

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAI AH MARNENI

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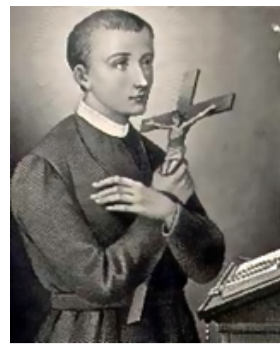
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses

Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

Confession: Tuesday-Saturday 8:20am-8:50am also Saturday after Mass until 10:30am

Principal of St. Gerard's Catholic School: Mr. Paul Cowan School Phone: 9791 7553



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/>

The Nativity of the Lord - Readings for Saturday, December 24th, 2022

Masses - 5:30pm, 9:30pm & Midnight Mass

Entrance Antiphon: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

First Reading - Isaiah 9: 1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

Responsorial Psalm: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Second Reading - Titus 2: 11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Gospel - Luke 2: 1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Communion Antiphon: The Word became flesh, and we have seen His glory.

The Nativity of the Lord - Readings During Christmas Day,
Sunday, 25th December, 2022 - Mass at 8:30am & 10:30am

Entrance Antiphon: A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; His sceptre of power rests upon His shoulder, and His name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

First Reading - Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Second Reading - Hebrews 1: 1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: *You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me.* Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. **Alleluia!**

Gospel - John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Communion Antiphon: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, December 26, to Saturday, December 31, 2022 (Year A)

Monday, December 26 - Saint Stephen

Entrance Antiphon: The gates of heaven were opened for blessed Stephen, who was found to be first among the number of the Martyrs and therefore is crowned triumphant in heaven.

Responsorial Psalm: Into Your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord God shines upon us. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: As they were stoning Stephen, he called out: Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

Tuesday, December 27 - Saint John

Entrance Antiphon: This is John, who reclined on the Lord's breast at supper, the blessed Apostle, to whom celestial secrets were revealed and who spread the words of life through all the world.

Responsorial Psalm: Let the just rejoice in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* You are God: we praise You; You are the Lord: we acclaim You; the glorious company of apostles praise You. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and from His fullness we have all received.

Wednesday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents

Entrance Antiphon: The innocents were slaughtered as infants for Christ; spotless, they follow the Lamb and sing for ever: Glory to You, O Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* You are God, we praise You; You are the Lord: we acclaim You; the white-robed army of martyrs praise You. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Behold, those redeemed as the first fruits of the human race for God and the Lamb, and who follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

Thursday, December 29 - Fifth day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon: God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son so that all who believe in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

Responsorial Psalm: Let heaven and earth exult in joy!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* This is the light of revelation to the nations and the glory of Your people, Israel. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

Friday, December 30 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Entrance Antiphon: The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; and the fullness of His message live within you. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Saturday, December 31 - Seventh day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon: A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; His sceptre of power rests upon His shoulder, and His name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Responsorial Psalm: Let heaven and earth exult in joy!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted Him to become the children of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through Him.

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Mass 9:15am Lourdunathan (*Anniversary of Death*)
and Domenico Lidonnici (*Anniv. of Death*)
Mass 5:30pm Christmas Eve Family Mass
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community
Mass 9:30pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
Mass 11:30pm Carols
Mass 12:00pm Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Mass 8:30am Francesca Timpanaro (*Recently Decased*)
Mass 10:30am Pierre Michel (*Birthday Remembrance*)

No evening Mass Christmas Day

Monday, 26th December - Saint Stephen

Mass 9:15am For deceased souls & their families
and Eva & Duro Jozicic (*Remembrance*)

Tuesday, 27th December - Saint John

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving - Ioane & Savelio Families
and Eva & Michael Cerovski (*Remembrance*)

Wednesday, 28th December - The Holy Innocents

Mass 9:15am Pasquale Isabella
(*1st Anniversary of Death*)
and Xavier & Shanthi Fernando-*Thanksgiving*
Mass for their Wedding Anniversary

Thursday, 29th December

Mass 9:15am Frank Mark Imbrogno (*Birthday Rem.*)
and Antonette Vettivelu (*For her Soul*)

Friday, 30th December (Adoration to recommence Feb.1st)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity
and Ana & Michael Glavacevic
(*Remembrance*)

Saturday, 31st December

Mass 9:15am Souls of the Toeta Family
and Thanksgiving Mass from the Family of
Zvonko Glavacevic
Mass 5:30pm Thanksgiving Mass
Please Note: Maronite Mass moved to Sunday

Sunday, 1st January, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Mass 8:30am Prayers for Alfio & Tomaselli Family
Mass 10:30am Thanksgiving and Protection of the
family for the New Year
Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Masses at St. Gerard's

Maronite Mass - Every Saturday at 7:00pm

Tamil Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month at 3.30pm

French Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month. Rosary at 2.45pm and Mass at 3.30pm.

Please remember to pray for...

Our sick: Denzil & Mary Considine, Steven Dickson, Jerome Santiago, Brian Edwards, Peter Shaw Dennis, Allan Welsh, Carl De Rozario, Doreen Oliver, Kathleen James, Marie Blandin de Chalain, Clita Martinelli, Lalitha Kurup, Alessandro Zaia, David Giacotto, Mila, Steven Dickson, Sarah Cleary, Monica Kelly, Anne Moorthy, Mayelin Do Santos, Jessie Sequeira, Reed Cowl, Patricia Slattery, Sandy Hayman, Anna Pradel, Giovanna & Giuseppe Campasso, Maria Perez, Marie Teycheney, Rita Kaczkowski, Flavia Petrucci, Josie Surace, Julia, Claris Sebastianpillai, Gertrude Baldsing, Pina Lidonnici, Dolly Azzopardi, Annie Gatt, Caterina Giammarino, Katie Kronfeld, Leon, Isabella, Louis Jean-Pierre, Jeanne Joseph, Jennifer Hidge

The recently deceased: Rev. Fr. Joseph Hynan, Sarkis Dib, James (Ji) Imbrogno, Bromley De Souza, Fr. Noel Rebello, Idilio Menegatti

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Domenico Lidonnici, Frank Mark Imbrogno, Raymond Arthur

Reading Roster

Saturday, December 24

9:15am M. Lourdunathan
5:30pm A. Pacifique (Reader 1)
Children (Reader 2)
9:30pm B. Collins
Midnight I. Mulipola (Reader 1)
B. Edwards (Reader 2)

Sunday, December 25

8:30am G. DosRemedios
(Reader 1)
G. Van Hees (Reader 2)
10:30am J. Abraham

Saturday, December 31

5:30pm D. Franklin
Sunday, January 1, 2023
8:30am G. Markezic
10:30am S. Moses
5:30pm A. Miranda

2023 Roster available for collection in Sacristy

Church Cleaning

Saturday, 31 December - Legion of Mary
Sunday, 7th January - Gonsalves Family,
M. Ferdinands, L. Harper

The Parish office will be closed from Friday, December 23rd, 2022 and will re-open Monday, January 9th, 2023.

The staff and I wish to thank you all for your support and kindness throughout the year. Wishing you all every blessing at Christmas and for a safe, happy and healthy New Year. May God bless you all.

- Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni, Parish Priest