

# 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 \*see amendments below\*

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"

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Readings (Year A) - January 17 & 18, 2026

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

**First Reading - Isaiah 49:3, 5-6**

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

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

**Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:1-3**

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted Him to become the children of God. *Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading - John 1:29-34**

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

### Amendment to Confession

On Saturday 24th January, confession will only be heard from 8:15am until 8:50am *and will not be heard after the Mass* due to celebration of the Feast of St. Francis De Sales.

For the week commencing Monday, 26th January to Friday, 30th January, confession **will not be heard** on a weekday morning. Confession will recommence usual times from Saturday 31st January, with confessions from 8:20am until 8:50am and also after Mass until 10:30am.

### 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.

**Altar Server training resumes on Thursday, 29th January 2026, at 5:30pm in the church.**

Anyone wishing to join are asked to please contact Ron Maroun on 0412 212 287.

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

Join us for the re-commencement of Symbolon on Thursday, 29th January, 2026 beginning at 7:00pm as we explore the topic of - **The Eucharist: Source and Summit of Christian Life**. 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.

**St. Mary's Parish, Dandenong**, under the leadership of Fr. Sebastian Arockia, is organising a pilgrimage (Greece to Turkey) from 5<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026, to walk in the Holy Footsteps of St. Paul's missionary journey. It will be a wonderful opportunity to familiarise the Biblical towns and cities that we read in the Acts of the Apostles, such as Athens, Ephesus, Corinth, Philippi and Thessaloniki. Please contact the St Mary's parish office on 9791 4611 or speak directly with Fr. Sebastian.

### Perfect Offering: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus speaks through the prophet Isaiah in today's First Reading.

He tells us of the mission given to Him by the Father from the womb: "You are My servant," He said to Me." Servant and Son, our Lord was sent to lead a new exodus—to raise up the exiled tribes of Israel, to gather and restore them to God. More than that, He was to be a light to the nations, that God's salvation may reach to the ends of the earth (see Acts 13:46-47).

Before the first exodus, a lamb was offered in sacrifice and its blood painted on the Israelites' door posts. The blood of the lamb identified their homes and the Lord "passed over" these in executing judgment on the Egyptians (see Exodus 12:1-23, 27). In the new exodus, Jesus is the "Lamb of God," as John beholds Him in the Gospel today (see 1 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19). Our Lord sings of this in today's Psalm. He has come, He says, to offer His body to do the will of God (see Hebrews 10:3-13).

The sacrifices, oblations, holocausts, and sin-offerings given after the first exodus had no power to take away sins (see Hebrews 10:4). They were meant not to save but to teach (see Galatians 3:24). In offering these sacrifices, the people were to learn self-sacrifice—that they were made for worship, to offer themselves freely to God and to delight in His will.

Only Jesus could make that perfect offering of Himself. And through His sacrifice, He has given us ears open to obedience and made it possible for us to hear the Father's call to holiness, as Paul says in today's Epistle.

He has made us children of God, baptised in the blood of the Lamb (see Revelation 7:14). And we are to join our sacrifice to His, to offer our bodies—our lives—as living sacrifices in the spiritual worship of the Mass (see Romans 12:1).

# MASS and INTENTIONS

## Saturday Vigil, 17th January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Teresa Minutolo Bomesse (*Recently Deceased* ✡)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

## Sunday, 18th January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am For the good health of Maria Oblak and family

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 3:30pm French Mass

Mass 5:30pm Grenville Francis (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

## Monday, 19th January

Mass 9:15am Liam Tailor & John Gott (*Recently Deceased* ✡)  
and Thanksgiving - Mathews Family & extended family

## Tuesday, 20th January

Mass 9:15am Grenville Francis (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

and Aurore Larue (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

and Maria Milicia (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

## Wednesday, 21st January - Saint Agnes

Mass 9:15am Denis Domingo (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

## Thursday, 22nd January

Mass 9:15am Mass of thanksgiving for Carmela Rossi

## Friday, 23rd January

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary

## Saturday, 24th January - Saint Francis De Sales

Confessions will be heard only between 8:15am and 8:50am today.

You are all invited to attend Mass at 9:15am in honour of St. Francis

De Sales - the order of Fr. Shanthaiah Marneni

Mass 9:15am Alexander Lourdunathan (*Death Anniversary* ✡)

## Saturday Vigil, 24th January - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

## Sunday, 25th January - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Teresa Minutolo Bomesse (*Recently Deceased* ✡)

and Ivan Skoblar (*Death Anniversary* ✡)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

*Baptism Welcome Rite Blessing*

Mass 5:30pm Denis Domingo (*Birthday Remembrance* ✡)

and Annamana Chako (*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, Eve Deblaquiere

## The recently deceased:

Monica Kelly, Maria Pham, Pina Lidonnici, David Giaccotto, Teresina Cardamone, Eustace Fonseca

## Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Thy Ngnyely, Teresa Bomesse, Peter O'Shea

## Church Cleaning

Saturday, January 24

Gonsalves Family, Mario, L. Harper

Saturday, January 31

R. Quyn & Fernando Family, T. Bui

## Weekly Collection

January 11, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,601.50

Presbytery: \$758.20

## Reading Roster

Saturday, January 24

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, January 25

8:30am C. Becerra

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm B. Collins

Saturday, January 31

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, February 1

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm L. Hector

## *St. Francis De Sales Feast Day Celebration*

Fr Shanthaiah, together with Priests from other parishes, invite all parishioners to join them in the celebration of the Patron Saint of their order, St. Francis De Sales on Saturday, 24th January, 2026 at 9:15am.

Following Mass, there will be light refreshments for all.

Please note that confession on this day will only be heard from 8:15am until 8:50am and will not be heard after the Mass.

# Daily Antiphons - Monday January 19 to Saturday January 24, 2026

## Monday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 19

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

**Responsorial Psalm:** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## Tuesday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 20

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

**Responsorial Psalm:** I have found David, my servant.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## Wednesday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 21 - Saint Agnes

**Entrance Antiphon:** Blessed is the virgin who by denying herself and taking up her cross imitated the Lord, the spouse of virgins and prince of martyrs.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!

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

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

## Thursday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 22

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

**Responsorial Psalm:** In God I trust; I shall not fear.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through His gospel. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## Friday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 23

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before You, O God, and shall sing to You, shall sing to Your name, O Most High!

**Responsorial Psalm:** Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to Himself; and the Good News of reconciliation He has entrusted to us. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

## Saturday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time - January 24 - Saint Francis De Sales

**Entrance Antiphon:** I will look after My sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us see Your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of Your Son. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** It was not you who chose Me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.