

# 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

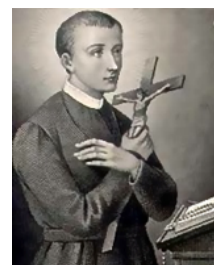
**Parish Secretary:** Sinthia Stellato (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

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

**Office hours:** The Office will be closed until Monday, 6th January 2025

**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"**

## The Epiphany of the Lord Readings for Mass (Year C) - Sunday, 4/5 January 2025

**Entrance Antiphon:** Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in His grasp, and power and dominion.

### First Reading - Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore You.

### Second Reading - Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

**Gospel Acclamation - Alleluia, alleluia!** We have seen His star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. *Alleluia!*

### Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the East. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: *And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.*' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

**Communion Antiphon:** We have seen His star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

## Prayer to St Gerard Majella

Great protector of the family, St Gerard, we ask your prayers for all parents, that they may receive the grace to live in the love of God and bring up their children to know and love Him with all their hearts.

We ask you to pray also that those who take the lives of unborn innocents and attack the dignity of motherhood, may come to see the error of their ways, and that all may value the true holiness of Christian family life.

God, our loving Father, Your love gives life to the world. Bless and make holy all human love, especially the life-giving love of husband and wife.

May Your love fill the hearts and homes of all families, so that the world may enjoy the peace and happiness promised by Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## Volunteers Needed!

We require more volunteers to please help with cleaning of the Church. If you can please spare an hour of your Saturday, once every few months, we would be most grateful. Please call 9792 4422 and leave your contact details or email [dandenongnorth@cam.or.au](mailto:dandenongnorth@cam.or.au). Thank you.

## Divine Mercy Retreat at Don Bosco Retreat Centre - 465 Lysterfield Road.

Saturday 11th and Sunday the 12th of January 2025. From 08.30 to 05.00 p.m. Food and Drinks will be provided. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Shane Reade. Contact Twina on 0433 066 057 or Tia on 0423 828 941. For booking and catering.

## Fr. Shanthaiah's 40th Year Anniversary of Ordination

Dear Parishioners, Fr. Shanthaiah will be celebrating a special milestone on Tuesday, 14th January 2025. This day is his entry into 40th Anniversary of Ordination. We will have a celebration mid-year however, until then, please join us in congratulating & praying for him on this very special and sacred day.

## A King to Behold: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

An "epiphany" is an appearance. In today's readings, with their rising stars, splendorous lights, and mysteries revealed, the face of the child born on Christmas day appears.

Herod, in today's Gospel, asks the chief priests and scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise—one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David (see 2 Samuel 2:5), the other predicting "a ruler of Israel" who will "shepherd his flock" and whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth" (see Micah 5:1-3).

Those promises of Israel's king ruling the nations resound also in today's Psalm. The psalm celebrates David's son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch "to the ends of the earth," and the world's kings will pay him homage. That's the scene too in today's First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing "gold and frankincense" for Israel's king.

The Magi's pilgrimage in today's Gospel marks the fulfillment of God's promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler's staff over the house of Jacob (see Numbers 24:17).

Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the "kings of the earth" (see 1 Kings 10:2, 25; 2 Chronicles 9:24). Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon (see Song of Songs 3:6; 4:6, 14).

One greater than Solomon is here (see Luke 11:31). He has come to reveal that all peoples are "coheirs" of the royal family of Israel, as today's Epistle teaches.

His manifestation forces us to choose: will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and scribes who let God's words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

## MASS and INTENTIONS

### **Saturday Vigil, January 4 - The Epiphany of the Lord**

Mass 5:30pm Marc Mantel (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### **Sunday, January 5 - The Epiphany of the Lord**

Mass 8:30am Elodie Kathalea Gaspard

(*Recently Deceased* ✝)

*and* For God's blessing, mercy and grace for Anthony

Mass 10:30am Thanksgiving to Saint Anthony & for Maria Rodrigues' Birthday

12:00pm Baptism congratulations to baby Val Clyde Carvajal and family. God bless you always.

Mass 5:30pm Eva and Duro Jozicic (*Remembrance* ✝)

### **Monday, January 6**

Mass 9:15am Deceased souls of the Toeta Family ✝

### **Tuesday, January 7**

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes and Thanksgiving on the Second Wedding Anniversary of Wendy & Leandar Lewis

### **Wednesday, January 8**

Mass 9:15am Private Intention and for the souls in Purgatory

### **Thursday, January 9**

Mass 9:15am Bernard Shaw (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

### **Friday, January 10**

Mass 9:15am For Souls in Purgatory and Private Intention

### **Saturday, January 11**

Mass 9:15am For love, peace, health and prosperity of Family Glavacevic

### **Saturday Vigil, January 11 - The Baptism of the Lord**

Mass 5:30pm Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Vailankanni and Thanksgiving on the Wedding Anniversary of Belinda and Dominic D'Vaz

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### **Sunday, January 12 - The Baptism of the Lord**

Mass 8:30am Elodie Kathalea Gaspard

(*Recently Deceased* ✝)

*and* David Scanlon (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

Mass 10:30am Thanksgiving Mass from Family Glavacevic

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

## Please pray for...

**Our sick:** Lovett Dos Remedios, Heather Fernandez, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Jeanne Joseph, Colin Hillas, Giuseppina Bonato, Anne Moorthy, Jasmine Jimenez, Ricky & Katrina, Stella Joseph, Amber Bulte, Gavin Weinman

### **The recently deceased:**

Elodie Kathalea Gaspard, Fr. Len Thomas PE, Joelle Lebrasse, Gerry Duff, Guida Maria DaCosta Borges, Gina Caglioti

### **Anniversaries/Remembrances:**

Glen Nicolay, Marc Mantel, Eva and Duro Jozicic, Kevin Tissera

## Church Cleaning

**Saturday, January 11**

Gonsalves Family, Mario F.,  
L. Harper

**Saturday, January 18**

Ratika and J. Mackie

## Reading Roster

**Saturday, January 11**

5:30pm A. Miranda

**Sunday, January 12**

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am A. Pacifique

5:30pm L. Hector

**Saturday, January 18**

5:30pm P. Kroon

**Sunday, January 19**

8:30am M. Naidoo

10:30am J. Panicker

5:30pm M. Yallapa

## **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.**

**The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th January and will re-open Thursday 9th January. Apologies for any inconvenience.**

## Daily Antiphons - Monday, January 6 to Saturday, January 11, 2025

### Monday after the Epiphany - January 6

**Entrance Antiphon:** A holy day has dawned upon us: Come, you nations, and adore the Lord, for a great light has come down upon the earth.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will give you all the nations for your heritage.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** We have seen His glory, the glory of an only Son coming from the Father, filled with grace and truth.

### Tuesday after the Epiphany - January 7

**Entrance Antiphon:** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: The Lord is God and has given us light.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore You.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** Because of that great love of His with which God loved us, He sent His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh.

### Wednesday after the Epiphany - January 8

**Entrance Antiphon:** A people who walked in darkness has seen a great light; for those dwelling in a land of deep gloom, a light has shone.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore You.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to Christ who is proclaimed to the world: glory from all who believe in Him. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** That life which was with the Father became visible, and has appeared to us.

### Thursday after the Epiphany - January 9

**Entrance Antiphon:** In the beginning and before all ages, the Word was God and He humbled Himself to be born the Saviour of the World.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, every nation on earth will adore You.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in Him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

### Friday after the Epiphany - January 10

**Entrance Antiphon:** A light has risen in the darkness for the upright of heart; the Lord is generous, merciful and just.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** By this the love of God was revealed to us: God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through Him.

### Saturday after the Epiphany - January 11

**Entrance Antiphon:** God sent His Son, born of a woman, so that we might receive adoption as children.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord takes delight in His people.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! A people in darkness have seen a great light; a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** From His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.