

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

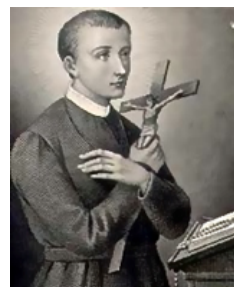
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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 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"*

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God - January 1st, 2023 (Year A)

Entrance Antiphon: Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace." This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Responsorial Psalm: May God bless us in His mercy.

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets, now He speaks to us through His Son. *Alleluia!*

Gospel: Luke 2: 16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told. When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

Communion Antiphon: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever.

Happy Feast day to all our Mothers.

We pray to our Mother Mary to intercede for all the mothers in the world. We ask especially for her love and care to comfort mothers who have lost a child in their lifetime.

May all the mothers be protected by the Holy Family. Amen.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

The 2023 Reading Roster and Church Cleaning rosters have been prepared. You may collect a copy from the sacristy or please email the office and a copy will be sent to you directly.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

Are you a young adult aged 18-35 years old? Join other Catholic young adults and become *Alive Again* at Summer School of Evangelisation Melbourne, a week-long retreat led by prayer, fellowship, praise & worship, catechesis and sacraments. There's no better way to start the year than on a retreat spent with the Lord. Jan 15-22, 2023. Early bird rates now available. Register @ ssemelbourne.org.au or follow us on Facebook & Instagram @ssemelbourne for more information and updates.

The Word Took Our Nature from Mary

The Apostle tells us: *The Word took to himself the sons of Abraham, and so had to be like his brothers in all things.* He had then to take a body like ours. This explains the fact of Mary's presence: she is to provide him with a body of his own, to be offered for our sake. Scripture records her giving birth, and says: *She wrapped him in swaddling clothes.* Her breasts, which fed him, were called blessed. Sacrifice was offered because the child was her firstborn. Gabriel used careful and prudent language when he announced his birth. He did not speak of "what will be born *in you*" to avoid the impression that a body would be introduced into her womb from outside; he spoke of "what will be born *from you*" so that we might know by faith that her child originated within her and from her. By taking our nature and offering it in sacrifice, the Word was to destroy it completely and then invest it with his own nature, and so prompt the Apostle to say: *This corruptible body must put on incorruption; this mortal body must put on immortality.*



This was not done in outward show only, as some have imagined. This is not so. Our Saviour truly became man, and from this has followed the salvation of man as a whole. Our salvation is in no way fictitious, nor does it apply only to the body. The salvation of the whole man, that is, of soul and body, has really been achieved in the Word himself.

What was born of Mary was therefore human by nature, in accordance with the inspired Scriptures, and the body of the Lord was a true body: It was a true body because it was the same as ours. Mary, you see, is our sister, for we are all born from Adam.

The words of Saint John: *The Word was made flesh*, bear the same meaning, as we may see from a similar turn of phrase in Saint Paul: *Christ was made a curse for our sake.* Man's body has acquired something great through its communion and union with the Word. From being mortal it has been made immortal; though it was a living body it has become a spiritual one; though it was made from the earth it has passed through the gates of heaven.

Even when the Word takes a body from Mary, the Trinity remains a Trinity, with neither increase nor decrease. It is for ever perfect. In the Trinity we acknowledge one Godhead, and thus one God, the Father of the Word, is proclaimed in the Church. —Excerpted from a letter by St. Athanasius

Vale Father Joseph Patrick Hynan PE (March 11, 1935 - December 14, 2022)

It was with great sadness that we announced the news of the passing of Father Joseph Hynan, the fourth parish priest of St Gerard's Parish Dandenong North (1974-1986), a few months shy of 87 years of age. Born in Ireland, and ordained to the priesthood on June 11, 1960, Fr. Hynan would become St Gerard's second longest serving Parish Priest at 12 years, behind Fr William Van Kooy. Fr. Hynan contributed much in the life of St Gerard's during his time, supporting the many parish groups, and tending to the needs of his many parishioners. Having left the

Parish in 1986 to take up a new appointment, St Gerard's was blessed with Fr Hynan's presence in the parish from 2010 onwards in retirement, where he set up residence within the Parish, and would celebrate Masses for a new generation of St Gerard's Parishioners. His health declined over the past few years, which required him to move into supervised aged care in 2018.

A Pontifical Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Gerard's on 22nd December, 2022. Archbishop Peter presided over together with Bishops and Priests concelebrating. Bishop Les Tomlinson provided a great tribute to Fr. Joe with his eulogy, giving an even deeper insight to whom Fr. Joe was and how much he meant to so many people.

Fr. Joe Hynan leaves a great legacy at St Gerard's, and he will be missed. Requiescat In Pace.



MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday, 31st December, 2022

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Monday, January 2nd - Saints Basil & Gregory

Mass 9:15am Nadia Harcon (*Remembrance*)

Tuesday, January 3rd

Mass 9:15am Prayers for Alfio & Tomaselli Family
and Nadesan Moorthy (*For her soul*)

Wednesday, January 4th

Mass 9:15am Joseph Early (*Remembrance*)

Thursday, January 5th

Mass 9:15am Marc Mantel (*Anniversary of Death*)
and Victor Jayamaha (*For the soul of*)

Friday, January 6th - NO Adoration (To resume Feb.1st)

Mass 9:15am Vicki Harrison (*Remembrance*)

Saturday, January 7th

Mass 9:15am Jacinto & Natalia Gallenero and Adriano,
Paula and Gregoria (*For their souls*)

Saturday, January 7th - The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, January 8th - The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass 8:30am David Scanlon (*Anniversary of Death*)

Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish

12:00pm *Baptism congratulations and welcome to :*
Coen Michael Rana & Jerome Sukh Kamboj
& Luna Alice Eggington

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Masses at St. Gerard's

Maronite Mass - Every Saturday at 7:00pm (On Sunday only for 1st January, 2023)

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 Crawl, 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, Frank Hewitt

The recently deceased: Rev. Fr. Joseph Hynan, Sarkis Dib, Bromley De Souza, Fr. Noel Rebello

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Frank Mark Imbrogno

Reading Roster

Saturday, January 7

5:30pm B. Collins

Sunday, January 8

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Abraham

Saturday, January 14

5:30pm A. Miranda

Sunday, January 15

8:30am R. Noble

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Church Cleaning

Saturday, 7 January

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands, L. Harper

Saturday, 14 January

Kronfeld Family

Office Hours

The office will re-open Monday, 9th January. However, the office will be closed on Friday, 13th and Tuesday, 17th January.

Confession

Confession is heard Tuesday to Saturday from 8:20am to 8:50am including after the Mass on Saturday until 10:30am.

Adoration

Adoration will not be held for the rest of the month and will re-commence on Friday, 1st February, 2023.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, January 2, to Saturday, January 7, 2023 (Year A)

Monday before the Epiphany - January 2 - Saints Basil & Gregory

Entrance Antiphon: Let the peoples recount the wisdom of the Saints, and let the Church proclaim their praise. Their names will live on and on.

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

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now He speaks to us through His Son. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: We proclaim Christ crucified; Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Tuesday before the Epiphany - January 3

Entrance Antiphon: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord: The Lord is God and has given us light.

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

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: Because of that great love of His with which God loved us, He sent His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh.

Wednesday before the Epiphany - January 4

Entrance Antiphon: A people who walked in darkness has seen a great light; for those dwelling in a land of deep gloom, a light has shone.

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

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now He speaks to us through His Son. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: That life which was with the Father became visible, and has appeared to us.

Thursday before the Epiphany - January 5

Entrance Antiphon: In the beginning and before all ages, the Word was God and He humbled Himself to be born the Saviour of the world.

Responsorial Psalm: Let all the earth cry out to God with Joy.

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!*

Communion 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.

Friday before the Epiphany - January 6

Entrance Antiphon: A light has risen in the darkness for the upright of heart; the Lord is generous, merciful and just.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is My beloved Son, hear Him. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: By this the love of God was revealed to us: God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through Him.

Saturday before the Epiphany - January 7

Entrance Antiphon: God sent His Son, born of a woman, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord takes delight in His people.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited His people. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: From His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.