

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 to Saturday 8:20am-8:50am also Saturday prior to & after Mass until 10:30am

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"**

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year B) June 15/16, 2024

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

First Reading - Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to You.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to Him will live forever. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.' Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Parishioners are invited to Fr. Michael Shadbolt's Diamond Jubilee of Ordination Luncheon. This celebration will be held in the Parish Hall on the 28th of July from 11.30am onwards. The cost is \$20.00 per person, 6-12 years \$10.00 and 5 years and under are free. To book, please see the Parish office or the Piety Stall. Tickets must be purchased before the event to enable entry.

For further enquiries please contact Susan on 0408 329 787 or Josephine on 0408 324 971.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

ST. GERARD'S PARISH CENSUS

We invite each member of our parish to participate in our census. The census form will be made available from this weekend, or can be completed electronically by using the QR code. By participating in this census, we can register the number of our parish members and better understand the needs of our community. Data from this census will also enable the parish to strategically plan for important events, ministries, and other future endeavours. Your privacy is essential, and all information is collected securely and treated with confidentiality.



Thank you in anticipation of your support and cooperation.

The Cyrene Centre is a program operating through Resurrection Parish Keysborough. As an entity it wound up in 2023 after the committee was disbanded and lost its charity status. It is a program for families in need of counselling. It now has its funds in trust with the Keysborough Learning Centre (KLC). If you would like to contribute to these funds held in trust by the KLC, you may EFT to - Account name: Keysborough Learning Centre, BSB: 633000 Account: 126 132 141 Reference: Cyrene Centre. This will help them in continuing their work of helping families in need and those who would otherwise be unable to seek counselling. Thank you.

This weekend we will have a collection for Catholic Mission. You are invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require. The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require. We are called to “Invite others to the banquet”, and we will invite you to share the warmth of God’s love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia.

SCAN ME



You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.

God and Beer June - Topic: ‘Back in the Lion's Den - Religious Freedom in Australia’ with speaker, Daniel Simon. Date: Monday 17th June. 6.30pm dinner available for purchase, 7.30pm for the talk. Cost: Free (donations gratefully accepted) Venue: Notting Hill Hotel (Steakhouse Room), 260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill. To Register: Godandbeer.com.au. God and Beer is an initiative of the Knights of the Southern Cross to bring together people of all ages from across the south-east suburbs of Melbourne each month. Our aim is to inspire and strengthen Christians by providing ideas and inspiration for renewing the Church by drawing on the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic tradition. Supported by the Catholic Development Fund.

An opportunity has arisen in Divine Renovation Australasia for a well organised, proactive, administrative professional to join our team. If you know of anyone that would benefit from the experience of working in our ministry, and can contribute towards our vision of supporting our parishes to be missional, can you please encourage them to apply? Click on the following:

[PA/Administrative Assistant Job in Beaconsfield Upper, West Gippsland & Latrobe Valley VIC - SEEK](#)

"Is there more to life than this?" There will be an information session held in the hall on Tuesday 25th June from 6pm – 8pm to discuss the introduction of Alpha to St Gerard's. Alpha is an evangelisation program aimed at bringing people to Jesus in a welcoming atmosphere. If you would like to be a part of the program and can help build our parish community, please contact Jeff Zaher on 0477 188 883 to express your interest in attending the information session.

Tree of Righteousness : Scott Hahn Reflects on the Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the cryptic message of the prophet Ezekiel, long centuries before the Lord's coming, God gave His people reason to hope. Ezekiel glimpsed a day when the Lord God would place a tree on a mountain in Israel, a tree that would “put forth branches and bear fruit.” Who could have predicted that the tree would be a cross on the hill of Calvary, and that the fruit would be salvation? Ezekiel foresees salvation coming to “birds of every kind”—thus, not just to the people of Israel, but also to the Gentiles, who will “take wing” through their new life in Christ. God indeed will “lift high the lowly tree,” as He solemnly promises. Such salvation surpasses humanity's most ambitious dreams. And so we express our gratitude in the Psalm: “Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.” It is indeed good, and better still to give thanks with praise. The Psalmist speaks of those who are just upon the earth, but looks to God as the source and measure of justice, of righteousness. Like Ezekiel, he evokes the image of a flourishing tree to describe the lives of the just. The image, again, suggests the Cross as the measure of righteousness.

The Cross is a sign of contradiction to those who would rather “flourish” in worldly terms. As St. Paul emphasises to the Corinthians, we need courage. Our faith makes us strong, and it is proved in our deeds. He reminds us that we will be judged by the ways our faith manifests itself in works: “so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.” God Himself will empower the works He expects from us, though we freely choose to correspond to His grace. In the prophetic oracles, He scattered the seed that sprang up and became the mustard tree, large enough to accommodate all the birds of the sky, just as Ezekiel had seen. He gave this doctrine to His disciples in terms they were able to understand, and He provided a full explanation. In the sacraments He provides still more: the grace of faith and the courage we need to live in the world as children of God.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, June 15th - Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Jean & Georges LaTouche (*Death Anniversaries* ✚)
and Francesco Lidonnici (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, June 16th - Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am For the soul of John Daniels (*Remembrance* ✚)
and For the abandoned souls in Purgatory
and John Kerrins (*Remembrance* ✚)
and Denis O'Rourke (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
Mass 10:30am Alan D'Lima (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
and Joseph & Nicolas Cruz and Mary David (*Remembrance* ✚)
and Lorenzo Martinelli (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
Mass 3:30pm French Community
Mass 5:30pm Antonietta Morello (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

Monday, June 17th

Mass 9:15am William Issaeff (*3rd Anniversary of Death* ✚)
and Nellie Janssen & Ethan Crasto (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Tuesday, June 18th

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving on the 85th Birthday of Clarice Giacomini
and Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Wednesday, June 19th

Mass 9:15am Joe & Wilma Walles (*Remembrance* ✚)

Thursday, June 20th

Mass 9:15am Birthday Thanksgiving for Conrad Lopez

Friday, June 21st - Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Saturday, June 22nd - Saints John Fisher and Thomas More

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Saturday Vigil, June 22nd - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Philomena Bowes (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Marise & Philippe Gnany (*Death Anniversaries* ✚)
and Vidot & Tirant families (*Death Anniversaries* ✚)
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, June 23rd - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Florrie Dos Remedios (*Remembrance* ✚)
and For the abandoned souls in Purgatory
and Irmtraud Chmielewski (*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)
Mass 10:30am Antonio & Angelina Sacco (*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)
and Giuseppe & Filomena Gigliotti (*Remembrance* ✚)
and John McIntyre (*3rd Anniversary of Death* ✚)
and Salvatore Messina (*1st Month Remembrance* ✚)
Mass 5:30pm Milagros Sinad Reyes (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Please note that the office telephones are currently out of order. Please email all requests to dandenongnorth@cam.org.au. We apologise for the inconvenience however this is completely out of our control.

Please pray for...

Our sick: Mary Considine, Frances & Lovett Dos Remedios, Crystal Wilson, Charlie Cassar, Tyrone Francisco, Heather Fernandez, Alessandro Zaia, Eliana Scardigli, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Anne Moorthy, Jeannie Joseph, Fr. Rodney, Maria O'Blak, Maria Tomaselli, Colin Hillas, Aldo Provenazzano, Job Thaejus, Monica Kelly, Sunny, Jimmy Logan, Libby Wilson, Claris Sebestiampillai, Bob Grosser, Elajah Isah, Ramon Jabbour, Maleena, Melanie, Selina Tour, Christine Joseph, Hilda Marianne, Giuseppina Bonato, Patty Fong, Clarice Giacomini, Nikita Stein, Kenny Michael

The recently deceased:

Ethan Crasto, Ingram Mirando, Krzysztof Borkowski, Anu Jayawardena, Marl Domesanz, Salvatore Messina, Alan D'Lima, Domingo Canteras, Father Brendan Michael Dillon PE, Francesco Lidonnici, Andre Beaufond, Milagros Sinad Reyes

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Lorenzo Martinelli, William Issaeff, John Kerrins, John Daniels

Church Cleaning

Saturday, June 22

Legion of Mary & J. Okoduwa

Saturday, June 29

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands, L. Harper

Reading Roster

Saturday, June 22

5:30pm P. Kroon

Sunday, June 23

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm B. Collins

Saturday, June 29

5:30pm A. Miranda

Sunday, June 30

8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm L. Hector

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.

www.stgerards.org.au

Daily Antiphons - Monday, June 17 to Saturday, June 22, 2024

Mystery of Faith: Save us Saviour of the world, for by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free.

Monday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - June 17th

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, listen to my groaning.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Tuesday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - June 18th

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Responsorial Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Wednesday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - June 19th

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Responsorial Psalm: Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who love Me will keep My words, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Thursday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - June 20th

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Responsorial Psalm: Let the just rejoice in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Friday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - June 21st - Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

Entrance Antiphon: The clean of hands and pure of heart shall climb the mountain of the Lord and stand in His holy place.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has chosen Zion for His dwelling.

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

Communion Antiphon: God gave them bread from heaven; man ate the bread of Angels.

Saturday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time - 22nd June - Saints John Fisher & Thomas More

Entrance Antiphon: Holy men shed their glorious blood for the Lord; they loved Christ in their life, they imitated Him in their death, and therefore were crowned in triumph.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will keep my love for Him.

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

Communion Antiphon: It is you who have stood by Me in My trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom.