour God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' Gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose (see Matthew 5:17).

The law, fulfilled in the Gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and enter into the inheritance promised to us— the kingdom of God, eternal life.

Israel, by its observance of the law, was meant to be an example to surrounding nations. As James tells us in today's Epistle, the Gospel was given to us that we might have new birth by the Word of truth. By living the Word we've received, we're to be examples of God's wisdom to those around us, the "first fruits" of a new humanity. This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Epistle, we must work for justice, taking care of our brothers and sisters and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts.

The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honour.

"Hear me," Jesus says in today's Gospel. Today, we're called to examine our relationship to God's law. Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip service?

PARISH NOTICES

Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in Afghanistan and Lebanon deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises. In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

This experience gives you the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. Please check our website for more details.

We have two options: An on-line/virtual weekend: 10 -12 September 2021 or a non –residential weekend: 16 - 17 October 2021 in west Gippsland.

(Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE - CANCELLED

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions and the uncertainty when restrictions will be eased, it is impossible to proceed with the planned 4th September Information session. It is regrettably cancelled. The possibility of holding an information session will be considered after any easing of restriction.

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The preferred age limit is being able to be ordained by the 60th year.

For more information:

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

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

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

Majellan Media Family

During this time, we are all doing our best to live with the uncertainty of lockdowns and the fears that may be associated with the pandemic.

Majellan Media helps families thrive with stories that enrich family relationships, offer comfort when life seems overwhelming and aid in building faith and spiritual lives. Published four times a year, it is packed with stories about family and faith to help families be the best they can be. Choose how you get it. 1. Subscribe to the print version, 2. download the app, or 3. view a digital copy on their web site.

First published in 1949. Since then, over 5 million copies have been sold.

Their mission is to support families.

They provide many different resources and support . You may contact them on telephone +61 (03) 9592 2777, mail PO Box 43, BRIGHTON VIC 3186 or via email or clicking the link below:

<https://majellan.media/the-majellan-magazine/>