

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

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

School Phone: 9791 7553 Email: principal@sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au



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"

The Ascension of the Lord - Readings for Mass (Year A) - May 20/21, 2023

Entrance Antiphon: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw Him go, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, *Theophilus*, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

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

Second Reading - Ephesians 1: 17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Go and teach all people My gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 28: 16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Dear Parishioners,

Fr. Shanthaiah will be on annual leave from Monday, 22nd May until Saturday, 1st July. Priests have been arranged to attend to the needs of our parish during his absence. The office will be open Monday to Friday between 9am and 2:30pm during this time. Thank you.

The Adoration Chapel will officially be open to visit for private prayer from Friday, 19th May. We thank all those who contributed to, and assisted with, the refurbishment of the Chapel. Your generous support and good will is much appreciated.

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 or 02 8912 4818.

'Passion on the Big Screen - A Day @ the Movies with Peter Malone msc' (in-person event), Saturday 17 June 2023, 10 am - 3.30 pm (AEST) We often refer to Jesus as the Word made Flesh. But Colossians I proclaims Jesus as the Image of the Invisible God. Religious images have always been part of spirituality, The 20th century saw moving images emerging on screens, cinemas, television and new modes of streaming. How can we relate to these images as vision for our spiritual lives? Images, symbols, visual metaphors, Christ-figures? We appreciate Lectio Divina. Here we respond to Visio Divina, movie clips, their challenge. Facilitated by Peter Malone msc ~ author, lecturer, founding member of The Film Critics Association and priest. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost: \$60 (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 03 9890 1101.

The Good News: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Ascension of the Lord

In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and He has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies.

The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see Hebrews 4:14-15). Indeed, His intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the First Reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). The Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through Baptism.

The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord" (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.

The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" because of the light that came with God's saving grace (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32). Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divination of the believers. Their "hope" is "his inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with Him at the Father's right hand.

This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread – to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem – at the Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 20, Vigil - The Ascension of the Lord

Mass 5:30pm Stanley & Sharlane Van Twest
(*Death Anniversary & Remembrance*)
and Aurore Larue (*Death Anniversary*)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, May 21 - The Ascension of the Lord

Mass 8:30am Wayne Deabe (*10th Anniversary of Death*)

Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Luigi Nardella (*Recently Deceased*)

Monday, May 22

Mass 9:15am Mary Curic (*Remembrance*)

Tuesday, May 23

Mass 9:15am Antony Nuinous Austin
(*1st Death Anniversary*)

and Sheila White (*Death Anniversary*)

Wednesday, May 24 - Our Lady, Help of Christians

Rosary in the Church for the whole day until 4:00pm

Mass 9:15am Didier & Jasmine Donat Birthday
Thanksgiving & Wedding Anniversary

Thursday, May 25

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving for blessings -
The D'Silva Family

Friday, May 26 - St. Philip Neri

Mass 9:15am Emma Martin (*Anniversary of Death*)

Saturday, May 27

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving - The Legion of Mary's
35th Anniversary

Saturday, May 27, Vigil - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, May 28 - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 8:30am Colin Layton (*Remembrance*)

and Joe & Liz Ciseau (*Death Anniversary*)

and Pasquale Isabella (*Birthday Remembrance*)

Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 5:30pm Special Prayer Request for Ninan, Rini,
Noel, Navya & Nivin

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 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, 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, Yvonne Barnett, John Kutty, Luigi Nardella

Anniversaries/Remembrances:
Wayne Deabe

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 27

Legion of Mary

Saturday, June 3

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands
& L. Harper

Reading Roster

Saturday, May 27 - Vigil Mass

5:30pm A. Miranda

Sunday, May 28

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm J. Abraham

Saturday, June 3 - Vigil Mass

5:30pm B. Collins

Sunday, June 4

8:30am R. Noble

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm C. Fernando

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 22 to Saturday, May 27, 2023 (Year A)

Monday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 22nd

Entrance Antiphon: You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you will be My witnesses, even to the ends of the earth, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

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: I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come to you again, and your heart will rejoice, alleluia.

Tuesday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 23rd

Entrance Antiphon: I am the first and the last, I was dead and am now alive. Behold, I am alive for ever and ever, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, says the Lord, to be with you for ever. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of all I have told you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 24th - Our Lady, Help of Christians

Entrance Antiphon: Who is this arising like the dawn, fair as the moon, resplendent as the sun, terrible as an army with banners, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are you, O Blessed Virgin Mary; without dying you won the martyr's crown beside the cross of the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, by the Lord God Most High, above all women on the earth; for He has so exalted your name, that your praise shall be undying on our lips, alleluia.

Thursday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 25th

Entrance Antiphon: With boldness let us approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace as a timely help, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Keep me safe, O God; You are my hope.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* May all be one as You are, Father, and I in You; let the world believe that You sent Me, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I tell you the truth, it is for your good that I go; for if I do not go away, the Paraclete will not come to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Friday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 26th - Saint Philip Neri

Entrance Antiphon: The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has set His throne in heaven.

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: As the Father loves Me, so I also love you; remain in My love, alleluia.

Saturday of the Seventh week of Easter - May 27th

Entrance Antiphon: The disciples devoted themselves with one accord to prayer with the women, and Mary the Mother of Jesus, and His brethren, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The just will gaze on Your face, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I will send you the Spirit of truth, says the Lord; He will lead you to the whole truth. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Holy Spirit will glorify Me, for He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

