

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: August & September, please request the availability of the visiting priest for confession

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

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

Office hours: 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"**

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year B) August 11, 2024

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

First Reading - 1 Kings 19:4-8

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'O Lord,' he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading - Ephesians 4:30 - 5:2

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God as children of his that he loves and follow Christ loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - John 6: 41-51

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. 'I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Take and Eat: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sometimes we feel like Elijah in today's First Reading. We want to lie down and die, keenly aware of our failures—that we seem to be getting no better at doing what God wants of us. We can be tempted to despair, as the prophet was on his forty-day journey in the desert. We can be tempted to "murmur" against God, as the Israelites did during their forty years in the desert (see Exodus 16:2, 7, 8; 1 Corinthians 10:10). The Gospel today uses the same word, "murmur," to describe the crowds, who reenact Israel's hardheartedness in the desert.

Jesus tells them that prophecies are being fulfilled in Him, that they are being taught by God. But they can't believe it. They can only see His flesh, that He is the "son" of Joseph and Mary.

Yet if we believe, if we seek Him in our distress, He will deliver us from our fears, as we sing in today's Psalm.

At the altar in every Eucharist, the angel of the Lord, the Lord himself (see Exodus 3:1-2), touches us. He commands us to take and eat His Flesh given for the life of the world (see Matthew 26:26).

This taste of the heavenly gift (see Hebrews 6:4-5) comes to us with a renewed command—to get up and continue on the journey we began in Baptism to the mountain of God, the kingdom of heaven. He will give us the bread of life, the strength and grace we need—as He fed our spiritual ancestors in the wilderness and Elijah in the desert.

So let us stop grieving the Spirit of God, as Paul says in today's Epistle, in another reference to Israel in the desert (see Isaiah 63:10). Let us say to God as Elijah did, "Take my life." Not in the sense of wanting to die but in giving ourselves as a sacrificial offering—loving Him as He has loved us, on the Cross and in the Eucharist.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

A note of thanks from Fr. Michael Shadbolt

Fr Michael Shadbolt would like to thank everyone from the bottom of his heart, for the wonderful celebration of his Diamond Jubilee. He thanks you for all your generous gifts given him and he has shared these gifts with the other Jubilarian Fr Kerry Cronan. Fr Michael extends his gratitude to all, especially Fr. Shanthaiah and all those involved in this celebration. He will spend the rest of his life praying for all of you.

We have been amazed at the response to our announcement that former Prime Minister Tony Abbott will speak at the next God and Beer on Monday 12th August. Over 200 people have registered so far and we have made the decision to **change the venue to St Gerard's Parish Hall in Dandenong North** to accommodate the larger than usual crowd. There are still some seats available. We are also **moving the start time forward** slightly. Please come at 6.00pm if you would like to buy some dinner and drinks. **Mr Abbott will begin speaking at 7.00pm.** Please ensure that you arrive early and **register before attending** as we will be checking tickets at the door for this event. **Speaker:** Tony Abbott **Topic:** God and Caesar **Date:** Monday 12th August **Venue:** St Gerard's Catholic Church, Parish Hall, 71 Gladstone Rd, Dandenong North ([Map](#)) (Enter via McNab Ct, Parish Hall is behind the Church) **Time:** 6.00pm (sausage sizzle), 7.00pm Speaker begins, 8.00pm finish. **Registration:** Godandbeer.com.au **Cost:** Free (donations gratefully accepted). Contact John at jtsmyth@gmail.com

KSC Archbishop's Dinner - August 30, 2024

The 24th Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund, will feature guest speaker Adjunct Professor Natasha Michael (Palliative Care Specialist) and will be a great opportunity to meet Archbishop Comensoli, while contributing to the education of Victoria's seminarians. To be held at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday, August 30. Anyone interested in attending, or would like more information, or to make a donation to the Fund to assist our seminarians, should contact Andrew Vaccaro at avaccaro@internode.on.net, 9795 7851, or 0404 390 824 by August 8.

Radio Maria Australia is a Catholic radio station bringing Christ into your every day! Our station broadcasts 24/7, with interesting and inspiring shows and podcasts, daily masses and Rosary prayers, and a variety of positive music - all to foster faith, hope and God's love. You can tune in live via: www.RadioMaria.org.au Digital Radio: 202.928.

St Elizabeth's Parish are delighted to announce that their Church Dinner & Dance will be held on Saturday, **21st September 2024!** Please save the date to celebrate this epic event together. Your participation is crucial in making this a memorable occasion and supporting our wonderful community! Please see the bulletin board for more information.

Natural Fertility Awareness Week 2024 (August 19 – 25) promotes an alternative, healthy option to family planning compared with chemical and other contraceptive devices. The theme this year is: "Trust your body's natural signs of fertility: Forget about drugs and devices." You are invited to join the Billings LIFE free webinar on Monday 19th August 2024 at 7:30pm AEST where you can listen to the conversation about the basics of the Billings Ovulation Method® and its application, including during times of breastfeeding. <https://events.humanitix.com/trust-your-body-s-natural-signals-of-fertility-free-webinar>
Further info @ ph: 1800 335 860 or website: www.billings.life/en/

Save the Date - Holding the Light Service, 28 November 2024

Holding the Light is an ecumenical service of lament - to remember and mourn those who have been killed as a result of domestic and family violence, and to stand in solidarity with victim survivors. This service is open to anyone who might wish to join together, take part in a ritual and engage in a period of quiet prayer or reflection on the tragic results of violence, and in hope for a better future for our communities. **Date:** Thursday 28 November 2024. **Time:** 5.00pm. **Location:** Wesley Church Melbourne, 136 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. More information is available at: <https://css.org.au/events/holding-the-light-3/>

National Vocations Awareness Week - Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

Free Equipment for the elderly including shower seat, walkers, ambulatory toilet seat are available for free. In good condition. Please contact Terry on 0412 534 645

CatholicCare Victoria are very grateful to the Parish of St. Gerard's for their generous donation of \$1,745.45. The kind and generous support from the parish helps those who are most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities. The faithful support of your parish enables CatholicCare Victoria to continue to empower and strengthen those in struggling communities.

Catholic Mission thanks the parish of St Gerard's for your support of this year's Propagation of the Faith Appeal. Your generosity has empowered Church workers across 1047 mission dioceses, allowing them to spread the message of hope and love within their local communities. Your contribution of \$1,144.40 has been most gratefully received. Your gift not only transforms individual lives but also fuels mission programs globally, reaching out to those in need. Many thanks!

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, August 10th - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Joanita Rodrigues (*Recently Deceased* ✝)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, August 11th - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Sister Celia Dos Remedios (*Remembrance* ✝) and
for the Abandoned Souls in Purgatory

Mass 10:30am Magdaline Ghosh (*4th Death Anniversary* ✝)

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Monday, August 12th

Mass 9:15am Hedley Simonet (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

and Clare Wickramasuriya (*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)

and Private Intention of Thanksgiving and
for the Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, August 13th

Mass 9:15am Denis Domingo & Pamela Francis (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

and Jemma Joseph (*Remembrance* ✝)

and Tyron Johnson (*Recently Deceased* ✝)

Wednesday, August 14th - Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Mass 9:15am Giovanna McKercher (*Remembrance* ✝)

and Victor Anthony (*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)

Thursday, August 15th

Legion of Mary - Rosary every hour on the hour

Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving offering for our Lady of Vailankanni from
Dominic and Belinda D'Vaz

Mass 7:00pm Intentions of the Parish

Friday, August 16th

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Saturday, August 17th

Mass 9:15am Mariathan Vethanayagam (*35th Death Anniversary* ✝)

Saturday Vigil, August 17th - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Sarah Cleary (*First Death Anniversary* ✝)

Sunday, August 18th - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 10:30am Charles Lovett (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

and Gennaro De Marco (*First Death Anniversary* ✝)

Thanksgiving offering to our Lady of Lourdes from
Leandar & Wendy Lewis

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community (Please Note change of day)

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, Ron Jabke, Prasad Weerasuriya, Sean VanTwest, Carmela Fato

The recently deceased:

Faustina D'Sa, Derrick DeZilva, Dino Antonucci, Yolande Pirie, Fr. Joseph Kuzhikanniyil, Sister Ann Mary SABS, Joan De Alwis, Elizabeth Bala, Joanita Rodrigues, Tyron Johnson

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

James Cameron, Umberto Plutino, Antonio Occhietti, Sr. Celia Dos Remedios

Church Cleaning

Saturday, August 17

Gonsalves Family,
M. Ferdinands & L. Harper

Saturday, August 24

Ratika & Family

Reading Roster

Saturday, August 17

5:30pm A. Miranda

Sunday, August 18

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am J. Panicker

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Saturday, August 24

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, August 25

8:30am G. Markezic

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm M. Yallapa

CONFESSION

From August 5th until September 14th, Confession will only be heard on a Saturday after the Mass until 10:30am.

On weekdays, Fr. Michael will be available to hear confession however, if another priest is officiating, please ask their availability. Thank you.

Please note change of date for the Maronite Mass. The mass will be held on Sunday, 18th August at 7pm not Saturday 17th August for this week only. Thank you.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, August 12 to Saturday, August 17, 2024

Monday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 12

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the Gospel to achieve the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Tuesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 13

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: How sweet to my taste is Your promise!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Take My yoke upon you; learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Wednesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 14 - Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Entrance Antiphon: Come, you blessed of My Father, says the Lord. Amen, I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of My brethren, you did it for Me.

Responsorial Psalm: The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.

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: Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.

Thursday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Entrance Antiphon: A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Responsorial Psalm: The queen stands at Your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: All generations will call me blessed, for He who is mighty has done great things for me.

Friday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 16

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: You have turned from Your anger to comfort me.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Saturday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 17

Entrance Antiphon: Look to Your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of Your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend Your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek You.

Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.