

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

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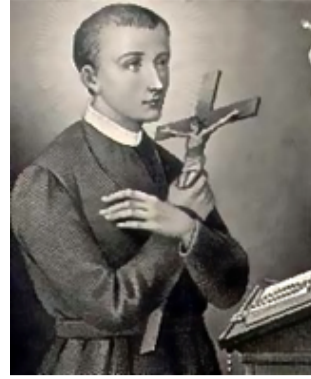
Office Hours: Monday to Friday - 9.00am-2.30pm

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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 5th September, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: You are just, O Lord, and Your judgement is right; treat Your servant in accord with Your merciful love.

First Reading - Isaiah 35: 4-7

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading - James 2: 1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'



Communion Antiphon: Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for You, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

MASS and INTENTIONS

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

Saturday Vigil Mass, September 4th Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Jennifer and William
Gelderbloem
Thanksgiving - 50th
Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, September 5th - Father's Day

Live-stream of Mass may be watched [HERE](#)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Sabato Leone
(Remembrance)

Monday, September 6th

Mass Rosemary Zaher
(For her health)

Tuesday, September 7th

Mass Soledad Bollozos
(Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, September 8th

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Live-stream of Mass **6:30pm**

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



Thursday, September 9th

Mass Noel & Doris Bocks
(Remembrance)

Friday, September 10th

Mass Noel & Doris Bocks
(Remembrance)

Saturday, September 11th

Mass Jessica Cabral
(Birthday 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

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

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Sabato Leone, Cesar Caballero

PARISH NOTICES

We wish all Fathers a very happy Father's day for this Sunday. We especially thank our priests, past and present, may God bless them with good health and happiness.

"God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen."

We will live-stream Mass on Sunday September 5th at 10:30am. Please click [HERE](#) to watch this Mass.

Wednesday, 8th September is the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be Mass live-streamed at 6:30pm. You may watch by clicking [HERE](#).

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

To Donate

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

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.

All Things Well: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The incident in today's Gospel is recorded only by Mark. The key line is what the crowd says at the end: "He has done all things well." In the Greek, this echoes the creation story, recalling that God saw all the things He had done and declared them good (see Genesis 1:31).

Mark also deliberately evokes Isaiah's promise, which we hear in today's First Reading, that God will make the deaf hear and the mute speak. He even uses a Greek word to describe the man's condition (mogilalon = "speech impediment") that's only found in one other place in the Bible—in the Greek translation of today's Isaiah passage, where the prophet describes the "dumb" singing.

The crowd recognizes that Jesus is doing what the prophet had foretold. But Mark wants us to see something far greater—that, to use the words from today's First Reading: "Here is your God."

Notice how personal and physical the drama is in the Gospel. Our focus is drawn to a hand, a finger, ears, a tongue, spitting. In Jesus, Mark shows us, God has truly come in the flesh.

What He has done is to make all things new, a new creation (see Revelation 21:1–5). As Isaiah promised, He has made the living waters of Baptism flow in the desert of the world. He has set captives free from their sins, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has come that rich and poor might dine together in the Eucharistic feast, as James tells us in today's Epistle.

He has done for each of us what He did for that deaf mute. He has opened our ears to hear the Word of God and loosed our tongues that we might sing praises to Him.

Let us then give thanks to our glorious Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Let us say with Isaiah, "Here is our God, He comes to save us." Let us be rich in faith, that we might inherit the kingdom promised to those who love Him.

PARISH NOTICES

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: Education of Catechists

ACN supports the formation and training of catechists so that where there are no priests or sisters, catechists are trained and sent forth to nurture the Christian community. With the help of our benefactors, ACN supported the formation of 18,389 catechists and lay leaders in 2020. Can you help provide support and formation to catechists to help spread the Faith?

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/catechists.

The Spiritual Rosary Pilgrimage

Last year over 40, 000 people across 116 countries participated in our first ever [Spiritual Rosary Pilgrimage](#). Its coming up to Our Ladies Birthday and with our world still suffering from COVID -19 its a good time to pray for all those suffering from this in one way or another.

We are making available for free the meditations that were recorded last time but in addition we are going to be praying a rosary live with a different guest each day. Last year we had a private facebook group but this year we have now a group in [Parousia World Mighty Network](#). This year also we won't be sending out daily emails but we will be having daily posts inside of Parousia World so be sure to register your free account there. To know more and have further information on what to expect this time around please [register for free here with your email](#).

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

Theology at the Pub Eastern Catholic Churches Livestream w/ Mons. Joe Takchi

T@P is back online this coming Monday, with another livestream over on Facebook. Our speaker this month is Monsignor Joe Takchi, a Melbourne based Maronite Priest who will be speaking on the Eastern Catholic Churches. Grab a drink and join us over on our Facebook page this coming

Monday, 6th of September, at 7:30pm. Check out the link in our bio for more details! Talk commences: 7:30pm. Where: Facebook Livestream. When: Monday the 6th of September 2021. Visit us on Facebook: [<http://www.facebook.com/tapmelb/>]

Website: www.theologyatthepub.com.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: <https://majellan.media/the-majellan-magazine/>