

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 (Office Closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

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

Office: From Sept. 23-Oct. 29 the office will only be open Monday & Thursday 10.00am to 2.00pm

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"**

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings for Mass (Year B) September 29, 2024

Entrance Antiphon: All that You have to done us, O Lord, You have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against You and not obeyed Your commandments. But give glory to Your name and deal with us according to the bounty of Your mercy.

First Reading - Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again. Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Second Reading - James 5:1-6

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. 'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. 'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

Communion Antiphon: Remember Your word to Your servant, O Lord, by which You have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Please note:

The parish office will be closed every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from September 24th until October 29th. The office will be open only Monday and Thursday during this time. Please email any requests or queries to dandenongnorth@cam.org.au.

OFFERTORY THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

We will soon be commencing our Offertory Thanksgiving Campaign in our parish community, which will run over three weeks time. Please pray for our community as we enter into this time of discernment. Our offering is a powerful witness and a personal prayer. You are encouraged to engage prayerfully with the content presented and provided over this time and we look forward to growing and going deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process.

THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER

will hold their Annual Mission Fair on Saturday 12 October 9:00 am - 2:30 pm at 154 Cotham Road, Kew. This year the proceeds will be for the Benedictine Brothers in Daresalaam, Tanzania to assist them in their work among the poor. For enquiries, please phone: 9817 3715.

COME FOLLOW ME

There will be a special collection next weekend 5th & 6th October 2024 for the Archbishop's Campaign. Please be generous and support this campaign.

SPIRITUAL RETREATS AT MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE, EAST MELBOURNE

The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre will begin a series of reflection nights and retreats commencing with a Reflection Day focussing on the central theme of the Year of Jubilee 2025 : *Hearing the Audacious Call to be Pilgrims of Hope* facilitated by Mark Walsh. The day will include times of contemplation using scripture and times of prayer. www.mmhc.org.au/spiritual-retreat/Day : Monday, 28th October, 2024, Time: 9.30am to 3.15pm. Venue : Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert street, East Melbourne, Price \$120 (Morning tea provided, BYO Lunch)

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Are you considering becoming Catholic? Do you know someone who is? The RCIA program prepares adults to become Catholic and will be commencing at St Gerard's in October.

For more information, please contact the office on 9792 4422 or dandenongnorth@cam.org.au.

MARCH FOR BABIES

will be held on Saturday, 12 October at 1pm. A bus will be leaving from St. Gerard's at 11am. If you are interested in coming along, please contact the piety stall and leave your name and contact number.

It is a free event. Please come and support this very worthy cause as every life matters.



To Belong to Christ - Scott Hahn reflects on the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today's First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God's Spirit through Moses prefigure the ministry of the Apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God's plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see John 3:8), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God in every nation under heaven (see Acts 2:5, 38).

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord's name. But, really, he's only guarding his own privilege and status. It's telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve (see Mark 3:14-15; 6:7, 13).

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today's Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church.

But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples (see Ephesians 1:4).

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father's will? Are we living, as this Sunday's Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure while neglecting our neighbours?

We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today's Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, September 28th

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Antonio Sacco (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Giovanni, Brigida & Giuseppe Cardamone
(*Remembrance* ✚)
and Zdenka Halupa (*4th Month Remembrance* ✚)
and Maurice Loos (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, September 29th

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes from
Nigel & Maria Rodrigues
Mass 10:30am For the repose of the souls of Antonette &
Charles Henry Vettivelu ✚
and Sylvia De Penha & Otto Harris(*Remembrance* ✚)
and Margaret Collins (*Remembrance* ✚)

Monday, September 30th - Saint Jerome

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving on the 3rd Birthday of Isabelle
Grace D'Vaz & Thanksgiving to Saint Anthony
and Margaret Collins (*Remembrance* ✚)

Tuesday, October 1st - Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Mass 9:15am Jenny Waduge (*2nd Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Joseph and Maria Reginald (Thanksgiving for healing)

Wednesday, October 2nd - The Holy Guardian Angels

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Thursday, October 3rd

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Friday, October 4th - Saint Francis of Assisi

Mass 9:15am Maria Milicia & For the Abandoned Souls
and For the deceased relatives and friends of Margaret &
John Keble family

Saturday, October 5th

Mass 9:15am Victor Jayamaha (*Remembrance* ✚)
and Colin Layton (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Thanksgiving to our Lady of Vailankanni by Dominic &
Belinda D'Vaz Family

Saturday Vigil, October 5th

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil 5:30pm Ivan Pattan (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Rienzie Weerappah (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, October 6th - Daylight Savings - please note time change

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Intentions of the Parish
Mass 10:30am Florence Violet Ludwick (*48th Death Anniversary* ✚)
Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

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, Nikita Stein, Kenny Michael, Prasad Weerasuriya, Sean VanTwest, Carmela Fato, Lawton Ho, Pierina Nogarín, Marie Talary, Vincent Newton, Gabby, Teresita Arrastia.

The recently deceased:

Bill Dowsey, Maria Milicia, Michael D'Souza, Maurice Loos, Rienzie Weerappah, Elisa Cosentino, Ronald Jabke.

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Fred Barthelot, Theresa Monteiro, Dennis Lobo

Church Cleaning

Saturday, October 5

Gonsalves Family, M. Ferdinands,
L. Harper

Saturday, October 12

J. Mackie and Ratika Family

Reading Roster

Saturday, October 5

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, October 6

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Saturday, October 12

5:30pm P. Kroon

Sunday, October 13

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm J. Panicker

Daily Antiphons - Monday, September 30th to Saturday, October 5th 2024

Monday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - September 30th - Saint Jerome

Entrance Antiphon: Blessed indeed is he who ponders the law of the Lord day and night: he will yield his fruit in due season.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, bend Your ear and hear my prayer.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Lord God, Your words were found and I consumed them; Your word became the joy and the happiness of my heart.

Tuesday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - October 1st - Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord led her and taught her, and kept her as the apple of His eye. Like an eagle spreading its wings He took her up and bore her on His shoulders. The Lord alone was her guide.

Responsorial Psalm: Let my prayer come before You, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Thus says the Lord: Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Wednesday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - October 2nd - The Holy Guardian Angels

Entrance Antiphon: Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord, praise and exalt Him above all for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: He has put His angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Bless the Lord, all you angels, His ministers who do His will. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: In the presence of the Angels I will praise You, my God.

Thursday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - October 3rd

Entrance Antiphon: All that You have done for us, O Lord, You have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against You and not obeyed Your commandments. But give glory to Your name and deal with us according to the bounty of Your mercy.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the Good News! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Remember Your word to Your servant, O Lord, by which You have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Friday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - October 4th - Saint Francis of Assisi

Entrance Antiphon: Francis, the man of God, left his home behind, abandoned his inheritance and became poor and penniless, but the Lord raised him up.

Responsorial Psalm: Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Saturday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time - October 5th

Entrance Antiphon: All that You have done for us, O Lord, You have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against You and not obeyed Your commandments. But give glory to Your name and deal with us according to the bounty of Your mercy.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let Your face shine on me.

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: Remember Your word to Your servant, O Lord, by which You have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.