

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

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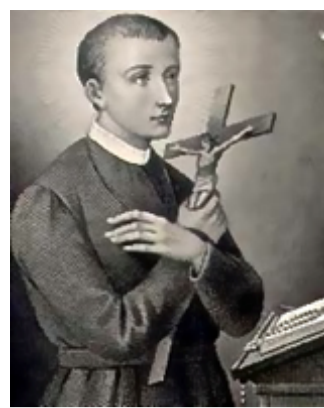
Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

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](mailto: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/>

## First Sunday of Advent - Sunday, 28th November, 2021

**Entrance Antiphon:** To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

### **First Reading - Jeremiah 33: 14-16**

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** To You, O Lord, I lift my soul.

### **Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2**

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!** Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation. **Alleluia!**

### **Gospel Reading - Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. 'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Memorial Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 8:15am each **Friday** followed by Benediction at 9am, then Mass. This will continue each week or unless otherwise specified.

Masses in honour of The Immaculate Conception of Bl. Mary and in honour of St. Joseph will be on **Wednesday, 8th December**

9:15 am - Mass, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

6:00 pm Adoration

7:00pm Mass - Concluding the year of Dedication to St. Joseph.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### Saturday, November 27th - First Sunday of Advent

Mass 5:30pm Deceased Members of the Knights of the Southern Cross  
(Remembrance)

and Josiane & Jacques Rosette  
(Anniversary of Death)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, November 28th - First Sunday of Advent

8:30am Mass is 'Status unknown' please.

10:30am & 5:30pm for the fully vaccinated. Thank you.

Mass 8:30am Abandoned Souls

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Mass 5:30pm Paul and Phillip Lobo  
(Remembrance)

### Monday, November 29th

Mass 9:15am Gerry Rebeiro  
(Anniversary of Death)

and Deanna Donaldson  
(Anniversary of Death)

### Tuesday, November 30th - Saint Andrew

Mass 9:15am Ross Knight  
(Remembrance)

### Wednesday, December 1st

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

### Thursday, December 2nd

Mass 9:15am Brian Gatt  
(Anniversary of Death)

and Giuseppina Zaia & Giovanna Sabato  
(Anniversary of Death)

### Friday, December 3rd - Saint Francis Xavier

8:15am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9:00am Benediction

Mass 9:15am Soul of F.X. Pereira & Deceased members of Pereira Family  
(Remembrance)

### Saturday, December 4th

Mass 9:15am Deceased members of Donat and Franchin Family  
(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, Tina Vaca

**The recently deceased:** Marie-Claire Sybil Reincastle, Moses Marneni, Alexander Joachim

**Anniversaries/Remembrances:** Deceased members of the Knights of the Southern Cross, Russell McLauchlan, Stanley Van Twest and Cyril Rozario

## 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.

## Reading Roster

### December

Sat. 4th	5:30pm	D. Franklin
Sun. 5th	8:30am	M. Noble
	10:30am	M. Naidoo
	5:30pm	B. Collins

### December

Sat. 11th	5:30pm	P. Kroon
Sun. 12th	8:30am	G. Van Hees
	10:30am	J. Panicker
	5:30pm	J. Abraham

## Church Cleaning

**Saturday 4th December, 2021**

Gonsalves family, M. Ferdinand & L. Harper

**Saturday 11th December, 2021**

Kronfeld family & H. Perera

## Daily Antiphons

### Monday of the First Week of Advent - November 29th, 2021:

**Entrance Antiphon:** Hear the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Saviour will come; you need no longer fear.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Come and save us, Lord our God; let us see Your face, and we shall be saved. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before You with a blameless heart.

### Saint Andrew - Tuesday, November 30th 2021:

**Entrance Antiphon:** Beside the Sea of Galilee, the Lord saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and He said to them: Come after Me and I will make you fishers of men.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Their message goes out through all the earth.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Come follow Me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of My people. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Andrew told his brother Simon: We have found the Messiah, the Christ, and he brought him to Jesus.

### Wednesday of the First Week of Advent - December 1st, 2021:

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord will come and He will not delay. He will illumine what is hidden in darkness and reveal Himself to all the nations.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Lord is coming to save His people; happy are those prepared to meet Him. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, our Lord will come with power and will enlighten the eyes of His servants.

### Thursday of the First Week of Advent - December 2nd, 2021

**Entrance Antiphon:** You, O Lord, are close, and all Your ways are truth. From of old I have known of Your decrees, for You are eternal.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Seek the Lord while He can be found. Call on Him while He is near. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Let us live justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of the glory of our great God.

### Saint Francis Xavier - Friday of the First Week of Advent - December 3rd, 2021:

**Entrance Antiphon:** I will praise You, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of Your name to my kin.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Behold, our Lord shall come with power; He will enlighten the eyes of His servants. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** What I say to you in the darkness speak in the light, says the Lord, what you hear whispered, proclaim in the housetops.

### Saturday of the First Week of Advent - December 4th, 2021:

**Entrance Antiphon:** Come and show us Your face, O Lord, who are seated upon the Cherubim, and we will be saved.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Lord will judge us by His law; He is our King and Saviour. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, I am coming soon and My recompense is with Me, says the Lord, to bestow a reward according to the deeds of each.

## NOTICES

### Working Bee

The parish working bee will be held on Saturday, 11 December, between 10am and 12pm. Please notify either Fr Shanthaiah or the office of your availability. We thank you in anticipation of your help and time.

### Confession and Mass

#### Confession Evening - Wednesday, 22 December

In preparation for Christmas, confessions will be heard on Wednesday, 22 December, between 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. There will be several priests available on this night.

#### Christmas Mass Timetable

##### Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

9:15 am - Mass

5:30 pm - Family Christmas Mass

7:00 pm - Maronite Mass,

9:30 pm - Mass for 'unknown status'

11:30 pm - Carols

12:00 am Midnight - Christmas Mass

##### Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day

8:30 am - Christmas Mass for 'unknown status'

10:30 am - Christmas Mass

(No evening Mass)

##### Sunday, December 26 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass held at - 8:30 am, 10:30 am and 5:30 pm

*Mass and confessions will be held at usual times from Monday December 27th, 2021.*

### Office Closure

The office will close at 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 23, 2021 and will re-open on Monday, January 3, 2022.

### Heads Up: Scott Hahn Reflects on the First Sunday of Advent

Every Advent, the Liturgy of the Word gives our sense of time a reorientation. There's a deliberate tension in the next four weeks' readings—between promise and fulfillment, expectation and deliverance, between looking forward and looking back.

In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David, some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfill this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice (see 2 Samuel 7:16; Jeremiah 33:17; Psalm 89:4-5; 27-38). Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in your truth and teach me. For you are God my saviour and for you I will wait all day."

We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Saviour for Whom Israel was waiting. Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel.

Urging us to keep watch for His return in glory, He draws on Old Testament images of chaos and instability—turmoil in the heavens (see Isaiah 13:11, 13; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:10); roaring seas (see Isaiah 5:30; 17:12); distress among the nations (see Isaiah 8:22; 14:25) and terrified people (see Isaiah 13:6-11). He evokes the prophet Daniel's image of the Son of Man coming on a cloud of glory to describe His return as a "theophany," a manifestation of God (see Daniel 7:13-14).

Many will cower and be literally scared to death. But Jesus says we should greet the end-times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near" (see Luke 21:31).