

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

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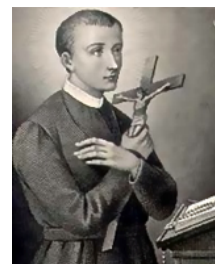
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses

Office: Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 2.30pm

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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 of Easter - Readings for Mass (Year A) - May 7, 2023

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord, for He has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations He has shown His deliverance, alleluia.

### **First Reading - Acts 6:1-7**

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

### **Second Reading - 1 Peter 2: 4-9**

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through Me. *Alleluia!*

### **Gospel Reading - John 14:1-12**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?' 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in Me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**Please Note:** Each weekend for the entire month of May, we will be counting the number of people in attendance at Mass. The results are then sent to the Melbourne Archdiocese for their records. Thank you.

## Daily Antiphons - Monday, May 8 to Saturday, May 13, 2023 (Year A)

### Monday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 8th

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down His life for His sheep and willingly died for His flock, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Not to us, O Lord, but to Your name give the glory.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and remind you of all I have said to you. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

### Tuesday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 9th

**Entrance Antiphon:** Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of His Christ, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your friends tell the glory of Your kingship, Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead, and so enter into His glory. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia.

### Wednesday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 10th

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let my mouth be filled with Your praise, that I may sing aloud; my lips shall shout for joy, when I sing to You, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Live in Me and let Me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord has risen and shone His light upon us, whom He has redeemed by His Blood, alleluia.

### Thursday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 11th

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let us sing to the Lord, for He has gloriously triumphed. The Lord is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Proclaim His marvellous deeds to all the nations.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* My sheep listen to My voice, says the Lord, I know them, and they follow Me. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Christ died for all, that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and is risen, alleluia.

### Friday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 12th

**Entrance Antiphon:** Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise You among the nations, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* I call you My friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told Me. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** The Crucified is risen from the dead and has redeemed us, alleluia.

### Saturday of the Fifth week of Easter - May 13th

**Entrance Antiphon:** You have been buried with Christ in Baptism, through which You also rose again by faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead, alleluia.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Father, I pray for them, that they may be one in us, so that the world may believe it was You who sent Me, says the Lord, alleluia.

## MASS and INTENTIONS

### Saturday, May 6, Vigil - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Thanksgiving Mass for  
Joseph Rodrigues & Family  
*and* Thanksgiving Mass for Jonathan Francis  
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, May 7 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Jonathon Thornton (*1st Death Anniversary*)  
Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish  
12:00pm Baptism congratulations to :  
*Nova Loncaric, Hunter Van Buuren,  
Zara Wickramasinghe, and their Families*

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

### Monday, May 8

Mass 9:15am For the Holy Souls

### Tuesday, May 9

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

### Wednesday, May 10

Mass 9:15am For the abandoned souls

### Thursday, May 11

Mass 9:15am Malcolm Farquharson (*Remembrance*)  
*and* Birthday Thanksgiving for Olivia Luis  
*and* Nihal Wijesekera (*3rd Death Anniversary*)  
*and* George & Daisy Wijesekera (*Remembrance*)

### Friday, May 12

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

### Saturday, May 13

Mass 9:15am For Cedric Lecordier for his Ordination and  
protection. From the Donat Family

### Saturday, May 13, Vigil - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Frank & Olive Anthony (*Remembrance*) and  
the Intentions of Hermione Daniells  
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, May 14 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Thanksgiving Mass to the Sacred Heart of  
Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Mass 10:30am Frank & Olive Anthony (*Remembrance*) and  
the Intentions of Hermione Daniells  
Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community  
Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

**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, Lalitha Kurup, Alessandro  
Zaia, David Giacotto, Mila, Steven  
Dickson, Sarah Cleary, Monica  
Kelly, Anne Moorthy, Mayelin Do  
Santos, Reed Crowl, 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, Leon, Isabella, Louis  
Jean-Pierre, Jeanne Joseph, Jennifer  
Hidge, Giovanna McKercher,  
Luciano Cudrig, Gerard Wilson,  
Crystal Wilson, Frances & Lovett  
DosRemedios, Charlie Cassar,  
Debbie Juchno, Vaz Godwin, Tyron  
Francisco, Vincent Newton,  
Heather Fernandez

**\*\*Please advise the Parish Office the  
names you wish to remain on the  
sick list as it will be updated on  
26.05.23\*\***

**The recently deceased:** Evelyn  
Ginger

**Anniversaries/Remembrances:**  
Olive Anthony

### Church Cleaning

**Saturday, May 13**

S. Jose, Linda & Family

**Saturday, May 20**

Moses Family, Vincent, Mary &  
Rebecca

### Reading Roster

**Saturday, May 13 - Vigil Mass**

5:30pm C. Fernando

**Sunday, May 14**

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am D. Naidoo, Snr.

5:30pm M. Yallapa

**Saturday, May 20 - Vigil Mass**

5:30pm P. Kroon

**Sunday, May 21**

8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Panicker

## PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION



### Congratulations to Confirmands - Saturday, May 13, 5:30pm Vigil Mass

We ask you to please pray for and congratulate the following children whom will be confirmed on Saturday, 13th May at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass by Bishop Anthony Ireland;

*Merin Anchani, Joshlyn Anthony, John Audy, Kevan Fernando,  
Sherhom Gamas, Isaiah Hayat, Tiffany Huynh, Jordan Jackson, Dahlia Maliko,  
Ashton Nisanthan, Jarrod Rodrigues, Raphael Rodrigues, Andrew Shaiju,  
Vincent Tran, Amy Varghese*

**Altar Server Training** will resume on Thursday, 11th May from 5:30pm until 6:30pm. Please meet in the Church. If you have any questions or enquiries, please call Ron Maroun on 0412 212 287.

### **DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?**

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. Come & See! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on Saturday 3 June 2023, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne. For more information watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0> or Watch: <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY> or Visit: <https://vocations.melbournecatholic.org/about/what-is-a-vocation/permanent-diaconate>. Brochure <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>. Contact: 03 9412 3357 / Email [diaconate@cam.org.au](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on, 28 October, 2023. During the pilgrimage many places will be visited associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. For more information, please contact [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or 02 8912 4818.

Caritas Australia would like to **Thank You** for supporting Project Compassion 2023. **Please return your project Compassion box or set of envelopes by Wednesday, 10th May** or visit [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) and donate online. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.

### **Building His House: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

By His death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in His Father's house.

His Father's house is no longer a temple made by human hands. It is the spiritual house of the Church, built on the living stone of Christ's body.

As Peter interprets the Scriptures in today's Epistle, Jesus is the "stone" destined to be rejected by men but made the precious cornerstone of God's dwelling on earth (see Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 8:14; 28:16).

Each of us is called to be a living stone in God's building (see 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16). In this edifice of the Spirit, we are to be "holy priests" offering up "spiritual sacrifices" – all our prayer, work and intentions – to God.

This is our lofty calling as Christians. This is why Christ led us out of the darkness of sin and death as Moses led the Israelites from bondage in Egypt.

God's covenant with Israel made them a royal and priestly people who were to announce His praises (see Exodus 19:6). By our faith in Christ's new covenant, we have been made heirs of this chosen race, called to glorify the Father in the temple of our bodies (see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1).

In today's First Reading, we see the spiritual house of the Church being built up as the Apostles consecrate seven deacons so they can devote themselves more fully to the "ministry of the Word."

The Lord's Word is upright and all His works trustworthy, we sing in today's Psalm. So we can trust Jesus when He tells us never to be troubled but to believe that His Word and works come from the Father.

His Word continues its work in the world through the Church. We see its beginnings today in Jerusalem. It is destined to spread with influence and power (see Acts 19:20) and to become the imperishable seed by which every heart is born anew (see 1 Peter 1:23).

