

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAI AH 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

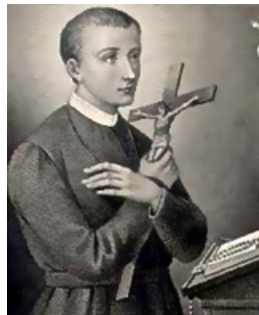
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

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"

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 4/5, 2023 (Year A)

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

First Reading - Isaiah 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and do not turn from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows Me will have the light of life. *Alleluia!*

Gospel - Matthew 5: 13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

State School Children Sacramental Program - Enrolment

Enrolments for the State School Sacramental Program are now open. The final day for enrolment will be on Wednesday, 8th February, from 4:00pm to 4:30pm in the Church foyer. Classes will commence on Tuesday, 14th February. Any queries, please contact the office on 9792 4422 or email dandenongnorth@cam.org.au.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Matthew Kennedy currently plays football for Carlton in the AFL. He has an inspiring story about the ups and downs of life in the AFL and the importance of faith and family. This will be a great evening for the whole family. He will be joined by his friend Fr Brendan Lane, parish priest of St Mary's Dandenong. Kids welcome (but must be accompanied by parents). Matthew has generously offered to autograph any footballs, jumpers (any club!), etc. on the night. There will also be a Carlton jumper signed by the team auctioned off on the night. Topic: Faith, Family and Football. Date: Wednesday 15th February. Time: 6.30pm for a meal, 7.30pm for the talk. Venue: Matthew Flinders Hotel, 667 Warrigal Rd, Chadstone. 'Longitude Room'. Cost: Free, however, places are limited so please [register](#) to avoid disappointment and to hear about future events. Meals and drinks available for purchase from the main bistro area. RSVP: GodandBeer.com.au. Contact: John Smyth - itsmyth@gmail.com - 0406 747 123.

God's Word 2023 diaries are now on sale for \$16.00. This book helps you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word. It has daily readings, a short reflection and space to write your own thoughts. Columbian Calendars are now on sale for \$6.00 (Sale items - whilst stocks last). The piety stall is open over the weekend.

Altar Server Training

Altar Server training will resume on Thursday, 16th February, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the Church. Please call Ron Maroun on 0412 212 287 should you have any further queries. Thank you.

Junior Legion of Mary

The Junior Legion of Mary will resume their meetings on Monday, 13th February. Please email the Parish office to register your child's details at dandenongnorth@cam.org.au or please call 9792 4422. We look forward to welcoming more members to this group.

Next weekend is the Pastoral Care Appeal in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Each year a special collection is conducted in all parishes, so that the vital work of the Catholic Chaplains can continue. The Chaplains support thousands of Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and youth justice centres. Your gift can help people find comfort and hope as they go through some of their darkest times of their life. We thank you in anticipation of your generosity. You can donate using the envelopes in the foyer of the Church or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call 9287 5513.

Light Breaking Forth: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus came among us as light to scatter the darkness of a fallen world.

As His disciples, we too are called to be "the light of the world," He tells us in the Gospel this Sunday (see John 1:4-4, 9; 8:12; 9:5). All three images that Jesus uses to describe the Church are associated with the identity and vocation of Israel.

God forever aligned His kingdom with the kingdom of David and his sons by a "covenant of salt," salt being a sign of permanence and purity (see 2 Chronicles 13:5, 8; Leviticus 2:13; Ezekiel 43:24).

Jerusalem was to be a city set on a hill, high above all others, drawing all nations toward the glorious light streaming from her Temple (see Isaiah 2:2; 60:1-3).

And Israel was given the mission of being a light to the nations, that God's salvation would reach to the ends of the earth (see Isaiah 42:6; 49:6). The liturgy shows us this week that the Church, and every Christian, is called to fulfill Israel's mission. By our faith and good works we are to make the light of God's life break forth in the darkness, as we sing in this week's Psalm.

This week's readings remind us that our faith can never be a private affair, something we can hide as if under a basket. We are to pour ourselves out for the afflicted, as Isaiah tells us in the First Reading. Our light must shine as a ray of God's mercy for all who are poor, hungry, naked, and enslaved.

There must be a transparent quality to our lives. Our friends and family, our neighbours and fellow citizens, should see reflected in us the light of Christ and through us be attracted to the saving truths of the Gospel.

So let us pray that we, like St. Paul in the Epistle, might proclaim with our whole lives

"Christ, and Him crucified."

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 4 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Mass 5:30pm Michael Lovett (*Repose of his soul*)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, February 5 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Victor Jayamaha (*Remembrance*)

Mass 10:30am Peter Shannahan

(*25th Anniversary of Death*)

and Abbondio Quaini (*Recently Deceased*)

12:00pm *Congratulations to the children to be baptised & their families:*

Luna Eggington and Ezekiel Guterres

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Monday, February 6 - Saints Paul Miki & Companions

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving Mass for Joseph's Family

Tuesday, February 7

Mass 9:15am Maria Natércia Henriques & Carlos Afonso Henriques
(*Remembrance*)

Wednesday, February 8

Mass 9:15am Roseamma Francis (*First Anniversary of Death - Repose of her soul*)

Thursday, February 9

Mass 9:15am Emma Jones (*Recovery from illness*)

Friday, February 10 - Saint Scholastica - NO Adoration

Mass 9:15am Emma Jones (*Recovery from illness*)

Saturday, February 11

Mass 9:15am Malcolm Farquharson (*Remembrance*)

Saturday, February 11 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Mass 5:30pm Emma Jones (*Recovery from illness*)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, February 12 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Kevin Soares (*Repose of his soul*)

Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 12pm -5pm Tamil Community

(*Feast of the Infant Jesus*)

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

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, 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, Frances DosRemedios

The recently deceased: Otilia Taofi Amato, Fiorentina Sansone, Noreen Dicque, Donato Rosella, Abbondio Quaini, Fr. Reddy Joseph (MSFS), Arul Mary, Thomas Geoghegan

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Malcolm Antony, Antoinette, Antony and Royston Lopez, Peter Shannahan, Giuseppe and Melania Broglio, Bruno Broglio, Remo Vener, Raffaellina Marrota,

Reading Roster

Saturday, February 11

5:30pm P. Kroon

Sunday, February 12

8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Abraham

Saturday, February 18

5:30pm A. Miranda

Sunday, February 19

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am D. Naidoo, Sn

5:30pm J. Panicker

Church Cleaning

Saturday, 11 February

Moses Family, Vincent, Mary, Rebecca

Saturday, 18 February

Legion of Mary

Confession

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

Church Open Hours

The Church will be locked each weekday at 2:30pm.

On the weekend, the Church will be open at 8:30am and locked after the 5:30pm Mass, Saturday & Sunday.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, February 6, to Saturday, February 11, 2023 (Year A)

Monday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 6 - Saint Paul Miki & Companions

Entrance Antiphon: The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of Him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: May the Lord be glad in His works.

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

Communion Antiphon: It is you who have stood by Me in My trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom.

Tuesday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 7

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: O Lord, our God, how wonderful Your name in all the earth!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Turn my heart to do Your will; teach me Your law, O God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Wednesday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 8

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Bless the Lord, my soul!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Thursday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 9

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Receive and submit to the word planted in you; it can save your souls. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Friday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 10 - Saint Scholastica

Entrance Antiphon: I despised the kingdom of the world and all worldly finery for love of my Lord, Jesus Christ, whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, in whom has been my delight.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

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

Communion Antiphon: One thing is necessary: she has chosen the better part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Saturday of the 5th Week in Ordinary Time - February 11

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: In every age, O Lord, You have been our refuge.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.