

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
Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175
Confession: Tuesday-Saturday 8:20am-8:50am & Saturday after Mass until 10:30am
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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year A) August 13, 2023

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

First Reading - 1 Kings 19: 9, 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation.

Second Reading - Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I hope in the Lord, I trust in His word. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 14: 22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Please note: Tuesday, 15th August, is the **Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation.** We will have two Masses on this day at 9:15am and 6:30pm.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

This weekend, there is a collection for Catholic Care. Please donate, as your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelopes available in the Church foyer or call 9287 5513 or at www.catholiccarevic.org.au

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church are hosting the Blessed Relics of Saints Maroun, Charbel, Neemtallah, Rafqa and Mary Mackillop at St. Gerard's Church on Saturday 19th August. They will be arriving at St. Gerard's for the 5.30pm Roman Catholic Mass, followed by a Maronite Catholic Mass at 7.00pm. All are welcome to join us. Dinner will be held at 8.30pm in the Church Hall. For more details, or to book for dinner, please contact: Fr Richard Jabour on 0420 294 742 or, Lama Haddad on 0451 207 066.

A Mass in honour of La Madonna della Montevergine will be celebrated with Fr. Aurelio Fragapane, here at St. Gerard's on Sunday, August 27th beginning at 12:30pm. All are welcome.

The 23rd annual Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund will feature guest speaker Fr Cameron Forbes (Rector of Corpus Christi College Seminary) and will be a great opportunity to meet fellow Catholics from throughout Victoria, while contributing to the education of Victoria's seminarians. To be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday, September 1. To make a donation to the Fund or to assist our seminarians, please contact Andrew Vaccaro on 0404 390 824 or email avaccaro@internode.on.net, by August 20.

This month *Aid to the Church in Need* is raising money to support Sisters in Paraguay. These Sisters not only care for the young people in Paraguay but they also support the families, visit the sick and the elderly, bring Holy Communion to those in need, give catechetical instruction and support disadvantaged with practical help and advice. To learn more and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

In our efforts to strengthen security across the parish, we wish to inform you that security cameras have now been installed inside the Church and inside the Sacristy. The cameras on the outside perimeter of the Church have been active for most of this year however, the cameras inside are installed but not yet active. They will however be activated soon. Should you have any concerns, please contact the parish office.

Enrolments for Prep (Foundation) in 2024 are now open and Parish families are our first priority for enrolments. If you have or know of a child who will be starting school next year, please call 9791 7553 to arrange a meeting and tour with the Principal Mr. Paul Cowan. The next Open Day is on Thursday, 31 August from 9.15 am – 5.00pm. Families are welcome to visit at any time on this day, there is no need for an appointment. Please visit our website <https://www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au> for more information.

Sinking Fear: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

How do we find God in the storms and struggles of our lives, in the trials we encounter in trying to do His will?

God commands Elijah in today's First Reading to stand on the mountain and await His passing by. And in the Gospel, Jesus makes the disciples set out across the waters to meet Him.

In each case, the Lord makes Himself present amid frightening tumult—
heavy winds and high waves, fire and earthquakes.

Elijah hides his face. Perhaps he remembers Moses, who met God on the same mountain, also amid fire, thunder, and smoke (see Deuteronomy 4:10–15; Exodus 19:17–19). God told Moses no one could see His face and live, and He sheltered Moses in the hollow of a rock, as He shelters Elijah in a cave (see Exodus 33:18–23).

The disciples, likewise, are too terrified to look on the face of God. Today's Gospel is a revelation of Jesus' divine identity. Only God treads across the crest of the sea (see Job 9:8) and rules the raging waters (see Psalm 89:9–10).

And the words of assurance that Jesus speaks—"It is I"—are those God used to identify Himself to Moses (see Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10).

Even Peter is too overcome by fear to imitate his Lord. His fears, Jesus tells him, are a sign of his lack of faith. And so it often is with us. Our fears make us doubt, make it hard to see His glory dwelling in our midst.

Yet, we should know, as we sing in today's Psalm, that His salvation is near to those who hope in Him. By faith we should know, as Paul asserts in today's Epistle, that we are heirs to the promises made to His children, Israel.

We must trust that He whispers to us in the trials of our lives—that He who has called us to walk along the way of His steps—save us whenever we begin to sink.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, August 12

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Joe Walles, Wilma Walles & Marie Ponniah
(Remembrance & for their souls ✙)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, August 13 - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Abandoned Souls in Purgatory and
for the soul of Sister Celia Dos Remedios ✙

Mass 10:30am Anthony Denis Domingo & Pamela Francis
(Death Anniversary & Remembrance ✙)

and Carlyle Rode (20th Death Anniversary ✙)

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Maud Aza (Recently Deceased ✙)

Monday, August 14 - St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe

Mass 9:15am Marie Vancuylenburg
(Birthday Remembrance ✙)

and Carlyle Rode (20th Death Anniversary ✙)

and Jemma Joseph (Death Anniversary ✙)

and George Francis (Recently Deceased ✙)

Tuesday, August 15 - Holy Day of Obligation

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving - Joe Gatt's 60th Year in
Australia

Mass 6:30pm Ravi K. (Death Anniversary ✙)

Wednesday, August 16

Mass 9:15am Repose of the soul of Eva Djuro Jozicic ✙

Thursday, August 17

Mass 9:15am Birthday Thanksgiving for Roydin Dias

Friday, August 18

Mass 9:15am Charles Lovett (Death Anniversary ✙)

and Repose of the souls of Eva & Djuro Jozicic ✙

Saturday, August 19

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Harper Family

Saturday Vigil, August 19

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, August 20 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Ivo and Neda Erceg (Remembrance ✙)

Mass 10:30am Joseph's Family - Thanksgiving Mass

and Elena Teti (Death Anniversary ✙)

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Maud Aza (Recently Deceased ✙)

and Maria Natercia Henriques
(Birthday Remembrance ✙)

Please remember to pray for...

Our sick: Denzil & Mary Considine, Sarah Cleary, Crystal Wilson, Frances & Lovett DosRemedios, Charlie Cassar, Debbie Juchno, Vaz Godwin, Tyrone Francisco, Vincent Newton, Heather Fernandez, David Giacotto, Alessandro Zaia, Eliana Scardigli, Jeanne Joseph, Giovanna McKercher, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Anne Moorthy, Jean Joseph, Fr. Rodney

The recently deceased:

John Kerrins, Conlith Ludwick, Walter Chamarette, Claude Isaacs, Fr. Desmond Panton, George Francis

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Elena Teti, Carlyle Rode, Ravi, Sister Celia DosRemedios, Clarence Vernen

Church Cleaning

Saturday, August 19

S. Jose, Linda & Family

Saturday, August 26

Moses Family, Vincent,
Mary & Rebecca

Reading Roster

Saturday, August 19 - Vigil Mass

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, August 20

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Saturday, August 26 - Vigil Mass

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, August 27

8:30am R. Noble

10:30am J. Panicker

5:30pm L. Hector

On Sunday, 15th October, our Parish will celebrate the Feast of St. Gerard officiated by our Regional Bishop Tony Ireland. Mass will be followed by a Trivia Luncheon. Please contact the parish office on 9792 4422 should you be able to volunteer your help on this day. Thank you in advance.

The Legion of Mary meet each Monday and Saturday at 10am. The Junior Legion of Mary meet each Monday at 4:15pm until 5pm. We encourage and welcome any new members to attend.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, August 14 to Saturday, August 19, 2023 (Year A)

Monday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 14 - Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe

Entrance Antiphon: Come, you blessed of My Father, says the Lord. Amen, I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of My brethren, you did it for Me.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.

Tuesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Entrance Antiphon: A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Responsorial Psalm: The queen stands at Your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: All generations will call me blessed, for He who is mighty has done great things for me.

Wednesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 16

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed be God who filled my soul with life!

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: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Thursday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 17

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: Alleluia!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let Your face shine on Your servant, and teach me Your laws. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Friday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 18

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: His love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Saturday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 19

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.