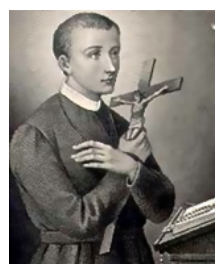


ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH - Parish Priest: Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Parish Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au
Website: www.stgerards.org.au Facebook: facebook.com/saintgerardparish
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"*

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C) Laetare Sunday — Sunday, 27th March 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading - Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you." The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel Reading - Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. "This man" they said "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he spoke this parable to them: "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. "When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. "While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. "Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." "The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Communion Antiphon: You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, March 28 to Saturday, April 2, 2022 (Year C)

Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent - March 28th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: As for me, I trust in the Lord. Let me be glad and rejoice in Your mercy, for You have seen my affliction.

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

Gospel Acclamation: *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* Seek good and not evil so that you may live, and the Lord will be with you. *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Communion Antiphon: I will place My spirit within you and make you walk according to My laws; and My judgements you shall keep and observe, says the Lord.

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent - March 29th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: All who are thirsty, come to the waters, says the Lord. Though you have no money, come and drink with joy.

Responsorial Psalm: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

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

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.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent - March 30th, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: I pray to You, O Lord, for a time of Your favour. In Your great mercy, answer me, O God, with Your salvation that never fails.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation: *Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in Me will not die for ever. *Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Communion Antiphon: God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent - March 31st, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and His strength; constantly seek His face.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, remember us for the love You bear Your people.

Gospel Acclamation: *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!* God loved the world so much, He gave us His only Son, that all who believe in Him might have eternal life. *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Communion Antiphon: I will place my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people, says the Lord.

Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent - April 1st, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O God, save me by Your name; by Your power, defend my cause. O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is near to broken hearts.

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!*

Communion Antiphon: In Christ, we have redemption by His Blood, and forgiveness of our sins, in accord with the riches of His grace.

Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent - April 2nd, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: The waves of death rose about me; the pains of the netherworld surrounded me. In my anguish I called to the Lord, and from His holy temple He heard my voice.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, my God, I take shelter in You.

Gospel Acclamation: *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!* Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. *Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Communion Antiphon: By the precious Blood of Christ, the Blood of a spotless and unblemished Lamb, we have been redeemed.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 26, 2022 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass 5:30pm Chetwynd Dewasurenda
(Remembrance)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, March 27 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass 8:30am Antonietta, Carmela & Sabatino Tucci
(Remembrance)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - Baptism Welcome Rite &
Congratulations; Leonardo Karlo Buhac,
Callie Cruz Casequin and
Diego Romeo Diaz

12:00pm Baptism Congratulations to
Matteo Robert Mazzotta

Mass 5:30pm The Sacred Heart of Jesus

Monday, March 28

Mass 9:15am Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, March 29

Mass 9:15am Denise Pélicier
(Anniversary of Death)
and Bruna Lucchini
(40 day Anniversary of Death)

Wednesday, March 30 - Fr. Shanthaiah's Birthday

Mass 9:15am Liah Clark - For her conversion &
Healing & blessings on her birthday

After Mass Novena - Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Thursday, March 31

Mass 9:15am

Friday, April 1 - (Last Adoration until after Easter)

9:15am Jeff & Alizarin Zaher
(Thanksgiving - 20th Wedding
Anniversary)

Adoration after morning Mass until 3pm.

6:30pm Stations of the Cross & 7:00pm Mass

Saturday, April 2

Mass 9:15am Max & Ghislaine Donat - Birthday
Thanksgiving and for the soul of
Michele Martin

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, Angelo Sciacca, Doreen Oliver, Antonette Vettivelu, Claris, Suzette Savrimoothoo, Kathleen James, Marie Blandin de Chalain, Melvina Extross, Clita Martinelli, Lalitha Kurup, Sakis Dip, Alessandro Zaia, David Giacotto

The recently deceased: Simone Valadon, Cynthia Woods, Italo De Paulis, George Hobkirk

Anniversaries and Remembrances: Giuseppina Virgulto, Cyril Rozario, Bruna Lucchini

Reading Roster

April

Sat. 2nd	5:30pm	J. D'Souza
Sun. 3rd	8:30am	G. Markezic
	10:30am	D. Naidoo, Sr
	5:30pm	A. Miranda

April

Sat. 9th	5:30pm	P. Kroon
Sun. 10th	8:30am	G. DosRemedios
	10:30am	A. Pacifique
	5:30pm	M. Yallapa

Church Cleaning

Saturday 2nd April, 2022

Q. Roland, X. Fernando, T. Bui

Saturday 9th April, 2022

Knights of the Southern Cross

Evening of Reconciliation

In preparation for Easter, on Wednesday, 6th April, there will be an evening held in St. Gerard's whereby confessions will be heard from 6:30pm until 8:00pm. There will be six priests available during this evening.

Novena and Adoration

Each Wednesday, after the 9:15am Mass, you are invited to pray the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. This Friday, 1st April, will be the last day for Adoration. It will commence after the 9:15am Mass until 3:00pm. Adoration will conclude on 1st April and recommence after Easter. Together, praying the Novena, with Adoration and, praying privately, we can pray for peace between Russia and the Ukraine and pray for everyone affected by natural disasters especially for those in QLD and NSW.

“Shakespeare and Catholicism” with Angela Schumann

You are invited 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

Flood Appeal - Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The floods in Queensland and New South Wales are having a devastating effect on the people living in these regions of Australia. For those wishing to support the long-term recovery work to be undertaken by St. Vincent de Paul Society in Qld and NSW, financial donations can be made either directly to either state through: www.vinnies.org.au - Flood appeal - St. Vincent de Paul Society - Good works (vinnies.org.au) or by calling Queensland 07 3010 1000 or New South Wales 02 9568 0262.

Caritas Australia - Ukraine Emergency Appeal

The people of Ukraine are living through a crisis that will impact the country for years to come. Caritas Australia has launched an appeal to support Caritas Ukraine and other partners in the region. The appeal will support the provision of clean water, hygiene and food kits to vulnerable families, as well as safe collection centres for families on the move, emergency accommodation and support for distressed children and families.

Visit - <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine> or contact 1800 024 413.

Bus Drivers Wanted

Emerson School is looking for part time bus drivers. Emerson is a P-12 Specialist School situated at 1430 Heatherton Road, Dandenong. Please call Jenny La'Brooy on 9791 8900 for more information.

St. Gerard's Working Bee - Saturday 9th April, 2022

The St. Gerard's working bee will be held on Saturday, 9th April commencing after the 9:15am Mass until 12pm. We would appreciate as many volunteers as possible to assist us on this day. We thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

Found Alive Again: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fourth Sunday of Lent

In today's First Reading, God forgives “the reproach” of the generations who grumbled against Him after the Exodus. On the threshold of the promised land, Israel can with a clean heart celebrate the Passover, the feast of God's firstborn son (see Joshua 5:6–7; Exodus 4:22; 12:12–13).

Reconciliation is also at the heart of the story Jesus tells in today's Gospel. The story of the Prodigal Son is the story of Israel and of the human race. But it is also the story of every believer.

In Baptism, we're given a divine birthright, made “a new creation,” as Paul puts it in today's Epistle. But when we sin, we're like the Prodigal Son, quitting our Father's house, squandering our inheritance in trying to live without Him.

Lost in sin, we cut ourselves off from the grace of sonship lavished upon us in Baptism. It is still possible for us to come to our senses, make our way back to the Father, as the prodigal does.

But only He can remove the reproach and restore the divine sonship we have spurned. Only He can free us from the slavery to sin that causes us—like the Prodigal Son—to see God not as our Father but as our master, One we serve as slaves.

God wants not slaves but children. Like the father in today's Gospel, He longs to call each of us “My son,” to share His life with us, to tell us: “Everything I have is yours.”

The Father's words of longing and compassion still come to His prodigal children in the Sacrament of Penance. This is part of what Paul today calls “the ministry of reconciliation” entrusted by Jesus to the Apostles and the Church.

Reconciled like Israel, we take our place at the table of the Eucharist, the homecoming banquet the Father calls for His lost sons, the new Passover we celebrate this side of heaven. We taste the goodness of the Lord, as we sing in today's Psalm, rejoicing that we who were dead are found alive again.