

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: Please see website, bulletin or notice board for amended confession times

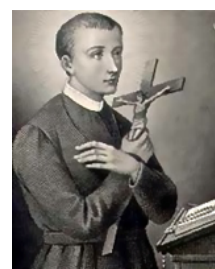
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses (Monday & Thursday)

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"**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year B) January 14, 2024

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

First Reading - 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

Responsorial Psalm: Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - John 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

CHURCH

The Church will be closed for private prayer after the morning Mass from Monday to Friday until further notice.
On Saturday and Sunday, the Church will be open from 8:00am and closed after the 5:30pm Mass.

CONFESSION

For the month of January, confessions will only be heard on Saturday from 8:20am to 9:00am and after the Mass until 10:30am.

Need to Dispose of a Vehicle?

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process. Getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even finding a garage until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!). If you need to dispose of a vehicle from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, could you consider gifting it to the “Lifeboat Foundation”, a registered charity with tax deductible status, which for ten years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors across Australia of church-related sexual abuse. Many of these suffer Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), have limited or no employment, and a donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life and / or generate funds to assist personal, medical and accommodation needs. If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to “Lifeboat”, contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (frkdillon@outlook.com.au or 0421 777 360) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605 or adam-kaali@hotmail.com).

Hebrew Aleph-Beit for Christians

The 22 paintings of the Hebrew Aleph-Beit, by Melbourne artist Judy Racz, enable participants to draw on rich Jewish symbolism and also discover Divine mysteries for Christians. Prior to each of the 4 sessions, participants will receive material for prayer and reflection, thus providing an opportunity for a 4 week Zoomed retreat that can suit a busy lifestyle. Book before 5pm Monday 22 January at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CLYSX>

ORDER OF MALTA LOURDES DAY MASS – SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2024

For some years now, the Order of Malta has organised an annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm particularly for those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes.

The Mass will take place again on *Saturday, 10th February at 10.30am at St Patrick’s Cathedral*, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. Please click [here](#) to view the poster for the Mass.

For further information, please contact: Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.

Hearing the Call: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the call of Samuel and of the first Apostles, today’s readings shed light on our own calling to be followers of Christ.

Notice in the Gospel today that John’s disciples are prepared to hear God’s call. They are already looking for the Messiah, so they trust in John’s word and follow when he points out the Lamb of God walking by.

Samuel is also waiting on the Lord—sleeping near the Ark of the Covenant where God’s glory dwells, taking instruction from Eli, the high priest.

Samuel listened to God’s word and the Lord was with him. And Samuel, through his word, turned all Israel to the Lord (see 1 Samuel 3:21; 7:2–3). The disciples too heard and followed—words we hear repeatedly in today’s Gospel. They stayed with the Lord and by their testimony brought others to the Lord.

These scenes from salvation history should give us strength to embrace God’s will and to follow His call in our lives.

God is constantly calling to each of us—personally, by name (see Isaiah 43:1; John 10:3). He wants us to seek Him in love, to long for His word (see Wisdom 6:11–12). We must desire always, as the apostles did, to stay where the Lord stays, to constantly seek His face (see Psalm 42:2).

For we are not our own, but belong to the Lord, as Paul says in today’s Epistle.

We must have ears open to obedience, and write His word within our hearts. We must trust in the Lord’s promise—that if we come to Him in faith, He will abide with us (see John 15:14; 14:21–23), and raise us by His power.

And we must reflect in our lives the love He has shown us, so that others too may find the Messiah.

As we renew our vows of discipleship in this Eucharist, let us approach the altar singing the new song of today’s Psalm: “Behold I come . . . to do your will O God.”

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 13th January

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, 14th January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Giovanna McKercher (*Remembrance* ✝)

Mass 10:30am Birthday Thanksgiving and healing for
Claris Sebestiampillai

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

**Please note: Wednesday, January 17th, Mass will begin at
9:00am not 9:15am on this day only.**

Monday, 15th January

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving on the 75th Birthday of
Anne Moorthy

Tuesday, 16th January

Mass 9:15am Devasia Mangara (*Remembrance* ✝)

Wednesday, 17th January - Saint Anthony

Mass at 9am not 9:15am today only

Mass 9:00am Intentions of the Parish

Thursday, 18th January

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Friday, 19th January

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Saturday, 20th January

Mass 9:15am Grenville Francis (*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)

Saturday Vigil Mass, 20th January

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, 21st January - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 10:30am Anthony Denis Domingo
(*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Please pray for...

Our sick: Mary Considine, Crystal Wilson, Frances & Lovett DosRemedios, Charlie Cassar, Debbie Juchno, Tyrone Francisco, Vincent Newton, Heather Fernandez, Alessandro Zaia, Eliana Scardigli, Jeanne Joseph, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Anne Moorthy, Jeannie Joseph, Fr. Rodney, Maria O'Blak, Maria Tomaselli, Aldo Provenazzano, Colin Hillas, Job Thaejus, Monica Kelly, Sunny, Jimmy Logan, Carmel Feola, Libby Wilson, Brenda Edwards, Sonia Cheniart, Claris Sebestiampillai

The recently deceased:

Rosaria Morabito, Hazel D'Costa, Yvonne De Zilva, Artilheiro Carvalho, Msgr Gerard Diamond PE

Anniversaries/Remembrances:
Marina Seeruthun, Francis Anthony

Church Cleaning

Saturday, January 20

Moses Family, Vincent, Mary
and Rebecca

Saturday, January 27

Legion of Mary

**2024 Reading Rosters and
Church Cleaning Rosters may
be collected from the Sacristy.**

**We thank you for your
support.**

Reading Roster

Saturday, January 20

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, January 21

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Saturday, January 27

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, January 28

8:30am M. Noble

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Panicker

Daily Antiphons (Year B) - Monday, January 15 to Saturday, January 20 2024

Monday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 15

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

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

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Tuesday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 16

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: I have found David, my servant.

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!

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Wednesday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 17 - Saint Anthony

Entrance Antiphon: The just will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar, planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!

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

Communion Antiphon: If you would be perfect, go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and follow Me, says the Lord.

Thursday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 18

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: In God I trust; I shall not fear

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through His gospel. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Friday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 19

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.

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: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Saturday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 20

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

Responsorial Psalm: Let us see Your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of Your Son. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.