



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

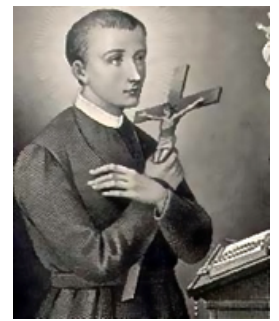
Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato (Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday)

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

Office: Monday & Thursday only 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"**

First Sunday of Advent - Mass Readings (Year A) - November 29/30, 2025

Entrance Antiphon: To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

First Reading - Isaiah 2: 1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading - Romans 13: 11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Lord, show us Your mercy and love, and grant us Your salvation. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 24: 37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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.



Thanksgiving envelopes may be collected from the Church foyer. Thank you for your support of our Parish.

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained by Dr Edward Sri / RCIA Program

Join us this Thursday, 4th December at 7pm as we explore the topic of - **The Last things: What happens after we die?** This beautifully crafted video series provides a deep exploration into our faith that will benefit all who attend. Whether you are considering becoming Catholic, are new to the faith or are an experienced Catholic you are guaranteed to learn something and find it to be a worthwhile experience. For more information, contact Jeff on 0477 188 883.

Please join the **Millions of Monica's Prayer Group** on **Tuesday 2nd December at 6:30 p.m.** as we come together in faith, praying for our children's return to the Church. Please remember to bring your folders and your Rosary beads. New participants are always welcome. Come and be part of this prayerful and supportive community that we are building.

Altar Server training concludes for 2025 on Thursday 4th December. Training will resume in February, 2026. We thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you in the new year. God bless, Ron Maroun.

St. Gerard's Primary School will be hosting their Christmas Carols evening on Tuesday, December 9th in the School Courtyard from 7:00pm. You are all welcome to attend.

Dear Parishioners of Saint Gerard's, We at the PPC warmly invite you to join us for our **Parish Christmas Carols** on Saturday the 13th of December from 7-9pm. We encourage as many parishioners as possible to join us on this evening.

We are also looking for people who would like to sing either in a group or solo for this night. If there is anyone interested in being involved, don't hesitate to contact Xavier Zaher on 0401 679 041.

St Dominic's Parish invites everyone for a day-long Advent Retreat focusing on the theme from the Creed - 'She was conceived by the Holy Spirit' on Saturday, 13th December. Commences with 9:00am Mass and concluding with Adoration, Confession and Benediction from 4-5pm. Venue: St Dominic's Parish, 816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell. Cost: \$20.00, includes morning/afternoon tea and lunch. Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/DHPYF> or

Christmas 2025

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, 24th December

5:30pm - Christmas Family Mass

7:00pm - Maronite Mass

11:30pm - Carols, followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - Thursday, 25th December

8.30am and 10.30am Mass - **Please note: No evening Mass on Christmas day.**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, 27th December - Vigil Mass 5:30pm

Sunday, 28th December - Mass at 8:30am, 10:30am, and 5:30pm

New Year's Day - Thursday, 1st January 2026 - Please note: No evening Mass

9:15am Mass - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Office Closure: The office will be closed from Wednesday, 24th December 2025 and, will re-open on Monday, 5th January 2026.

May God bestow His blessings of peace, joy and love upon you and your family at Christmas and for the New Year ahead - Fr. Shanthaiah and staff.

Evening of Penitential Rite (Confession)

To be held on

Friday the 19th of December, 2025

Priests will be available to hear confessions between 6:00pm and 8:00pm throughout this evening.

Please Note:

There will be no confession after the morning Mass on Saturday, 20th December.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 29th November - First Sunday of Advent

Mass 5:30pm Thanksgiving for the Legion of Mary
 and Maurice Blom (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and Deceased members of the Gerard & Collins family ✚
 and Deceased members of the Mackness family ✚

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, 30th November - First Sunday of Advent

Mass 8:30am Ross Knight (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and For the LaBruna and Pejic Families
 and For the good health of Maria Oblak & family
Mass 10:30am Anton Los (*Death Anniversary* ✚) *and* Stefania Los (*Remembrance* ✚)
 and Departed souls of the Reynald family ✚
Mass 5:30pm For the wellbeing of Karen and Hermione Daniells
 and Ponniah Perinpanathan, Rebecca Sebastiampillai, Agnes
 Arokianathar, Sebastiampillai Arokianathar (*Remembrance* ✚)
 and For the Souls in Purgatory

Monday 1st December

Mass 9:15am For the Souls in Purgatory
 and Sime and Joza Skoblar (*Remembrance* ✚)
 and Kevan Jonathan D’Mello (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Tuesday 2nd December

Mass 9:15am For the prayer requests of the Monica’s around the world
 and Zoe Hassan (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
6:30pm Monica’s Prayer Group (meet in the Church)

Wednesday 3rd December - Saint Francis Xavier

Mass 9:15am Healing Mass for Jackie Foulstoe
 and Thanksgiving to Our Lady and Saint Anthony for favours received

Thursday 4th December

Mass 9:15am John Hagen (*Remembrance* ✚)
 and For the repose of the soul of Triny Fernandes ✚
7:00-9:00pm RCIA - Symbolon Program in the Majellan Hall

Friday 5th December

Mass 9:15am Sime & Mira Skoblar and Gina Kolanovic (*Remembrance* ✚)
 and Francesco Lonetti (*Death Anniversary* ✚) and for the souls
 in Purgatory
 and For the repose of the soul of Anna Fernandes ✚
 and Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes from Wendy & Leander Lewis
 and Family

Saturday 6th December

Mass 9:15am Mary Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
 and Leslie J. Wadsworth (*10th Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and Thanksgiving to St. Anthony from Nigel & Maria Rodrigues

Saturday Vigil, 6th December - Second Sunday of Advent

Mass 5:30pm Mavis Mantel (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and Edward Kenny (*25th Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and Leslie J. Wadsworth (*10th Death Anniversary* ✚)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, 7th December - Second Sunday of Advent

Mass 8:30am Jenni Price (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
 and For the good health of Maria Oblak & family
 and Francois Vidot (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
 and Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Vailankanni from Issabelle and Christelle
 D’Vaz and Luke Lewis
Mass 10:30am Mary Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
 and Leslie J. Wadsworth (*10th Death Anniversary* ✚)
12:00pm Baptism congratulations to *Benicio Agustín Becerra* & Family
Mass 5:30pm For the recovery of Maria DeSilva Perera Rodriguez Parudo and for
 the holy Souls in Purgatory

Please pray for...

Our sick: Heather Fernandez, Steven & Monica Dickson, Ricky & Katrina, Jeanne Joseph, Colin Hillas, Fr. Brendan Lane, Giuseppina Bonato, Anne Moorthy, Lucia Gatt, Audrey Hoareau, Lynette Mary Whetton, Lucia, Sean VanTwist, Dale Rozario, Mauraad Beshy, Wafaa Farah, Blanca Vazquez, Raymond Mifsud, Maria Oblak, Gration Vettivelu, Rocco, Christine Joseph, Cristina de Gallegos, Anne Daley, Manuel Mira, John Keble, Francis Salmon, Fr. Michael Shadbolt, Carlton Jackson, Gerard Hoareau, Chanelle, Susan McKenna, Therese Kerrins, Marie Noelle Bhugon, Deidre, Mathew and Maria Kutty, Dalrene Corera, Michael Bruno, Pamela Chen

The recently deceased:

Giulia Mete, Francois Vidot, Rev. Sister Cyprian, Mary Joseph, Father John Vadakumparambil, Elvis Payet, Zoe Hassan, Kevan D’Mello

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Maurice Blom, Ross Knight, Anton and Stefania Los

Church Cleaning

Saturday, December 6
R. Quyn, Fernando Family, T. Bui
Saturday, December 13
Knights of the Southern Cross

Weekly Collection

November 23, 2025
Thanksgiving: \$1,307.50
Presbytery: \$702.55
ACYF collection: \$1,503.65
Thank you for your generosity!

Reading Roster

Saturday, December 6
5:30pm D. Franklin
Sunday, December 7
8:30am G. Becerra
10:30am S. Moses
5:30pm M. Yallapa
Saturday, December 13
5:30pm J. D’Souza
Sunday, December 14
8:30am I. Mulipola
10:30am M. Naidoo
5:30pm Janet D’Souza

The Church will be opened at approximately 8:00am and then locked at 2:30pm each weekday.

Daily Antiphons - Monday December 1 to Saturday December 6, 2025

Monday of the First Week of Advent - December 1

Entrance Antiphon: Hear the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Saviour will come; you need no longer fear.

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Come and save us, Lord our God; let us see Your face, and we shall be saved. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before You with a blameless heart.

Tuesday of the First Week of Advent - December 2

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord will come, and all His holy ones with Him; and on that day there will be a great light.

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in His time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Behold, our Lord shall come with power; He will enlighten the eyes of His servants. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Just Judge will bestow a crown of righteousness on those who eagerly await His coming.

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent - December 3 - Saint Francis Xavier

Entrance Antiphon: I will praise You, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of Your name to my kin.

Responsorial Psalm: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Lord is coming to save His people; happy are those prepared to meet Him. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: What I say to you in the darkness speak in the light, says the Lord, what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.

Thursday of the First Week of Advent - December 4

Entrance Antiphon: You, O Lord, are close, and all Your ways are truth. From of old I have known of Your decrees, for You are eternal.

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Seek the Lord while He can be found. Call on Him while He is near. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let us live justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of the glory of our great God.

Friday of the First Week of Advent - December 5

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord will come descending with splendour to visit His people with peace, and He will bestow on them eternal life.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Behold, our Lord shall come with power; He will enlighten the eyes of His servants. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: We await a saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our mortal bodies, to conform with His glorified body.

Saturday of the First Week of Advent - December 6

Entrance Antiphon: Come and show us Your face, O Lord, who are seated upon the Cherubim, and we will be saved.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Lord will judge us by His law; He is our King and Saviour. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am coming soon and My recompense is with Me, says the Lord, to bestow a reward according to the deeds of each.