

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: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 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-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 3rd October, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Within Your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist Your will. For You have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; You are the Lord of all.

First Reading - Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm: May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading - Hebrews 2: 9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. ***Alleluia!***

Gospel Reading - Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.' People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord is good to those who hope in Him, to the soul that seeks Him.

MASS and INTENTIONS

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

Saturday Vigil Mass, October 2nd

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Francesco & Giuseppa
Cardamone
(Remembrance)

Sunday, October 3rd

Mass 10:30am Antonio & Angelina Sacco
(Remembrance)

Monday, October 4th

Saint Francis of Assisi

Mass Mr & Mrs Isaacs
(Remembrance)

and Sleevaiah

Tuesday, October 5th

Mass Ivan Pattan
(Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, October 6th

Mass Colin Layton
(Remembrance)

and Florence Violet Ludwick
(45th Anniversary of Death)

Thursday, October 7th

Our Lady of the Rosary

Mass Oscar Eaton
(Remembrance)

and Rev. Sr. Thomasina

Friday, October 8th

Mass For Holy Souls

Saturday, October 9th

Mass Angelo & Maria Rizzuto
(Remembrance)

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, Simone Valadon

The recently deceased: Desiré Philogen, Chinnaiah, Raminidi, Rose Rego

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Sleevaiah

From Fr. Shanthaiah

Dear Parishioners,

We will live-stream Mass on Sunday October 3rd, at 10:30am.

Please click [HERE](#) to watch this Mass.

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 news and updates.

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

God bless you, from Fr Shanthaiah
and staff of St. Gerard's.

To Donate to St. Gerard's

We have received requests regarding donations to our Parish. Here are the details, should you wish to contribute.

We thank you for your generosity and support.

For Parish/Thanksgiving

Account Name:

St. Gerard's Church

BSB: 083 347

Account Number: 53812 1322

For Presbytery/Priests

Account Name:

St. Gerard's Presbytery

BSB: 083 347

Account: 669 675878

To Donate to SVDP

Volunteers from the Society of St. Vincent De Paul assist the needy in Dandenong and surrounding suburbs with food and various other amenities. Should you wish to donate and help them with their tireless work, please do so by donating to the following:

Account Name: SVDPS

Vic. Inc. - SC Gift Funds

BSB: 063 000 **Account**

Number: 106 07556

Description/Reference:

Dandenong North 252

Our Lady of the Rosary - Thursday October 7

The purpose of the rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, and resurrection. The Our Father reminds us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Mary reminds us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was and is intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of His earthly and heavenly existence. The Glory Be reminds us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity.

The rosary appeals to many. It is simple. The constant repetition of words helps create an atmosphere in which to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus and Mary are with us in the joys and sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.



PRAYER and REFLECTION

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.

What God has joined: Scott Hahn reflects on the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question.

The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it (see Deuteronomy 24:1–4). But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading.

Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands.

Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth (see Genesis 1:28).

That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children.

Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family (see Romans 5:14; Psalm 8:5–7). The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the Cross (see John 19:34; Revelation 12:1–17).

Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled (see Ephesians 5:21–32). Eve was "mother of all the living" (see Genesis 3:20). And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning.

The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.

PARISH NOTICES

Piety Stall News

The St. Gerard's Piety Stall has just received delivery of Cardinal Pell's Journals volumes 1 & 2. If you have previously ordered these books, please contact Susan directly on mobile 0408329787 or 97950011 to arrange a day and time to collect. You may also call Susan should you wish to order Word 2022 diaries and 2022 Columbian calendars.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

That Catholic Shop is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From Sacramental gifts, statues, books, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit www.thatcatholicshop.com.

Reading Roster for 2022

Should you wish to volunteer to read at Mass, please contact the office by 15th October either by phone or email. If you are already listed as a volunteer, there is no need to let us know as we have your details on file. We thank you in advance.

The Plenary Council

Dear Parishioners,

Over three years ago the decision was announced to hold a Plenary Council and the People of God began preparing for this historic moment by listening to God and by listening to one another's stories of faith. After this time of listening and journeying, the Catholic Church of Australia will gather for the first assembly of the Plenary Council from 3rd - 10th October 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the First Assembly will be held via 'one device-one person' mode. There will be 17 members participating in this gathering who have been called from the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

The Plenary Council website will provide daily livestreams of parts of the opening Plenary sessions and Masses (including the Opening Mass on Sunday 3rd October).

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/>

Plenary Council Masses and daily morning prayer booklets for full participation are available here:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/prayer/>

PRAYER OF PETITION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

A prayer used before every session of the Second Vatican Council. This is to be prayed at the beginning of a Plenary Council.

We stand before you, Holy Spirit, conscious of our sinfulness, but aware that we gather in your name. Come to us, remain with us, and enlighten our hearts. Give us light and strength to know your will, to make it our own and to live it in our lives. Guide us by your wisdom, support us by your power, for you are God, sharing the glory of Father and Son.

You desire justice for All enable us to uphold the rights of others; do not allow us to be misled by ignorance or corrupted by fear or favour. Unite us to yourself in the bond of love and keep us faithful to all that is true. As we gather in your name may we temper justice with love, so that all our decisions may be pleasing to you, and earn the reward promised to good and faithful servants, Amen.

FEAST OF SAINT GERARD MAJELLA - Saturday 16 October 2021 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Please join us on the Feast Day of Saint Gerard Majella to honour our patron saint. During this zoom meeting, we will have a presentation on Saint Gerard, updates on what has been happening in our parish, as well as reports given on two major events - the Plenary Council, and the Take The Way of The Gospel project. This is a free event but please book via <https://www.trybooking.com/816920> in order to receive the link to the zoom meeting. For enquiries or assistance with the booking, please contact Jeff Zaher on 0477 188 883 or the Parish office on 9792 4422.

