



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

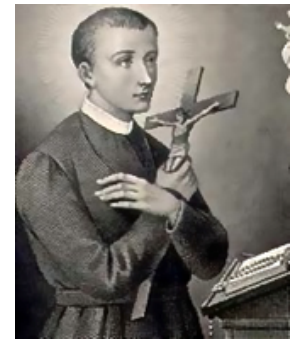
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)

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

Office hours: 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"

Third Sunday of Lent - Readings for Mass (Year C) - March 22/23, 2025

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading - Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This,' he added, 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation: *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!* Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. *Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

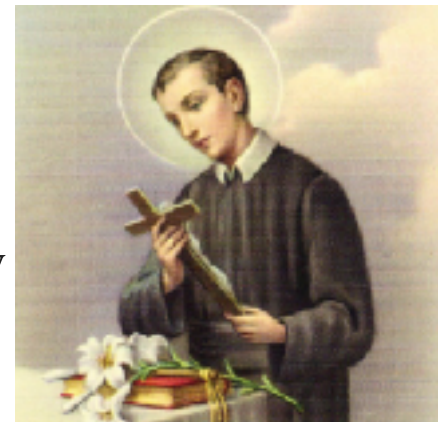
Gospel Reading - Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

Communion Antiphon: The Sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, for ever singing Your praise.

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.



This week's Symbolon session will be held from 9am - 10:25am in the Majellan room and this week's theme is "A love that lasts: God's Plan for Sexuality." Symbolon is a 20 week exploration of the richness of the Catholic faith through a video presentation featuring Dr Edward Sri. Contact: Jeff Zaher 0477188883. All are welcome.

The Legion of Mary will lead the Stations of the Cross right after the 9:15 mass every Monday during Lent. We invite all parishioners to join us. Together, let's walk with Jesus on His journey to Calvary, meditating on His suffering and sacrifice, as we deepen our faith and connection to our Lord.

Rosary for Life after the 8:30am Sunday Mass. Everyone is welcome to join and pray the Rosary devoted to babies in danger of abortion.

The Truth Goodness Beauty Project is hosting 'Faith & Culture Sessions' over six Saturdays during Lent 2025. Gather at St Peter's Toorak Parish Centre to hear international Catholic speakers and theologians, joining live via Zoom from around the world. Each session begins with brunch, followed by a live-streamed talk and a relaxed Q&A. At the heart of these sessions is a sense of genuine community and fellowship. They create an environment where you can meet and connect with other Catholics, ask honest questions, and explore new perspectives. The Truth Goodness Beauty Project is a Melbourne-based initiative that seeks to connect, inspire, and form Catholics through events, resources, ministries, and community gatherings. For more details, visit: truthgoodnessbeautyproject.com.au

Save the Date! Our parish will hold an evening of Reconciliation on Thursday, 10th April from 6:30pm until 7:45pm. There will be seven priests available to hear confession during this evening. **Please note: Confession will not be heard during Holy Week from Monday 14th - Saturday 19th April.**

The St. Gerard's Charismatic Prayer Group wish to invite new members to join them in prayer on a Thursday evening at 7:30pm in the Library hall. Please contact Doreen on 0408 247 790 or Michele on 0405 676 296.

Lenten Retreat - A 2-day Retreat for Children and Teens (ages 5 - 15). To be held on March 29 and 30, 2025 Saturday and Sunday. 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Venue: Holy Family Church, 100 Power Road, Doveton. For parents who wish to enrol their children to the retreat please visit our website www.divinekids.com.au. See notice board for more information.

Ever thought volunteering overseas was beyond you? IT'S NOT. Palms always values our older participants for the wisdom and resourcefulness they share in communities! Palms is celebrating our seniors with a special online session showcasing older volunteers' experience and insights from the mission field. Explore our unique opportunities and match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime! Venue: Online via Zoom- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events. Date: Thursday 27 March 2025. Time: 11 am – 12 pm. Contact 02 9560 5333 or palms@palms.org.au.

Lenten Walking Pilgrimage to Divine Mercy Shrine Keysborough. Starting Venue: St. Mary's Church, Car park on Saturday, 29 March 2025, at 7 AM. Holy Mass will be at 10.30at Divine Mercy Shrine, Keysborough.

Dear Parishioners of St Gerard's,
The students at St Gerard's Primary School are replicating the Stations of the Cross collaboratively through art and are cordially inviting you to be part of this Prayerful experience. We are opening this event up to you on Thursday the 3rd of April and Friday, the 4th of April from 10.00 am to 11.00 am. Please come through the school office and you will be guided accordingly on the day. Please come along and be part of the children's Learning Journey.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, March 22 - Third Sunday of Lent

Mass 5:30pm For the soul of Trevor Pereira
(1st Death Anniversary ✝)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, March 23 - Third Sunday of Lent

Mass 8:30am Joelle Lebrasse & Serge David
(Recently Deceased ✝)

and Nicolina Surace Calabro (2nd Death Anniversary ✝)

Mass 10:30am Carmelo Tumino (2nd Death Anniversary ✝)

and Donata Mercy Emmanuel (2nd Death Anniversary ✝)

and Baptism Welcome Rite Blessing. Congratulations
to Aurora Zarafa, Isabelle Ainslie & Zara

Carrafa & their families in preparation for their
baptism.

Mass 5:30pm José Benjamin (Recently Deceased ✝)

Monday, March 24

Mass 9:15am For the Renes & Abel's families and for
Francoise Rene (Recently Deceased ✝)

After Mass Stations of the Cross with the Legion of Mary

Tuesday, March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord

Mass 9:15am Claris Sebestiampillai - Thanksgiving for recovery
of health

Wednesday, March 26

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Thursday, March 27

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

Friday, March 28

Mass 9:15am Intentions of the Parish

6:30pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

Mass 7:00pm Intentions of the Parish

Saturday, March 29

Mass 9:15am Repose of the souls of Antonette and Charles Henry
Vettivelu ✝

Saturday Vigil, March 29 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass 5:30pm Marcienne Rivet & Denise Pelicier
(Death Anniversary ✝)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, March 30 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass 8:30am Joelle Lebrasse & Serge David
(Recently Deceased ✝)

and Angela Chmielewski (1st Death Anniversary ✝)

Mass 10:30am Intentions of the Parish

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Please pray for...

Our sick: Lovett & Frances Dos Remedios, Heather Fernandez, Steven & Monica Dickson, Sandy Hayman, Jeanne Joseph, Colin Hillas, Giuseppina Bonato, Anne Moorthy, Jasmine Jimenez, Ricky & Katrina, Stella Joseph, Lucia Gatt, Audrey Hoareau, Lynette Mary Whetton, Maree Kipping, Lucia, John Cook, Angelina Mercuri, Sean VanTwest, Fr. Michael Shadbolt, Simon Zaher, Dale Rozario, Fr. Brendan Lane

The recently deceased:

Maurice Taweel, Calvin Fernando, Rogelio Reyes, Fr. Peter Francis Carrucan PE, Alice Azzopardi, Antonio Talarico, Emil Potori, Leopoldo OSegeda, Francois Réne, José Benjamin

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Carmelo Tumino, Donata Emmanuel, Trevor Pereira, Nicolina Surace Calabro, Helen & Rudy Watts

Church Cleaning

Saturday, March 29

Gonsalves Family, Mario, L. Harper

Saturday, April 5

Q. Roland, X. Fernando, T. Bui

Reading Roster

Saturday, March 29

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, March 30

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm L. Hector

Saturday, April 5

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, April 6

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm B. Collins

Parish Groups

Monday

Senior Legion of Mary 10:00 - 11:15am

Junior Legion of Mary 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Legion of Mary (Group 2) 7:00 - 8:00pm

Tuesday

Spanish Prayer Group 10am-12pm

State School Catechism Classes 4-5pm

Wednesday

Knights of the Southern Cross meet

7:30pm first Wednesday of the month

Thursday

Coffee Club 10:00am - 11:00am

Altar Server Training 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30pm

Sunday

RCIA 9:30am

Daily Antiphons - Monday, March 24 to Saturday, March 29, 2025

Monday of the Third Week of Lent - March 24

Entrance Antiphon: My soul is longing and yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh cry out to the living God.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see Him face to face?

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ! I hope in the Lord, I trust in His word; with Him there is mercy and fullness of redemption. Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: O praise the Lord, all you nations, for His merciful love towards us is great.

Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent - March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said, as He entered the world: Behold, I come to do Your will, O God.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and His name will be called Emmanuel.

Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent - March 26

Entrance Antiphon: Let my steps be guided by Your promise; may evil never rule me.

Responsorial Psalm: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; You have the words of everlasting life. Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in Your presence, O Lord.

Thursday of the Third Week of Lent - March 27

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to Me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory! With all your heart turn to Me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down Your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping Your statutes.

Friday of the Third Week of Lent - March 28

Entrance Antiphon: Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord, for You are great and do marvellous deeds; You alone are God.

Responsorial Psalm: I am the Lord, your God: hear My voice.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: To love God with all your heart, and your neighbour as yourself, is worth more than any sacrifice.

Saturday of the Third Week of Lent - March 29

Entrance Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits; it is He who forgives all your sins.

Responsorial Psalm: It is steadfast love, not sacrifice, that God desires.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ! If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. Glory and praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: The tax collector stood at a distance, beating his breast and saying: O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.