

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

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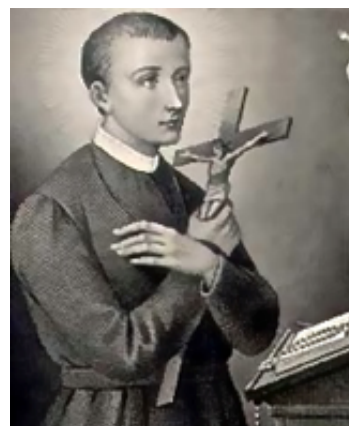
Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

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- Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — Sunday, 7th November, 2021

Entrance Antiphon:

Let my prayer come into Your presence. Incline Your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading - 1 Kings 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."' The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading - Hebrews 9:24-28

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - Mark 12:38-44

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.' He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where He gives me repose, near restful waters He leads me.

Collections

Please note that on the weekend of Saturday 13th, and Sunday 14th November, we will have collections for Priest's Retirement Fund and Father's Day Appeal. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 6th

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Noel & Doris Bocks
(Remembrance)

Sunday, November 7th

(8:30am Mass is 'Status unknown' please)

Mass 8:30am Souls of the D'Silva Family
and Vidot Deceased Family
Members

and McConville & D'Rozario family
Members

Mass 10:30am Fully Vaccinated

Mass 5:30pm Fully Vaccinated

Monday, November 8th

Mass 9:15am Deceased members of the
Legion of Mary

Tuesday, November 9th

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Mass 9:15am Michel Family, Donat Family,
Le Gentil's Family & Souls in
Purgatory

Wednesday, November 10th

Saint Leo the Great

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving to the Sacred
Heart of Jesus and the
Immaculate Heart of Mary and
Birthday Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 11th

Saint Martin de Tours

Mass 9:15am Jessica Cabral
(Remembrance)

Pamela Francis
(Birthday Remembrance)

Bridget Lobo
(Remembrance)

Gordon D'Cruz
(First Anniversary of Death)

Friday, November 12th

Saint Josaphat

Mass 9:15am Paul Kulangara
(First Anniversary of Death)

Saturday, November 13th

Mass 9:15am Sr. Celia Dos Remedios
(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, Simone Valadon, Angelo Sciacca, Doreen Oliver

The recently deceased: Rène Hennequin, Aloisia Sledzik, Alan Hotham, Antonio Cardamone and Alberto Ruiz

Anniversaries/Remembrances: McConville & D'Rozario family members

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:

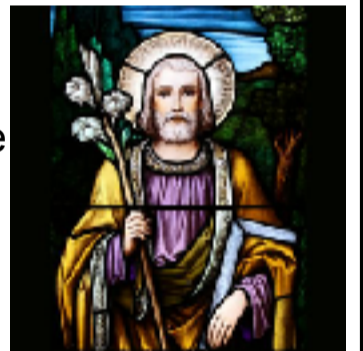
Account Name: SVDPS Vic. Inc. - SC Gift Funds

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

Description/Reference: Dandenong North 252

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.

Monday of the 32nd Week in Ordinary Time - Monday, November 8th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Let my prayer come into Your presence. Incline Your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; You are offering it the word of life. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where He gives me repose, near restful waters He leads me.

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Tuesday, November 9th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

Responsorial Psalm: The waters of the river gladden the city of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that My name may remain in it for all time. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Be built up like living stones, into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.

Saint Leo the Great - Wednesday, November 10th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord established for him a covenant of peace, and made him the prince, that he might have the dignity of the priesthood for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: Rise up, O God, bring judgement to the earth.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! For all things give thanks to God, because this is what He expects of you in Christ Jesus. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replied: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church.

Saint Martin of Tours - Thursday, November 11th, 2021

Entrance Antiphon: I shall raise up for myself a faithful priest who will act in accord with My heart and My mind, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Your word is for ever, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; those who live in Me, and I in them, will bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Amen, I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of My brethren, you did it for Me, says the Lord.

Saint Josaphat - Friday, November 12th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Because of the Lord's covenant and the ancestral laws, the Saints of God persevered in loving brotherhood, for there was always one spirit in them, and one faith.

Responsorial Psalm: The heavens proclaim the glory of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Whoever loses his life for My sake, will find it in eternity, says the Lord.

Saturday of the 32nd Week in Ordinary Time - November 13th, 2021:

Entrance Antiphon: Let my prayer come into Your presence. Incline Your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Remember the marvels the Lord has done.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where He gives me repose, near restful waters He leads me.

Reflections and Notices

Dear Parishioners,

You are welcome to attend any of the weekend and weekday masses if you are double vaccinated otherwise, 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.

Mass Times

Monday to Friday at 9:15am

Saturday at 9:15am & 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am (unknown status) capacity up to 30 persons

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

Take care, stay safe and God bless, Fr Shanthaiah.

Defend Religious freedoms and Parent's Rights by November 16, 2021

The Victorian Government aims to debate on November 16, and push through before Christmas, a draconian Bill to curtail our religious freedoms. Archbishop Comensoli has [issued a statement](#) opposing the Bill.

The Bill will amend the Equal Opportunity Act to severely restrict a school's ability to employ people according to how their behaviours, or expressed attitudes, on matters of sexual orientation, lawful sexual activity, marital status, parental status, or gender identity are compatible with the ethos of the school.

Hypocritically, Victoria's draconian legislation will not apply to political parties. They will remain free to employ only staff who are members of, or adhere to the principles of, the party. They will be free to dismiss staff who change their allegiance to another political party.

The Government will reduce the status of religious freedom to a 'second class' right inconsistently with international law.

FIRST: find your Upper House region. Just click and type in your address [HERE](#).

SECOND: PLEASE [CLICK HERE AND DOWNLOAD](#) a leaflet for your Upper House members, then

- Call them and protest (Phone numbers provided)
- If time permits, consider a delegation to your Upper House member

The Widows' Faith: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

We must live by the obedience of faith, a faith that shows itself in works of charity and self-giving (see Galatians 5:6). That's the lesson of the two widows in today's liturgy.

The widow in the First Reading isn't even a Jew, yet she trusts in the word of Elijah and the promise of his Lord. Facing sure starvation, she gives all that she has, her last bit of food—feeding the man of God before herself and her family.

The widow in the Gospel also gives all that she has, offering her last bit of money to support the work of God's priests in the Temple.

In their self-sacrifice, these widows embody the love that Jesus last week revealed as the heart of the Law and the Gospel. They mirror the Father's love in giving His only Son, and Christ's love in sacrificing Himself on the Cross.

Again in today's Epistle, we hear Christ described as a new high priest and the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah. On the Cross, He made sacrifice once and for all to take away our sin and bring us to salvation (see Isaiah 53:12).

And again we are called to imitate His sacrifice of love in our own lives. We will be judged, not by how much we give—for the scribes and the wealthy contribute far more than the widow. Rather, we will be judged by whether our gifts reflect our livelihood, our whole beings, all our heart and soul, mind and strength.

Are we giving all that we can to the Lord—not out of a sense of forced duty, but in a spirit of generosity and love (see 2 Corinthians 9:6–7)?

Do not be afraid, the man of God tells us today. As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord will provide for us, as He sustains the widow.

Today, let us follow the widows' example, doing what God asks, confident that our jars of flour will not grow empty, nor our jugs of oil run dry.