

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

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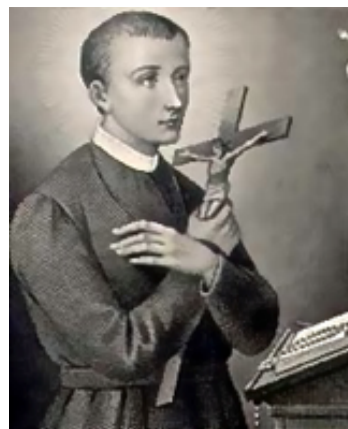
Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

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/>

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 31st October, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading - Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord the God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow. 'Listen, Israel: the Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

Responsorial Psalm: I love You, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading - Hebrews 7:23-28

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them. ***Alleluia!***

Gospel Reading - Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

Communion Antiphon:

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, O Lord.

All Soul's Day

There will be two Masses held on Tuesday 2nd November for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed at 8:00am and 9:15am.

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday, October 30th

Mass 5:30pm Alan Hotham
(Recently Deceased)

Sunday, October 31st

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Giovanni & Brigida
(Only status Cardamone
unknown to (Remembrance)
please attend)

and Lonetti & Pane
(Remembrance)

Mass 10:30am Bernardamma
(Anniversary of Death)

Mass 5:30pm Sabato Leone
(Remembrance)

Monday, November 1st - All Saints Day

Mass 9:15am No Mass intentions

Tuesday, November 2nd - All Soul's Day

Mass 8:00am No Mass intentions

Mass 9:15am No Mass intentions

Wednesday, November 3rd

Mass 9:15am John Blackburn
(Anniversary of Death)

Thursday, November 4th -

St. Charles Borromeo

Mass 9:15am Donat & Michel Family
(Anniversary of Death)

Nihal Wijesekera
(Birthday Remembrance)

Friday, November 5th

Mass 9:15am Frank Hayman
(Birthday Thanksgiving)

Saturday, November 6th

Mass 9:15am Abandoned Souls in
Purgatory

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, Angelo Sciacca

The recently deceased: Rène Hennequin, Aloisia Sledzik, Alan Hotham

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Andrew & Lucy Morais, Xavier Lewis & Shirani Fernando

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate and ask you to please pray for the following children who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation this coming Friday, 5th November.

Abigail Appelman

Isabella D'Costa

Antonette Ivan

Pieta Jada

Beyonca Nisanthan

Arielle Punsalan

Kristina Ramos

Raeann Vincent



Please also pray for and congratulate the following children who will receive the sacrament of their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 6th November.

Martin Allendes-Arias

Merin Jimmy Anthony

Devaan Ariyatillake

John Audy

Nathaniel Benedict Benham

Duane Collom

Catherine Dinh

Hope Donovan

Filomena Mae Doroon

Kevan Fernando

Trevor Fernando

Sherhom Gamas

Isaiah Hayat

Tiffany Huynh

Jordan Georges Jackson

Amy Labour

Grace Ci-ern Lee

Levi Lopez

Dahlia Maliko

Minh-Dang Nguyen

Ashton Nisanthan

Dominique Perumal

Jarrold Savio Rodriguez

Andrew Shaiju

Aswin Sheen

Ella Torelli

Alessia Trovarelli

Amy Varghese



All Saints - Monday, November 1st, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, this is the people that longs to see Your face.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Come to Me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

All Soul's Day - Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Just as Jesus died and has risen again, so through Jesus God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep; and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* This is the will of My Father, says the Lord, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given to Me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord. Whoever believes in Me, even though he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will not die for ever.

Wednesday of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 3rd, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the merciful who give to those in need.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are You, for the Spirit of God rests upon you. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, O Lord.

Saint Charles Borromeo - Thursday, November 4th, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: I will look after My sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God.

Responsorial Psalm: I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Come to Me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: It was not you who chose Me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

Friday of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 5th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations His saving power.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Whoever keeps the word of Christ grows perfect in the love of God. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, O Lord.

Saturday of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time - November 6th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise Your name for ever, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Jesus Christ was rich but He became poor, to make you rich out of His poverty. ***Alleluia!***

Communion Antiphon: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, O Lord.

Reflections and Notices

Dear Parishioners,

With the easing of restrictions from this Saturday 30th October, we can celebrate Masses for up to 150 people following the four square metre rule indoor celebrations in our church. Just walk in for any of the weekend and weekday masses if you are double vaccinated or, please attend the 8:30am Sunday Mass for the 'unknown' (capacity is 30 persons). Please be ready to show evidence of your vaccination status upon entry. No bookings are needed but you will still need to sign in or scan through the QR code at the entrance of the Church. Please note that face masks are required inside the church at all times. There will be no live-stream of Mass from this weekend onwards.

Mass Times (current and correct as of Friday 29th October, 2021)

Monday to Friday 9:15am

Saturday 9:15am & 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am (unknown status) capacity is 30 persons

Sunday 10:30am & 5:30pm (both fully vaccinated) capacity up to 150 persons

Please sign in with the QR Code or by signing your name on the sign up sheet.

Masks are MANDATORY inside the Church.

Please also join me in praying for the candidates who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation next Friday along with, the Holy Communion children who will receive the sacrament on Saturday. May God bless them all.

Take care, stay safe and God bless,

Fr Shanthaiah.

The Law of Love: Scott Hahn reflects on the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Love is only law we are to live by. And love is the fulfillment of the Law that God reveals through Moses in today's First Reading (see Romans 13:8–10; Matthew 5:43–48).

The unity of God—the truth that He is one God, Father, Son, and Spirit—means that we must love Him with one love, a love that serves Him with all our hearts and minds, souls and strength.

We love Him because He has loved us first. We love our neighbour because we can't love the God we haven't seen unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen (see 1 John 4:19–21).

And we are called to imitate the love that Christ showed us in laying His life down on the Cross (see 1 John 3:16). As we hear in today's Epistle, by His perfect sacrifice on the Cross, He once and for all makes it possible for us to approach God.

There is no greater love than to lay down your life (see John 15:13). This is perhaps why Jesus tells the scribe in today's Gospel that he is not far from the kingdom of God.

The scribe recognises that the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the old Law were meant to teach Israel that it is love that God desires (see Hosea 6:6). The animals offered in sacrifice were symbols of the self-sacrifice, the total gift of our selves, that God truly desires.

We are called today to examine our hearts. Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God? Do we love others as Jesus has loved us (see John 13:34–35)? Do we love our enemies and pray for those who oppose and persecute us (see Matthew 5:44)?

Let us tell the Lord we love Him, as we do in today's Psalm. And let us take His Word to heart, that we might prosper and have life eternal in His kingdom, the heavenly homeland flowing with milk and honey.

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.

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: SVDP Vic. Inc. - SC Gift Funds

BSB: 063 000 **Account Number:** 106 07556

Description/Reference: Dandenong North 252

