

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

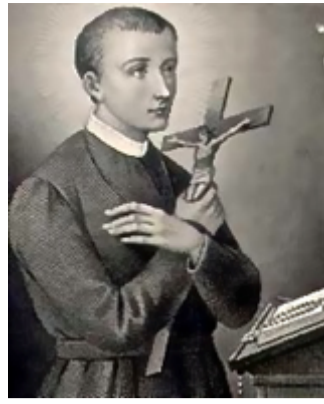
Office Hours: Monday to Friday - 9.00am-2.30pm

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-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 12th September, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You, that Your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of Your servant, and of Your people Israel.

First Reading - Isaiah 50: 5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who will dare to condemn me?

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading - James 2: 14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. ***Alleluia!***

Gospel Reading - Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Communion Antiphon: How precious is Your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of Your wings.

MASS and INTENTIONS

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

Saturday Vigil Mass, September 11th

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Jessica Cabral
(Birthday Remembrance)

Sunday, September 12th

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

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Veronica Baptiste
(Anniversary of Death)

and

Cesar Caballero
(Remembrance)

Monday, September 13th

Saint John Chrysostom

Mass Samuel Clark
(Anniversary of Death)

Tuesday, September 14th

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Mass Carsten Osmer
(Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, September 15th

Our Lady of Sorrows



Thursday, September 16th

Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian

Mass Cheniart's Family &
Thanksgiving for
Cynthia's Birthday

Friday, September 17th

Mass Yolanda D'Souza
(Birthday Remembrance)

Saturday, September 18th

Mass Jerry Rodrigues
(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 Savannah

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Jessica Cabral

From Fr. Shanthaiah

Dear Parishioners,

At the time of publication of this bulletin, the government is yet to provide directive of a definite end date to the lockdown. Until then, please know that I am praying for you all, as well as for our country.

We will live-stream Mass on Sunday September 12th 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 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.

Following the Messiah: Scott Hahn reflects on the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

In today's Gospel, we reach a pivotal moment in our walk with the Lord. After weeks of listening to His words and witnessing His deeds, along with the disciples we're asked to decide who Jesus truly is.

Peter answers for them, and for us, too, when he declares: "You are the Messiah." Many expected the Messiah to be a miracle worker who would vanquish Israel's enemies and restore the kingdom of David (see John 6:15).

Jesus today reveals a different portrait. He calls Himself the Son of Man, evoking the royal figure Daniel saw in his heavenly visions (see Daniel 7:13-14). But Jesus' kingship is not to be of this world (see John 18:36).

And the path to His throne, as He reveals, is by way of suffering and death.

Jesus identifies the Messiah with the suffering servant that Isaiah foretells in today's First Reading. The words of Isaiah's servant are Jesus' words—as He gives Himself to be shamed and beaten, trusting that God will be His help. We hear our Lord's voice again in today's Psalm, as He gives thanks that God has freed Him from the cords of death.

As Jesus tells us today, to believe that He is the Messiah is to follow His way of self-denial—losing our lives to save them in order to rise with Him to new life. Our faith, we hear again in today's Epistle, must express itself in works of love (see Galatians 5:6).

Notice that Jesus questions the Apostles today "along the way." They are on the way to Jerusalem, where the Lord will lay down His life. We, too, are on a journey with the Lord.

We must take up our cross, giving to others and enduring all our trials for His sake and the sake of the Gospel.

Our lives must be an offering of thanksgiving for the new life He has given us until that day when we reach our destination and walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

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 a non –residential weekend allocated for: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

Australian Catholic University - Centre for Liturgy

On 18 October 2021 (10-11:30am AEDT) the ACU Centre for Liturgy will have the privilege of hosting Fr Bruce Morrill, SJ, who will give our next online public lecture (via Zoom) exploring the vital connection between ethics and our physical enactment of liturgy. The lecture is entitled “Ritual bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting Liturgy in Proper Ethical Perspective”. Liturgy as ritual worship is meant to empower Christians to be ‘living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God’ (Rom 12:1). Liturgy and ethics are integrally related in a sound interpretation of Christian tradition but the theological rhetoric of sacrifice, holiness, royal priesthood, and more, can be puzzling, if not provocative, for 21st century Catholics. This lecture proposes that acceptance of the disruptive challenge of this language will illuminate rather than obscure the connection between liturgy and ethical living. Fr. Morrill holds the Edward A. Malloy Chair in Roman Catholic Studies at Vanderbilt University, where he is Professor of Theology in the Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion. More information about this lecture, can be found on our News, Resources and Events page [here](#). Registration to attend can be done by following this [link](#).

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/>