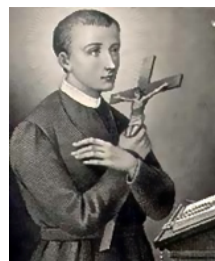


ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH - Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Parish Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au
Website: www.stgerards.org.au Facebook: [facebook.com/saintgerardparish](https://www.facebook.com/saintgerardparish)
Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175
Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm
Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato
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 parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome. If you have any concerns, visit <https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/> or see the Safeguarding Officer. *"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"*

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) — Sunday, 20th February, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading - 1 Samuel 26:2 7-9,12-13,22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. In the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. He called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your name, O Most High.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, February 21 to Saturday, February 26, 2022 (Year C)

Monday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 21st, 2022 - Saints Cyril and Methodius

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through His gospel. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your name, O Most High.

Tuesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 22nd, 2022 - The Chair of Saint Peter

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord says to Simon Peter: I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail, and, once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* You are Peter, the rock on which I will build My Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. *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.

Wednesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 23rd, 2022 - Saint Polycarp

Entrance Antiphon: This holy man fought to the death for the law of his God and did not fear the words of the godless, for he was built on solid rock.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through Me. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Whoever wishes to come after Me, must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me, says the Lord.

Thursday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 24th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your name, O Most High.

Friday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 25th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your name, O Most High.

Saturday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - February 26th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in Your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm: Let my prayer come like incense before You.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I will recount all Your wonders, I will rejoice in You and be glad, and sing psalms to Your name, O Most High.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 19th, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 2:00pm Maronite Community

****Please note amended time for this week****

Mass 5:30pm Clifford, Emerald &
Christopher Rodrigo
(Remembrance)

Sunday, February 20th

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Maria Mollica & Stephen Sabato
(Anniversary of Death)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Treyine DeKauwe
(Birthday Remembrance)

Monday, February 21st

Mass 9:15am Jack Lovett
(Anniversary of Death)

Tuesday, February 22nd -

The Chair of Saint Peter

Mass 9:15am Anthony Joseph Domingo
(Birthday Remembrance)

and Patrick McConville and deceased
members of the family

Wednesday, February 23rd - Saint Polycarp

Mass 9:15am Elisa Vaccaro
(40 Year Anniversary of Death)

and Kenneth Joseph Rodrigues
(2nd Anniversary of Death)

and Annamma Devasia
(Anniversary of Death)

Thursday, February 24th

Mass 9:15am Florrie Dos Remedios - Birthday
Remembrance and deceased
members of the Remedios Family

Friday, February 25th

8:10am Adoration until 9am

Mass 9:15am Samuel Clark
(Remembrance)

Saturday, February 26th

Mass 9:15am Gladys Rezel
(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, Antonette Vettivelu, Claris, Suzette Savrimoothoo, Kathleen James, Marie Blandin de Chalain, Melvina Extross, Clita Martinelli, Anna Lesnjak, Lalitha Kurup

The recently deceased: George Lawrence Gonzalves, Pearl Harriet Perera, Monsignor Joji Babu, Rev. Fr. Fritz Neuhauser mhm, Gladys Pentony, Paily Theneth, Nimal Wickramasuriya

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Maria Bonfante, Elisa Vaccaro, Samuel Clark

Reading Roster

February

Sat. 26th 5:30pm C. Fernando

Sun. 27th 8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm J. Panicker

March

Sat. 5th 5:30pm D. Franklin

Sun. 6th 8:30am S. Hayman

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm J. Abraham

Church Cleaning

Saturday 26th February, 2022

J. Trissy, Linda & family

Saturday 5th March, 2022

Moses Family, Vincent, Mary & Rebecca

Catechist Children

Enrolments for State School children are open. Enrolments have been extended and will be taken up until 22nd February. Please contact the office on 9792 4422 to register your child.

Classes will be held each Tuesday, at 4pm in the Church.

Please contact the parish office, for more information.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Items for Sale - Moving House

A parishioner of St. Gerard's is moving house and has many new household products to sell. Please call Joe Gatt on 0431 635 518 to arrange a meeting.

Return of blessed Palms

Please return your palms in these coming weeks in preparation for Ash Wednesday (2nd March). There will be a box in the foyer of the Church to place them in.

Confession

Confession will not be heard on Sunday or Monday. Confession is heard Tuesday to Saturday from 8:20am to 8:50am and after the Mass on Saturday until 10:30am.

Mass Times - No booking required

Monday to Friday 9:15am

Saturday 9:15am & 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am & 5:30pm

Eucharistic adoration will be held every Friday at 8:10am, followed by the daily Mass at 9:15am.

We ask that you please wear your mask inside the Church and please check in via the QR code.

Thank you and God bless.

Mass on Friday during Lent

During Lent, each Friday, Mass will be held at 9:15am then Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm followed by Mass at 7:00pm. This will begin on Friday, 4th March. Adoration will continue during this time.

LENT 2022 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY

BRUCE DOWNES

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful.

This program is FREE and you can sign up here:

<https://BruceDownes.org/Lent22>

or, call 1300 734 880 for more information.

Dauids and Sauls: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The story of David and Saul in today's First Reading functions almost like a parable. Showing mercy to his deadly foe, David gives a concrete example of what Jesus expects to become a way of life for His disciples.

The new law Jesus gives in today's Gospel would have us all become "Dauids"—loving our enemies, doing good to those who would harm us, extending a line of credit to those who won't ever repay us. The Old Law required only that the Israelites love their fellow countrymen (see Leviticus 19:18). The new law Jesus brings makes us kin to every man and woman (see also Luke 10:29–36). His kingdom isn't one of tribe or nationality. It's a family. As followers of Jesus, we're to live as He lived among us—as "children of the Most High" (see Luke 6:35; 1:35).

As sons and daughters, we want to walk in the ways of our heavenly Father, to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Grateful for His mercy, we're called to forgive others their trespasses because God has forgiven ours.

In the context of today's liturgy, we're all "Sauls"—by our sinfulness and pride we make ourselves enemies of God. But we've been spared a death we surely deserved to die because God has loved and shown mercy to His enemies, "the ungrateful and the wicked," as Jesus says.

Jesus showed us this love in His Passion, forgiving His enemies as they stripped Him of cloak and tunic, cursed Him and struck Him on the cheek, condemned Him to death on a cross (see Luke 22:63–65; 23:34). "He redeems your life from destruction," David reminds us in today's Psalm. That's the promise, too, of today's Epistle: that we who believe in the "last Adam," Jesus, will rise from the dead in His image, as today we bear the image of the "first Adam," who by his sin made God an enemy and brought death into the world (see 1 Corinthians 15:21–22).