

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 @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"**

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time **Mass Readings (Year A) - February 7th & 8th, 2026**

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

First Reading - Isaiah 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and do not turn from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows Me will have the light of life. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 5: 13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

The St. Gerard's Finance Committee will be presenting our Parish Finance Report on the weekend of the 14th and 15th of February. We thank you and appreciate your ongoing support.

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will visit the Parish this weekend 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.

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 Class registrations will be held on Tuesday, 10th February with classes beginning on Tuesday, 17th February from 4pm, meeting in the Church foyer.

Please note: We require all children to attend the Mass on Sunday, 15th February at 10:30am for the Welcome blessing.

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained by Dr Edward Sri / RCIA Program - Join us on Thursday, 12th February, 2026 beginning at 7:00pm as we explore the topic of - **Penance and Anointing of the sick: God's mercy revealed.** 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.

Join Palms International Volunteering online in this special session where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives. Venue: Online-Register at palms.org.au/events. Date: Thursday, 19 February, 2026. Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm. Phone: 02 9560 5333. Email: palms@palms.org.au. Want to visit a community first? Join our 13-day Encounter Tour to Timor Leste! Book by 28 February for the May tour! See palms.org.au/encounters

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://brucedownes.org/lent-2026-sign-up/> Go to [BruceDownes.org](https://brucedownes.org) for more information.

God and Beer Monday 16th February - How Christians Can Succeed Today - Greg Sheridan encourages us to listen to the voices of the early Christians and emulate their commitment, integrity, resilience and smarts. Greg Sheridan is one of Australia's best-known journalists. This is his ninth book. 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 at 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.

During LENT, the **Legion of Mary** will once again lead the **Stations of the Cross, right after the 9:15 am Mass each weekday**, Monday to Friday, starting from Monday, 23rd February 2026.

Everyone is welcome, please join us. We will provide the Stations of the Cross pamphlets to be returned after.

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. 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.

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

MASS and INTENTIONS

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

Mass 5:30pm For the good health of Karen & Hermione Daniels
and Deceased family & friends of John & Margaret Keble

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, February 8th - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Peter Shannahan (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 12:00pm **Tamil Community**

Mass 5:30pm Duro (George) & Eva Jozicic (*Remembrance* ✝)
and Pina Lidonnici (*1st Month Death Anniversary* ✝)

Monday, 9th February

Mass 9:15am William Crisp (*Death Anniversary* ✝)
and For Holy Innocent, Olivia

Tuesday, 10th February - Saint Scholastica

Mass 9:15am Royston Lopez (*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)
and For the souls of Malcolm & Antoinette Antony ✝
and Aloyious De Silva (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

Wednesday, 11th February

Mass 9:15am Vernon Braganza (*Recently Deceased* ✝)

Thursday, 12th February

Mass 9:15am Griselda Dias (*Recently Deceased* ✝)
7:00pm Symbolon - RCIA Program

Friday, 13th February

Mass 9:15am Monica Dickson (*Death Anniversary* ✝)
and Private Intention

Saturday, 14th February - Saints Cyril and Methodius

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes from Leandar
and Wendy Lewis and family

Saturday Vigil, 14th February - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Giovanna McKercher (*Remembrance* ✝)
and Deceased family & friends of John & Margaret Keble

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, February 15th - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Royston Lopez (*Death Anniversary* ✝)
and For the souls of Malcolm & Antoinette Antony ✝

and *Thanksgiving & congratulations on the baptism day
of Rosabelle Monica D'Vaz*

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions
Welcome Rite blessing for Catechism students

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Thanksgiving from the family of Zvonko Glavacevic

Please join us for tea and coffee following the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, 15th February. We are appealing for more volunteers for this day and future occasions. Please contact the office to register on 9792 4422. Thank you!

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 VanTwest, Dale Rozario, Mauraad Beshy, Wafaa Farah, Blanca Vazquez, Raymond Mifsud, Maria Oblak, Gratian 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, Andre, Anthony Cheng

The recently deceased:

Pina Lidonnici, Rose Baddour, Eve DeBlaquiere, Vernon Braganza, Griselda Dias, Giuseppina Latronico, Rosa Bramanti, Holy Innocent Olivia

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Peter Shannahan, George Dos Remedios, Raffaelina Marotta, Aida Sufra, Estelle LeGentil, Antonietta Tucci, Victor Anthony

Church Cleaning

Saturday, February 14
Legion of Mary

Saturday, February 21
Gonsalves Family, Mario, L. Harper

Weekly Collection

February 1, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,615.50

Presbytery: \$880.35

Reading Roster

Saturday, February 14

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, February 15

8:30am G. Van Hees

10:30am M. Jose

5:30pm J. Panicker

Saturday, February 21

5:30pm D. Franklin

Sunday, February 22

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Daily Antiphons - Monday February 9 to Saturday February 14, 2026

Monday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 9

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, go up to the place of Your rest!

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

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Tuesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 10 - Saint Scholastica

Entrance Antiphon: I despised the kingdom of the world and all worldly finery for love of my Lord, Jesus Christ, whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, in whom has been my delight.

Responsorial Psalm: How lovely is Your dwelling-place, Lord, mighty God!

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Turn my heart to do Your will; teach me Your law, O God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: One thing is necessary: she has chosen the better part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 11

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: The mouths of the just murmur wisdom.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 12

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, remember us, for the love You bear Your people.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Receive and submit to the word planted in you; it can save your souls. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Friday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 13

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for He is the Lord our God.

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

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

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for His mercy, His wonders for the children of men for He satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry He fills with good things.

Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time - February 14 - Saints Cyril and Methodius

Entrance Antiphon: These are holy men who became friends of God, glorious heralds of divine truth.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, remember us, for the love You bear Your people.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The disciples went forth and preached the Gospel, while the Lord worked with them, confirming the word through accompanying signs.