

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

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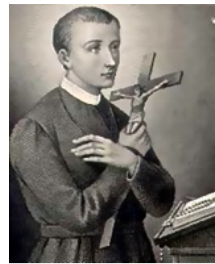
Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses

Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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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"*

## **First Sunday of Lent (Year C) — Sunday, 6th March 2022**

**Entrance Antiphon:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

### **First Reading - Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me." 'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

### **Second Reading - Romans 10:8-13**

Scripture says: *The word* (that is the faith we proclaim) *is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart.* If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: *those who believe in him will have no cause for shame,* it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, *for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

### **Gospel Reading - Luke 4:1-13**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

**Communion Antiphon:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

## Daily Antiphons - Monday, March 7 to Saturday, March 12, 2022 (Year C)

### Monday of the First Week of Lent - March 7th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** Like the eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords, so our eyes are on the Lord our God, till He show us His mercy. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!* This is the favourable time, this is the day of salvation. *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

**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. Come, you blessed of My Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

### Tuesday of the First Week of Lent - March 8th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** O Lord, You have been our refuge, from generation to generation; from age to age, You are.

**Responsorial Psalm:** From all their afflictions God will deliver the just.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Communion Antiphon:** When I called, the God of justice gave me answer; from anguish You released me; have mercy, O Lord, and hear my prayer!

### Wednesday of the First Week of Lent - March 9th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** Remember Your compassion, O Lord, and Your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

**Responsorial Psalm:** A broken, humbled heart, O God, You will not scorn.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* With all your heart turn to Me, for I am tender and compassionate. *Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Communion Antiphon:** All who take refuge in You shall be glad, O Lord, and ever cry out their joy, and You shall dwell among them.

### Thursday of the First Week of Lent - March 10th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** To my words give ear, O Lord; give heed to my sighs. Attend to the sound of my cry, my King and my God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, on the day I called for help, You answered me.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!* Create a clean heart in me, O God; give back to me the joy of Your salvation. *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

### Friday of the First Week of Lent - March 11th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** Set me free from my distress, O Lord. See my lowliness and suffering, and take away all my sins.

**Responsorial Psalm:** If You, O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who could endure it?

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!* Rid yourselves of all your sins and make a new heart and a new spirit. *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

**Communion Antiphon:** As I live, says the Lord, I do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn back and live.

### Saturday of the First Week of Lent - March 12th, 2022

**Entrance Antiphon:** The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul. The decrees of the Lord are steadfast; they give wisdom to the simple.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* This is the favourable time, this is the day of salvation. *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Be perfect, as Your heavenly Father is perfect, says the Lord.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 5, 2022

#### First Sunday of Lent

Mass 5:30pm Cecilia Campisi  
(Anniversary of Death)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, March 6

#### First Sunday of Lent

Mass 8:30am Rory McLauchlan  
(For his health & healing)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo

12:00pm **Baptism Congratulations to**  
Mark Nicholas Jeremiah Ta  
and Lennie Mae Rasowaqa Derenalagi

Mass 5:30pm Marko & Ruža Šagoli  
(Anniversary of Death)

### Monday, March 7

Mass 9:15am Carmelita Carlin-Smith  
(Thanksgiving)

After Mass Legion of Mary -  
Stations of the Cross

### Tuesday, March 8

Mass 9:15am Rory McLauchlan  
(For his health & healing)

### Wednesday, March 9

Mass 9:15am Angelina Sacco  
(First Year Anniversary of Death)

### Thursday, March 10

Mass 9:15am Gisele Michele  
(Birthday Remembrance)  
and Souls in Purgatory

### Friday, March 11

**8:10am Adoration until 9am**

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

6:30pm Stations of the Cross

7:00pm Mass

### Saturday, March 12

Mass 9:15am Franceshina  
(20th Year Anniversary of Death)

## 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, Sakis Dip, Alessandro Zaia

**The recently deceased:** Pearl Harriet Perera, Monsignor Joji Babu, Rev. Fr. Fritz Neuhauser mhm, Nimal Wickramasuriya, Rita Ephraums

**Anniversaries/Remembrances:** Lorenzo Martinelli, Jean Pierre Canal, Marcel Raypen, Sybille Rita Raypen, Michael Anthony DeCruze

## Reading Roster

### March

Sat. 12th 5:30pm	P. Kroon
Sun. 13th 8:30am	R. Noble
10:30am	M. Lourdunathan
5:30pm	B. Collins

### March

Sat. 19th 5:30pm	A. Miranda
Sun. 20th 8:30am	I. Mulipola
10:30am	D. Naidoo, Jnr
5:30pm	M. Yallapa

## Church Cleaning

**Saturday 12th March, 2022**

The Legion of Mary

**Saturday 19th March, 2022**

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands, L. Harper

## KSC Football Tipping Competition

The Knights of the Southern Cross Dandenong North invite you to participate in the Football Tipping Competition for 2022. Cost to participate is \$50 for the entire season, where 50% of funds raised go to prizes, and the other 50% to the Branch in its support of the local Parishes. Those who guess all 9 tips correctly win \$30 for the round, and the overall winner of the season will receive over \$1,000 in prize money. The rules can be found on the Parish Bulletin board. Please contact Carmine Miranda on 0412 817 995 or [carmine@vicinsurance.com.au](mailto:carmine@vicinsurance.com.au) for any queries and expressions of interest. Round 1 commences Wednesday March 16, with Melbourne vs. Western Bulldogs. This is one of our biggest fundraisers, with about 100 participants and \$2,500 raised last year, which funds our projects and donations within the surrounding parishes.

Tips to be lodged via internet <http://www.footytips.com.au> The name of our competition is 'KSC North Dandenong' and can be found in the 'Search Competitions' section. Any queries or problems accessing site and lodging selections please phone Carmine Miranda on 0412 817 995.

## PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

### Explore the difference a Nazareth education provides

The Nazareth College Open Evening will be held on Tuesday, 22nd March, and will be a great opportunity for the whole family to experience all our College has to offer. You will hear from our Principal, Mr Sam Cosentino, view performances and demonstrations from several learning areas as well as have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss important aspects of the College with key members of our staff. Registrations essential at [www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/school-tours](http://www.nazareth.vic.edu.au/enrolments/school-tours)

### Legion of Mary - Stations of the Cross

The Legion of Mary will hold a procession of the Stations of the Cross each Monday, after the 9:15am Mass. You are all invited and welcome.

### Knights of the Southern Cross

Knights of the Southern Cross invite you to God and Beer which brings together people of all ages from across the south-east suburbs several times a year for inspiration, ideas and a hot meal at a local pub. The aim is to inspire and strengthen Christians by drawing on the truth, beauty and goodness of the Christian faith in the Catholic tradition. When: Monday 11th April 6.30pm. Where: The Notting Hill Hotel, Notting Hill. Topic: "Shakespeare and Catholicism" with Angela Schumann. Cost: Free to attend but places are limited, please book to avoid disappointment. Meals and drinks are available for purchase. Visit: [GodandBeer.com.au](http://GodandBeer.com.au)

### Free Online Lenten Retreat 2022 - The Little Sisters of the Poor

The Little Sisters of the poor are offering young women who desire to deepen their Spiritual Life and draw closer to God, six online Lenten Conferences entitled: "Merciful Father." Lent is a good time to stop and reconnect with the Lord, to take time away from the business of our daily life and listen to the Lord in the quietness. To register or for more information, please contact Sr. Mary Lourdes on : 9489 8444 or email: [voc.mel@lsp.org.au](mailto:voc.mel@lsp.org.au)

### DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on Saturday 2 April 2022, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For more information: Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0> Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY> Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate> Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) [diaconate@cam.org.au](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)

### Forty Days: Scott Hahn Reflects on the First Sunday of Lent

In today's epic Gospel scene, Jesus relives in His flesh the history of Israel.

We've already seen that, like Israel, Jesus has passed through water and been called God's beloved Son (see Luke 3:22; Exodus 4:22). Now, as Israel was tested for forty years in the wilderness, Jesus is led into the desert to be tested for forty days and nights (see Exodus 15:25).

He faces the temptations put to Israel: Hungry, He's tempted to grumble against God for food (see Exodus 16:1-13). As Israel quarrelled at Massah, He's tempted to doubt God's care (see Exodus 17:1-6). When the Devil asks for His homage, He's tempted to do what Israel did in creating the golden calf (see Exodus 32).

Jesus fights the Devil with the Word of God, three times quoting from Moses' lecture about the lessons Israel was supposed to learn from its wilderness wanderings (see Deuteronomy 8:3; 6:16, 12-15).

Why do we read this story on the first Sunday of Lent? Because like the biblical sign of forty (see Genesis 7:12; Exodus 24:18; 34:28; 1 Kings 19:8; Jonah 3:4), the forty days of Lent are a time of trial and purification.

Lent is to teach us what we hear over and over in today's readings. "Call upon me, and I will answer," the Lord promises in today's Psalm. Paul promises the same thing in today's Epistle (quoting Deuteronomy 30:14; Isaiah 28:16; Joel 2:32).

This was Israel's experience, as Moses reminds his people in today's First Reading: "We cried to the Lord . . . and He heard." But each of us is tempted, as Israel was, to forget the great deeds He works in our lives, to neglect our birthright as His beloved sons and daughters.

Like the litany of remembrance Moses prescribes for Israel, we should see in the Mass a memorial of our salvation, and "bow down in His presence," offering ourselves in thanksgiving for all He has given us.