

**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.

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year A) August 27, 2023

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

### First Reading - Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, Your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of Your hands.

### Second Reading - Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* You are Peter, the rock on which I will build My Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. *Alleluia!*

### Gospel Reading - Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

On Sunday, 15th October, our Parish will celebrate the Feast of St. Gerard. Mass will be officiated by 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

Next weekend is Father's Day and we will be having the annual collection for the Priest's Retirement Foundation, who cares for our Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please donate using the envelopes (which will be on the table in the Church foyer) or electronically by logging on to: [www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation) and make your donation through Paypal. Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests.

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

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.

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 we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. I am happy to answer any questions and provide an itinerary and application form, and may be contacted at [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 02 8912 4818.

*Aid to the Church in Need* is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan. Recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack in Pakistan which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering visit [www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal)

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.

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.

### **'Oh, the Depths!': Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!" Paul exclaims in today's Epistle. Today's Psalm, too, takes up the triumphant note of joy and thanksgiving. Why? Because in the Gospel, the heavenly Father reveals the mystery of His kingdom to Peter.

With Peter, we rejoice that Jesus is the anointed Son promised to David, the one prophesied to build God's temple and reign over an everlasting kingdom (see 2 Samuel 7).

What Jesus calls "my Church" is the kingdom promised to David's son (see Isaiah 9:1–7). As we hear in today's First Reading, Isaiah foretold that the keys to David's kingdom would be given to a new master, who would rule as father to God's people.

Jesus, the root and offspring of David, alone holds the kingdom's keys (see Revelation 1:18; 3:7; 22:16). In giving those keys to Peter, Jesus fulfills that prophecy, establishing Peter—and all who succeed him—as holy father of His Church. His Church, too, is the new house of God, the spiritual temple founded on the "rock" of Peter and built up out of the living stones of individual believers (see 1 Peter 2:5).

Abraham was called "the rock" from which the children of Israel were hewn (see Isaiah 51:1–2). And Peter becomes the rock from which God raises up new children of God (see Matthew 3:9).

The word Jesus uses—"church" (*ekklesia* in Greek)—was used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament for the "assembly" of God's children after the Exodus (see Deuteronomy 18:16; 31:30).

His Church is the "assembly of the firstborn" (see Hebrews 12:23; Exodus 4:23–24), established by Jesus' exodus (see Luke 9:31). Like the Israelites, we are baptized in water, led by the Rock, and fed with spiritual food (see 1 Corinthians 10:1–5).

Gathered at His altar, in the presence of angels, we sing His praise and give thanks to His holy name.

## MASS and INTENTIONS

### 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* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*1st Month 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 In honour of La Madonna di Montevergine  
Mass 5:30pm Maud Aza (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

### Monday, August 28 - Saint Augustine

Mass 9:15am Ivka & Blaz Simic (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)  
and Good health for Harold Johnson

### Tuesday, August 29 - The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Mass 9:15am For the repose of the souls of Antonette &  
Charles Henry Vettivelu (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Frank Donaldson (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

### Wednesday, August 30

Mass 9:15am Anthony Maurice Domingo (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

### Thursday, August 31

Mass 9:15am John Thomas (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Denzil Hookens (*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

### Friday, September 1

7:45am – 8:45am Adoration  
Mass 9:15am Michael Thompson (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

### Saturday, September 2

Mass 9:15am Intentions of Zvonko Glavacevic  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)

### Saturday Vigil, September 2 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm For the souls of the Lonetti and Pane Family  
(*Remembrance* ✚)  
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, September 3 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Father's Day)

Mass 8:30am Pierre & Sue Larue (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (*For the repose of her soul* ✚)  
Mass 10:30am Intentions of Zvonko Glavacevic  
and Dorothy & Lakmani Siriwardene  
(*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)  
12:30pm Baptism Congratulations and welcome to  
*Emmeline Guppy and Raya Nezuko Planko*  
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, George Francis, Denzil Considine, Sarah Cleary, Gennaro De Marco

### **Anniversaries/Remembrances:**

Low Kee, Nancy & Angelo Sciacca, Umberto Plutino, Antonio Occhietti, Lise Donaldson

### Church Cleaning

**Saturday, September 2**

Legion of Mary

**Saturday, September 9**

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands  
and L. Harper

### Reading Roster

**Saturday Vigil, September 2**

5:30pm B. Collins

**Sunday, September 3**

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm J. Panicker

**Saturday Vigil, September 9**

5:30pm P. Kroon

**Sunday, September 10**

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm M. Yallapa

### Confession

Confession *will not* be heard on a Sunday or Monday. Confession is heard Tuesday to Saturday, from 8:20am to 8:50am, and after the Mass on Saturday until 10:30am.

### Church

The Church will be open for private prayer Monday to Friday at 8:00am and closed at 2:30pm.

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 28 to Saturday, September 2, 2023 (Year A)

### Monday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 28 - Saint Augustine

**Entrance Antiphon:** In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord takes delight in His people.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ, and you are all brothers.

### Tuesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 29 - The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

**Entrance Antiphon:** I spoke, O Lord, of Your decrees before kings, and was not confounded; I pondered Your commands and loved them greatly.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will sing Your salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** John answered and said, He must increase; but I must decrease.

### Wednesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 30

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** You have searched me and You know me, Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

### Thursday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 31

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Fill us with Your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

### Friday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - September 1

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let the just rejoice in the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

### Saturday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - September 2

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

