

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

Website: www.stgerards.org.au Facebook: facebook.com/saintgerardparish

Confession: Tuesday to Saturday 8:20am-8:50am also Saturday prior to & after Mass until 10:30am

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Sumitha Moses Parish Secretary: Sinthia Stellato

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am - 2:30pm

Principal of St. Gerard's Catholic School: Mr. Paul Cowan School Phone: 9791 7553

School Email: principal@sgdandenongth.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"

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sunday of the Word of God) Mass Readings (Year A) - February 1st, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, and make it our glory to praise You.

First Reading - Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord, all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

Take yourselves for instance, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: *if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading - Matthew 5: 1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon: Let Your face shine on Your servant. Save me in Your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on You.

On Monday, 2nd February, it is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candelmas.

Please bring your candles for blessing prior to the Mass.

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.

Catechism Classes will recommence on Tuesday, 10th February for those children to be confirmed this year and the remaining classes will recommence on Tuesday, 17th February from 4pm, meeting in the Church foyer.

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

Join us on Thursday, 5th February, 2026 beginning at 7:00pm as we explore the topic of - **Walk through the Mass - Exploring the Sacred Liturgy**. 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.

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will visit the Parish on the weekend of Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th February, to promote their work on behalf of the missions and distribute their 2026 Claver Almanac Calendar at all Masses. This is a free copy but any donation towards the missions would certainly be gratefully received.

Millions of Monica's Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:30pm. 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.

Please return your palms to the basket in the church foyer in preparation for Ash Wednesday. Thank you.

God and Beer Monday 16th February - How Christians Can Succeed Today - The first Christians confronted a cultural environment vastly more hostile than today's. They had no powerful backers, very little money and numbered no more than a few hundred. Yet they revolutionised the ancient world and spread their movement far and wide. There is a deep, pervasive crisis of meaning and purpose across all Western societies today. Greg Sheridan encourages us to listen to the voices of the early Christians and emulate their commitment, integrity, resilience and smarts. He shows how early

Christians built communities, met persecution with courage and grace, dispensed universal mercy during plagues, pioneered equality for women, and redefined the nature and purpose of the human experience, always with Jesus Christ at the centre of their lives. Greg Sheridan is one of Australia's best-known journalists. This is his ninth book. His most recent books include the bestselling Christians, God is Good for You, and When We Were Young and Foolish. This promises to be an evening of good conversation, fellowship, and faith with speaker Greg Sheridan. We hope you'll join us on Monday, 16th February, at 6.30pm for dinner (to purchase), 7.30pm for the talk. Venue: Notting Hill Hotel, Steakhouse Room, 260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd., Notting Hill.

For tickets visit: <https://app.tickets.org.au/GodandBeer/GABFeb26> or GodandBeer.com.au.

St John's Regional College Dandenong School Reunion – Class of 1975–1980

Did you commence Year 7 at St John's in 1975? If so, you are warmly invited to a school reunion being held in February 2026. This reunion is for former students who attended: Year 7 – 1975, Year 8 – 1976, Year 9 – 1977, Year 10 – 1978, Year 11 – 1979, Year 12 – 1980. The Reunion will be held on Saturday, 21 February 2026 from 6pm onwards at a venue in Rowville. To receive full details and stay informed, please email schoolreunionfeb26@gmail.com with your name, email address, and mobile number. If you are still in contact with classmates from this era, please help spread the word.

For enquiries, contact Steve Cavalot on 0449 196 328 or Lina Di Prisa on 0434 079 754.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 31st January - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Mijo (Michael) & Ana Glavacevic (*Remembrance* ✕)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, 1st February - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am and Teresina Cardamone (*1st Month Death Anniversary* ✕)

Intentions of Thanksgiving for good health, peace and happiness of the Mathews family children

Eve DeBlaquiere (*Recently Deceased* ✕)

Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Congratulations Luca Alan Eldridge on your Baptism. May God bless you and your family.

John Lemerle and Alin Lemerle (*Remembrance* ✕)

Elvera Lemerle & Barry Lemerle (*Remembrance* ✕)

Michael Lemerle, Joseph Lemerle, Walter De Silva, and Darryl Williams (*Remembrance* ✕)

Monday, 2nd February - The Presentation of the Lord (*Candelmas*)

Mass 9:15am Candelaria Adaniel (*Birthday Remembrance* ✕)

Tuesday, 3rd February

Mass 9:15am and Thanksgiving on the Birthday of Trinity Lopez

Prayer requests of the St. Gerard's Monica's Prayer Group

St. Gerard's Monica's Prayer Group

Wednesday, 4th February

Mass 9:15am For love, peace & understanding in the family of Zvonko Glavacevic

Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Vailankanni, from Isabelle, Christelle & Rosabelle D'Vaz and Luke Lewis

Thursday, 5th February - Saint Agatha

Mass 9:15am Mervyn Ferdinandus (*Remembrance* ✕)

Symbolon - RCIA Program

Friday, 6th February - Saint Paul Miki & Companions

Mass 9:15am George Dos Remedios (*Death Anniversary* ✕)

Abandoned souls in Purgatory

Saturday, 7th February

Mass 9:15am For the souls of Eddie, Gladys and Peter Alvarez ✕

For the abandoned souls in Purgatory

Thanksgiving to St. Anthony from Nigel and Maria

Saturday Vigil, 7th February - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, February 8th - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Peter Shannahan (*Remembrance* ✕)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Tamil Community

Mass 12:00pm Duro (George) & Eva Jozicic (*Remembrance* ✕)

Mass 5:30pm and Pina Lidonnici (*1st Month Death Anniversary* ✕)

Please pray for...

Our sick: Heather Fernandez, Steven & Monica Dickson, Ricky & Katrina, Jeanne Joseph, Colin Hillas, Anne Moorthy, Fr. Brendan Lane, Giuseppina Bonato, Lucia Gatt, Audrey Hoareau, Lynette 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, Carlton Jackson, Gerard Hoareau, Chanelle, Susan McKenna, Therese Kerrins, Marie Bhugon, Deidre, Mathew & Maria Kutty, Dalrene Corera, Michael Bruno, Pamela Chen, Maria Tomaselli, Kevin Guian, Michael Hoare, Derek Chater, Libby Wilson, Jenner Raffaut, Kulandhai Therese

The recently deceased:

Monica Kelly, Maria Pham, Pina Lidonnici, Rose Baddour, Eve DeBlaquiere

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Teresina Cardamone, Mervyn Ferdinandus, Donato Antonio Gentile, Anna Maria Gentile, Yvonne Rozario

Church Cleaning

Saturday, February 7

Knights of the Southern Cross

Saturday, February 14

Legion of Mary

Weekly Collection

January 25, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,127.50

Presbytery: \$587.50

Reading Roster

Saturday, February 7

5:30pm J. Fernando

Sunday, February 8

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am K. Lopez

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Saturday, February 14

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, February 15

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Panicker

Daily Antiphons - Monday February 2 to Saturday February 7, 2026

Monday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 2 - The Presentation of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of Your temple. Your praise, O God, like Your name, reaches the ends of the earth; Your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Responsorial Psalm: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of Your people, Israel. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: My eyes have seen Your salvation, which You prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

Tuesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 3

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, and make it our glory to praise You.

Responsorial Psalm: Listen, Lord, and answer me.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let Your face shine on Your servant. Save me in Your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on You.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 4

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, and make it our glory to praise You.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* My sheep listen to My voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow Me. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let Your face shine on Your servant. Save me in Your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on You.

Thursday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 5 - Saint Agatha

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, now she follows the Lamb who was crucified for us, powerful in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, You are exalted over all.

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

Communion Antiphon: The Lamb who is at the centre of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.

Friday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 6 - Saint Paul Miki & Companions

Entrance Antiphon: The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of Him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed be God my salvation!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: It is You who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom.

Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time - February 7

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, and make it our glory to praise You.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, teach me Your decrees.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* My sheep listen to My voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow Me. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let Your face shine on Your servant. Save me in Your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on You.