

# 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

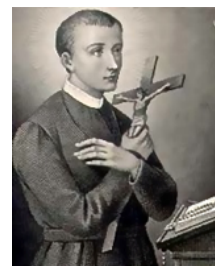
**Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato

**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.

## 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year A) August 20, 2023

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of Your anointed one; one day within Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

### First Reading - Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

**Responsorial Psalm:** O God, let all the nations praise You!

### Second Reading - Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

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

### Gospel Reading - Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

**Communion Antiphon:** With the Lord there is mercy; in Him is plentiful redemption.

On Sunday, 15th October, our Parish will celebrate the Feast of St. Gerard. Mass will be officiated by our Regional Bishop Tony Ireland at 10:30am. Following Mass, we are holding 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.

## PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Dear Parishioners, a bus will be leaving from St Gerard's on 7<sup>th</sup> October for the March For Babies. If you are interested in coming along, please leave an envelope at the piety stall with your name and contact number. The cost is \$10 per family/person and \$5 for pensioners. Please come and support this very worthy cause, as every life matters. For further information, please contact Maree on 0407 762 057.

Dandenong Deanery Council - Listening to the voices that echo joy in our lives: Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023, at St John's Regional College, Graduate's Restaurant, Caroline Street, Dandenong. Cost of \$45 per head for a 3 course meal, wine & beer. Guest Speaker TBA. To book phone Paddy on 0422 296 961 or email: [dandenongdeanery@live.com.au](mailto:dandenongdeanery@live.com.au). RSVP by 1<sup>st</sup> September. New start time: 5.30pm for 5.45pm start.

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

The 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:avaccaro@internode.on.net), by August 20.

Gratitude for Your Support from Catholic Mission! We extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous backing of this year's Appeal for the Propagation of the Faith. Through your help, Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses have been able to share the Good News within their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of \$937.50 which was raised by St. Gerard's community for Catholic Mission. Your support this year will enable Mission to continue to provide life-saving treatment and access to resources on health and well-being to many communities.

2023, marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During Natural Fertility Awareness Week, in August, a special, free webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings' work, entitled "*Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective*" will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm AEST. As well as highlighting the male perspective in using the Billings Ovulation Method®, couples will reflect on how it has helped them in understanding their joint fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life. Please follow the link to register for the Webinar on Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?>

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.

### **A Foreigner's Faith: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today's First Reading prophesies.

Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomised by the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God's covenant with Israel. Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, He uses "dog," an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites (see Matthew 7:6). Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation.

In this family drama, we see fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy and the promise we sing of in today's Psalm. In Jesus, God makes known among all the nations His way and His salvation (see John 14:6).

At the start of salvation history, God called Abraham (see Genesis 12:2). He chose his offspring, Israel, from all the nations on the face of the earth to build His covenant kingdom (see Deuteronomy 7:6–8; Isaiah 41:8).

In God's plan, Abraham was to be the father of many nations (see Romans 4:16–17). Israel was to be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God, made up of all who believe what the Canaanite professes; that Jesus is Lord (see Exodus 4:22–23; Romans 5:13–24).

Jesus came first to restore the kingdom to Israel (see Acts 1:6; 13:46). But His ultimate mission was the reconciliation of the world, as Paul declares in today's Epistle.

In the Mass we join all peoples in doing Him homage. As Isaiah foretold, we come to His holy mountain, the heavenly Jerusalem, to offer sacrifice at His altar (see Hebrews 12:22–24, 28). With the Canaanite, we take our place at the Master's table to be fed as His children.

# MASS and INTENTIONS

## 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* ✚)  
*and* Anthony Femino (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

Mass 10:30am Joseph's Family - Thanksgiving Mass  
*and* Elena Teti (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
*and* Morina Perera (*Repose of her soul* ✚)

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Maud Aza (*Recently Deceased* ✚)  
*and* Maria Natercia Henriques  
(*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)

## Monday, August 21 - St. Pius X

Mass 9:15am Ivo and Neda Erceg (*Remembrance* ✚)

## Tuesday, August 22

### Feast of The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 9:15am Ivo and Neda Erceg (*Remembrance* ✚)  
*and* Oblak Family (*For good health*)

## Wednesday, August 23

Mass 9:15am Louise Charles Kerver (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

## Thursday, August 24 - Saint Bartholomew

Mass 9:15am Victor Susainathan (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

## Friday, August 25

Mass 9:15am For Fr. Brendan Lane on his 50th Year  
Ordination

## Saturday, August 26

Mass 9:15am Ivka and Blaz Simic (*Remembrance* ✚)

## Saturday Vigil, August 26

### Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Claude Isaacs (*Recently Deceased* ✚)  
*and* Lise Donaldson (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

## Sunday, August 27 - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Ivka and Blaz Simic (*Remembrance* ✚)

Mass 10:30am Oblak Family (*For good health*)  
*and* Antonio Gigliotti, Angela Bonaddio and  
Pasquale Bonnaddio (*Remembrance* ✚)  
*and* Welcome Rite Blessing - Congratulations to

*Emmeline Guppy and Raya Nezuko Planko*

Mass 12:30pm Mass in honour of La Madonna di  
Montevergine

Mass 5:30pm Maud Aza (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

## Please remember to pray for...

**Our sick:** Mary Considine, 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:**

Claude Isaacs, Fr. Desmond Panton, George Francis, Denzil Considine, Sarah Cleary

## **Anniversaries/Remembrances:**

Elena Teti

## Church Cleaning

### **Saturday, August 26**

Moses Family, Vincent,  
Mary & Rebecca

### **Saturday, September 2**

Legion of Mary

## Reading Roster

### **Saturday Vigil, August 26**

5:30pm J. D'Souza

### **Sunday, August 27**

8:30am R. Noble

10:30am J. Panicker

5:30pm L. Hector

### **Saturday Vigil, September 2**

5:30pm B. Collins

### **Sunday, September 3**

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm J. Panicker

In our efforts to strengthen security across the parish, we wish to inform you that security cameras have been installed inside the Church and 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 be activated soon. Should you have any concerns, please contact the parish office.

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 21 to Saturday, August 26, 2023 (Year A)

### Monday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 21 - Saint Pius X

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord chose him for Himself as high priest, and, opening His treasure house, made him rich in all good things.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, remember us, for the love You bear Your people.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The Good Shepherd has laid down His life for His sheep.

### Tuesday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 22

#### The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Entrance Antiphon:** At Your right stands the queen in robes of gold, finely arrayed.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord speaks of peace to His people.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but He became poor, to make you rich out of His poverty. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Blessed are you who have believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord will be fulfilled.

### Wednesday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 23

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of Your anointed one; one day within Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, Your strength gives joy to the king.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** With the Lord there is mercy; in Him is plentiful redemption.

### Thursday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 24 - Saint Bartholomew

**Entrance Antiphon:** Proclaim the salvation of God day by day; tell among the nations His glory.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Master, You are the Son of God, You are the king of Israel. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** I confer a kingdom on you, just as My Father has conferred one on Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, says the Lord.

### Friday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 25

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of Your anointed one; one day within Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Teach me Your paths, my God, and lead me in Your truth. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** With the Lord there is mercy; in Him is plentiful redemption.

### Saturday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time - August 26

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of Your anointed one; one day within Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**Responsorial Psalm:** See how the Lord blesses those who fear Him.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ! Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** With the Lord there is mercy; in Him is plentiful redemption.

