

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

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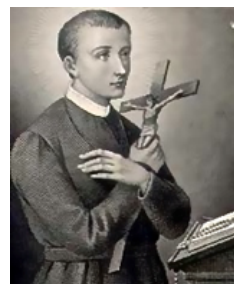
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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 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"*

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 14/15, 2023 (Year A)

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

First Reading - Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm: Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

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!***

Gospel - John 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Please Note: The Church will be closed for private prayer straight after the Mass on Monday, 16th January and Tuesday, 17th January. The Parish office will be closed on Tuesday 17th January and will re-open at 11am Wednesday, 18th January.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Piety Stall - Purchase of Candles for Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord will be on Thursday, 2nd February. In preparation, you may purchase candles from the piety stall every Sunday from now until 29th January, as the piety stall will not be open on the day of Thursday, 2nd February. Please purchase your candles as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

St. Luke's Catholic Parish Youth Retreat

A Youth Retreat will be hosted by St. Luke's parish, 1 Ipswich Crt, Wantirna, from January 20 to January 22, from 9am to 6pm for youth aged 15 years and over. Individual entry is \$20 or group \$15. For more details contact Sr. Rosa on 0420 532 117 or Dominic on 0439 395 776.

The family of Frank Hewitt would like to extend an invitation to our parishioners to attend his funeral service to be held at St. Elizabeth's Church on Monday, 16th January, 2023 at 12pm. May he rest in peace.

Letter from Archbishop Peter Announcing the Death of Cardinal Pell

"Earlier today, I heard the sad news of the death of Cardinal George Pell, overnight from heart complications following hip surgery in Rome.

Cardinal Pell was a very significant and influential Church leader, both in Australia and internationally, deeply committed to Christian discipleship. The seventh Archbishop of Melbourne, he led the local Church of Melbourne from 1996 to 2001 with strong leadership in the Catholic faith and with good governance, before being transferred to Sydney and then to Rome.

At this time, let our prayers go out to the God of Jesus Christ, whom Cardinal Pell wholeheartedly believed in and followed, that he may be welcomed into eternal life.

Our prayers of comfort and condolence are also with his family, and we unite with all the people of God in Melbourne in praying for the repose of his soul.

May eternal light shine upon him, and may he now rest in peace and rise to glory in the Lord."

Perfect Offering: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus speaks through the prophet Isaiah in today's First Reading.

He tells us of the mission given to Him by the Father from the womb:

"'You are My servant,' He said to Me."

Servant and Son, our Lord was sent to lead a new exodus—to raise up the exiled tribes of Israel, to gather and restore them to God. More than that, He was to be a light to the nations, that God's salvation may reach to the ends of the earth (see Acts 13:46–47).

Before the first exodus, a lamb was offered in sacrifice and its blood painted on the Israelites' door posts. The blood of the lamb identified their homes and the Lord "passed over" these in executing judgment on the Egyptians (see Exodus 12:1–23, 27).

In the new exodus, Jesus is the "Lamb of God," as John beholds Him in the Gospel today (see 1 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 1:18–19). Our Lord sings of this in today's Psalm. He has come, He says, to offer His body to do the will of God (see Hebrews 10:3–13).

The sacrifices, oblations, holocausts, and sin-offerings given after the first exodus had no power to take away sins (see Hebrews 10:4). They were meant not to save but to teach (see Galatians 3:24). In offering these sacrifices, the people were to learn self-sacrifice—that they were made for worship, to offer themselves freely to God and to delight in His will.

Only Jesus could make that perfect offering of Himself. And through His sacrifice, He has given us ears open to obedience and made it possible for us to hear the Father's call to holiness, as Paul says in today's Epistle.

He has made us children of God, baptised in the blood of the Lamb (see Revelation 7:14). And we are to join our sacrifice to His, to offer our bodies—our lives—as living sacrifices in the spiritual worship of the Mass (see Romans 12:1).

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 14 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Michael Lovett (*Repose of his Soul*)
Rita Fernando (*Remembrance*)
Claris Sebastianpillai
(86th *Birthday Thanksgiving*)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, January 15 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am For the soul of Fr. Joseph Hynan
Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish
Mass 3:30pm French Community
Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Monday, January 16

Mass 9:15am Private Intention of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, January 17 - Saint Anthony

Mass 9:15am Marina Seeruthun (*Anniversary of Death*)

Wednesday, January 18

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Thursday, January 19

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Friday, January 20 - NO Adoration (To resume Feb.3rd)

Mass 9:15am Greta Neville (for the safe delivery of her baby & for them both to be safe & healthy)

Saturday, January 21 - Saint Agnes

Mass 9:15am Anthony Denis Domingo
(*Birthday Remembrance*)

Saturday, January 21 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Mass 5:30pm Emerald & Clifford Rodrigo
(*For the repose of their souls*)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, January 22 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Pearl Harriet Perera (*Remembrance*)
Mass 10:30am Eli D'Souza (*Thanksgiving on his 4th Birthday*)

Baptism Welcome Rite blessing

Mass 5:30pm Angelo Pane (*Birthday Remembrance*)

Other 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 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, Giovanna McKercher, Luciano Cudrig, Gerard Wilson, Crystal Wilson

The recently deceased: Cardinal George Pell, Francesca Sofra, Frank Hewitt

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Malcolm and Antoinette Antony, Royston Lopez, Albert, Ruby, Rita and Stanley Thomas, Helen Watts

Reading Roster

Saturday, January 21

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, January 22

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm J. Abraham

Saturday, January 28

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, January 29

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm B. Collins

Church Cleaning

Saturday, 21 January

Q. Roland, X. Fernando, T. Bui

Saturday, 28 January

Knights of the Southern Cross

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, 3rd February, 2023.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, January 16, to Saturday, January 21, 2023 (Year A)

Monday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 16

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our hearts. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Tuesday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 17 - Saint Anthony

Entrance Antiphon: The just will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar, planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord will remember His covenant for ever.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: If you would be perfect, go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and follow Me, says the Lord.

Wednesday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 18

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Thursday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 19

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will.

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

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Friday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 20

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: Kindness and truth shall meet.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to Himself; and the Good News of reconciliation He has entrusted to us. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Saturday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time - January 21 - Saint Agnes

Entrance Antiphon: Blessed is the virgin who by denying herself and taking up her cross imitated the Lord, the spouse of virgins and prince of martyrs.

Responsorial Psalm: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of Your Son. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lamb who is at the centre of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.