

**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

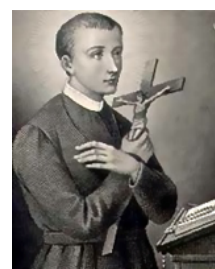
**Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato

**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. "Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year A) September 3, 2023

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

### First Reading - Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

**Responsorial Psalm:** My soul is thirsting for You, O Lord my God.

### Second Reading - Romans 12: 1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. *Alleluia!*

### Gospel Reading - Matthew 16: 21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

On Saturday, September 9, there will be a Mass for the sick in honour of Fr. Laval, Apostolate of Mauritius. This Mass will be held at 12:30pm and officiated by Fr. Richard Rosse.

All are invited and most welcome to attend.

## PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

This weekend we celebrate Father's Day and wish all Fathers every blessing as we honour them on this day. We will be having the annual collection for the Priest's Retirement Foundation, who care 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.

Workshop Invitation to "Discover Seven Young people in the Gospel." Participants of all ages will relate to the examples of these young people in the Bible. Some made negative choices, some positive and one made several mistakes but didn't give up. Held from 9am to 5pm on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th September at St. Thomas the Apostle, Greensborough North. Cost for Adults \$40, Concession \$35. Book before September 20th at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CKTUD>

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. For any questions or to obtain an itinerary and application form, please contact [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or call on 02 8912 4818.

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.

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.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Want to find out more? Join our [Global Development Webinar](#) happening on the 14th of September 2023 at 6pm to 7pm AEST 02 9560 5333 [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)

Ex-Gangster John Pridmore nearly killed a man who failed to pay a debt. After his conversion in 1992, he joined the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, and met St. Mother Theresa. They helped him to love again and to use his story to help others. He has inspired countless individuals to find hope and meaning through his powerful talks, conferences and parish missions. John will be speaking at St Thomas More Parish, Mount Eliza. Each talk begins at 7:30pm and runs for one hour. Night 1: 18th September - God's Love, Getting to know the depth of God's love. Night 2: 19th September - God's Mercy, A chance to personally experience the mercy of Jesus. Night 3: 20th September - God's Healing - allowing Jesus to heal us. Visit [www.jpmelb.com.au](http://www.jpmelb.com.au)

A bus will be leaving from St Gerard's on 7th October for the March For Babies. Please leave an envelope at the piety stall with your name and contact number to register. 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. Please visit our website <https://www.sgdandenongnth.catholic.edu.au> for more information.

### **For Your Life: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today's First Reading catches the prophet Jeremiah in a moment of weakness. His intimate lamentation contains some of the strongest language of doubt found in the Bible. Following God's call, he feels abandoned. Preaching His Word has brought him only derision and reproach.

But God does not deceive—and Jeremiah knows this. God tests the just (see Jeremiah 20:11–12) and disciplines His children through their sufferings and trials (see Hebrews 12:5–7).

What Jeremiah learns is what Jesus states explicitly in today's Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself—your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His Gospel. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we have to join ourselves to the Passion of Christ, to offer our bodies—our whole beings—as living sacrifices to God. By His Cross, Jesus has shown us what Israel's sacrifices of animals were meant to teach: we owe to God all that we have.

God's kindness is a greater good than life itself, as we sing in today's Psalm. The only thanks we can offer is our spiritual worship, giving our lives to the service of His will (see Hebrews 10:3–11; Psalm 50:14, 23).

Peter doesn't yet get this in today's Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter (see 1 Corinthians 1:23). This is our natural temptation, as well: to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God's plan. That's how people think, Jesus tells us today. But we are called to the renewal of our minds—to think as God thinks, to will what He wills. In the Mass, we once again offer ourselves as perfect and pleasing sacrifices of praise (see Hebrews 13:15). We bless Him as we live, confident that we will find our lives in losing them, that with the riches of His banquet our souls will be satisfied.

# MASS and INTENTIONS

## 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

### (Happy 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 Nezuco Planko*

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

## Monday, September 4

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

## Tuesday, September 5

Mass 9:15am For the repose of the soul of Victor Jayamaha  
(1st Death Anniversary & Remembrance ✚)  
and Leonita Maurier (For the repose of her soul ✚)  
and Deceased family members of Daniel Vaz ✚

## Wednesday, September 6

Mass 9:15am Giuseppe Cardamone (Birthday Remembrance ✚)  
and Giovanni & Brigida Cardamone (Remembrance ✚)

## Thursday, September 7

Mass 9:15am Frank Duff (Founder of the Legion of Mary -  
Remembrance ✚)  
and Deceased members of the Gonsalves Family ✚

## Friday, September 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 9:15am Caroline Robinson (Healing of mind & heart and  
restoration to the Catholic Faith)

## Saturday, September 9

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving on Jacqueline's Birthday  
and Thanksgiving on Ariana Lopez's Birthday

Mass 12:30pm Mass in honour of Fr. Laval

## Saturday Vigil, September 9 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Nicholas Da'Costa (1st Death Anniversary ✚)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

## Sunday, September 10 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Intentions of the Parish  
Mass 10:30am Healing Mass for Claris  
and Intentions of Leandar & Wendy Lewis  
(Thanksgiving to our Lady of Lourdes)

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

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, Alessandro Zaia, Eliana Scardigli, Jeanne Joseph, Giovanna McKercher, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Anne Moorthy, Jean Joseph, Fr. Rodney, Maria O'Blak, Maria Tomaselli

## **The recently deceased:**

Sarah Cleary, Gennaro De Marco, Leonita Maurier, Harry Brian Fernando

## **Anniversaries/Remembrances:**

John Thomas, Domenico Papalardo, Giuseppe Cardamone, Giovanni and Brigida Cardamone

## Church Cleaning

**Saturday, September 9**

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands,  
L. Harper

**Saturday, September 16**

Kronfeld Family

## Reading Roster

**Saturday Vigil, September 9**

5:30pm P. Kroon

**Sunday, September 10**

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm M. Yallapa

**Saturday Vigil, September 16**

5:30pm D. Franklin

**Sunday, September 17**

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am E. Ebert

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

## 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.

On Saturday and Sunday, the Church is open from 8am and closed after the 5:30pm Mass.

## Daily Antiphons - Monday, September 4 to Saturday, September 2, 2023 (Year A)

### Monday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 4

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord comes to judge the earth.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; He sent Me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

### Tuesday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 5

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited His people. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

### Wednesday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 6

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I trust in the kindness of God for ever.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent Me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

### Thursday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 7

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord has made known His salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Come follow Me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of My people. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.

### Friday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 8

#### The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let us celebrate with joy the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for from her arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** With delight I rejoice in the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, the Virgin will bear a Son, who will save His people from their sins.

### Saturday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - September 9

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long. O Lord, You are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to You.

**Responsorial Psalm:** God Himself is my help.

**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!

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who fear You.