

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAI AH MARNENI

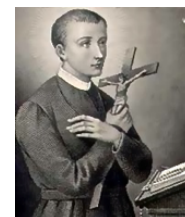
Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

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 *Visit website for updates

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 of Easter - Mass Readings (Year A) - May 2 & 3, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for He has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations He has shown His deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through Me. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading - John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

Communion Antiphon: I am the true vine and You are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in Me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Prayer to Saint Gerard Majella



Great protector of the family, Saint 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.

God and Beer Monday 11th May A Man For All Seasons: Remembering George Cardinal Pell Cardinal

George Pell was a significant figure in Australian public life and in the life of the Catholic Church from the time of his appointment to the episcopacy in the 1980s until his death in 2023. His imprisonment for some 404 days for a crime he did not commit was one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in Australian legal history. As a defender of Catholic orthodoxy, Pell drew opposition from liberal Catholic quarters and from anti-Christian intellectual elites, and as the Vatican's Prefect for the Economy, he found himself in the position of having to expose and then clean up the financial corruption within the Roman Curia. Thus he was fighting wars on more than one front in more than one country. He had many enemies but he also had many friends and was revered by young Catholics on the orthodox end of the theological spectrum. Tracey Rowland, a friend of the cardinal's and one of the premiere theologians in the world today, has compiled the stories of people who knew the cardinal well into a new book. Among the contributors are Cardinal Gerhard Müller, George Weigel, Joanna Bogle, Andrew Bolt, Bishop Peter Elliott, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Sister Mary Grace, S.V., Canon Alexander Sherbrooke, Rev. Jerome Santamaria, and many more. Professor Rowland will share some of the highlights of book in this talk. This promises to be an evening of good conversation, fellowship, and faith. We hope you'll join us! [Buy the book](#): Remembering George Cardinal Pell - Recollections of a Great Man of the Church. More about [Professor Tracey Rowland](#). Topic: A Man For All Seasons: Remembering George Cardinal Pell

Speaker: Tracey Rowland. Date: Monday 11th May Time: 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

****Venue: St Gerard's Catholic Church - Parish Hall, 71 Gladstone Rd, Dandenong North (behind the church). ****

Tickets: Free (but limited) An initiative of the Knights of the Southern Cross to bring together people of all ages from across the south-east suburbs of Melbourne each month. Our aim is to inspire and strengthen Christians by providing ideas and inspiration for renewing the Church by drawing on the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic tradition.

God and Beer is an initiative of the [Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria](#)

Spiritual Adoption - Beginning the 12th of May, we invite everyone to spiritually adopt a child in the womb at risk of abortion. After stating a commitment prayer, over the next nine months praying a decade of the rosary and daily spiritual prayer, we are calling on many to protect the life of your baby. Spiritual adoption is open to all ages.

For more information, please, text Clarke on 0402 341 649.

Congratulations to the families and children whom will be baptised this weekend at St. Gerard's. May you all grow closer to God in your faith, love and understanding. God bless you all.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal will be taken this weekend. Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in the church foyer, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515.

“For I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matthew 25:35)

The 6th National Count of Attendance at Mass and Other (Sunday) Assemblies will begin this weekend and continue for the month of May. This year marks a significant milestone—25 years of national attendance data, beginning with the first count in 2001. The 2026 results will provide valuable insights into long-term trends, particularly in understanding the ongoing effects of the pandemic, which influenced attendance in 2021.

Since signing the Decree of Convocation of the Melbourne Synod by the Archbishop, each week, we will share frequently asked questions regarding Synods.

41. Synodality helps the Church grow

Growth in faith often comes through dialogue and shared discernment.

42. Synodality is a gift

It is not an obligation imposed from above, but a gift for the Church's renewal.

43. Synodality and faithfulness

True synodality deepens fidelity to Christ and His Gospel.

44. Synodality is about relationship

At its heart, synodality is relational—walking with God and with one another.

45. Synodality and witness

A Church that walks together gives a powerful witness to the world.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 2nd May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Repose of the soul of Valiant Franklin ❖

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 3rd May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Jonathon Thornton (*Death Anniversary* ❖)

and Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Serge Savanah (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

12:00pm Parish Baptisms

Mass 5:30pm Patrick Collins Senior (*Death Anniversary* ❖)

Monday, 4th May

Mass 9:15am Patrick Collins Senior (*Death Anniversary* ❖)

and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and For sick priests and religious people of the world who have no-one to pray for them

Tuesday, 5th May

Mass 9:15am For the prayer intentions of the St. Gerard's Monica's Prayer Group

and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes for Christelle D'Vaz's 3rd Birthday

and Serge Savanah (*1st month Recently Deceased* ❖)

and For a Private Intention and for the souls in Purgatory

and Devasia Mundanthadathil (*48th Death Anniversary* ❖)

6.30pm Saint Monica's Prayer Group in the Church

Wednesday, 6th May

Mass 9:15am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Thanksgiving on the 23rd Birthday of Jonathan Francis

and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

Thursday, 7th May

Mass 9:15am Jeanne Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Heather de Kretser (*1st Death Anniversary* ❖)

Friday, 8th May

Mass 9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

Saturday, 9th May

9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Private Intention

Saturday Vigil, 9th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Pierino Rivalta (*2nd Death Anniversary* ❖)

and Thanksgiving for favours granted

and Thanksgiving on the birthday of Charlene Fernando

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 10th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Bruno Marino (*Remembrance* ❖)

and Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Serge Savanah (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Pierino Rivalta (*2nd Death Anniversary* ❖)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 3:30pm Tamil Community

Mass 5:30pm Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ❖)

and Pierino Rivalta (*2nd Death Anniversary* ❖)

Please pray for...

Our sick: Heather Fernandez, Maria Tomaselli, Ricky Fagan, Anne Moorthy, Lynette Whetton, Lucia, Gration Vettivelu, John Keble, Pamela Chen, Michael Bruno, Steven Dickson, Derek Chater, Franca Rechichi, Robyn Coffey, Marion Quyn, David Naidoo, Barbara Daniells, Jackie Foulstone, Sean Van Twest, Damien Gerard Misquith, Christopher Patterson, Gabby Vettivelu

The recently deceased:

Serge Savanah, Roberto Morando, Jeanne Joseph, Patrick Scanlon, Mitchel Agullo, Rita Joseph, Liberata Fortuna, Michael Hoare

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Patrick Collins Snr, Darryl Williams, Vincent Williams, Francis Williams, Louis Williams, Walter De Silva, Vilma Cramer, David Pearson, Francis Zahra

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 9

French Community

Saturday, May 16

Tamil Community

Weekly Collection

April 26, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,531.00

Presbytery: \$909.85

Reading Roster

Saturday, May 9

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, May 10

8:30am G. VanHees

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Saturday, May 16

5:30pm Confirmands

Sunday, May 17

8:30am G. Becerra

10:30am Catechists

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Amendment to Confession

Confession will not be heard on a weekday from Monday 11th May to Friday 15th May.

Confession will resume on Saturday, 11th May prior to the morning Mass from 8:30am until 9:00am and after the Mass until 10:30am. Thank you.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, May 4th to Saturday, May 9th, 2026

Monday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 4

Entrance Antiphon: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down His life for His sheep and willingly died for His flock, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Not to us, O Lord, but to Your name give the glory.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and remind you of all I have said to you. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 5

Entrance Antiphon: Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of His Christ, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Your friends tell the glory of Your kingship, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead, and so enter into His glory. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 6

Entrance Antiphon: Let my mouth be filled with Your praise, that I may sing aloud; my lips shall shout for joy, when I sing to You, alleluia.

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

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Live in Me and let Me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Lord has risen and shone His light upon us, whom He has redeemed by His Blood, alleluia.

Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 7

Entrance Antiphon: Let us sing to the Lord, for He has gloriously triumphed. The Lord is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Proclaim His marvellous deeds to all the nations.

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

Communion Antiphon: Christ died for all, that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and is risen, alleluia.

Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 8

Entrance Antiphon: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise You among the nations, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I call you My friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told Me. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Crucified is risen from the dead and has redeemed us, alleluia.

Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter - May 9

Entrance Antiphon: You have been buried with Christ in Baptism, through which you also rose again by faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Father, I pray for them, that they may be one in us, so that the world may believe it was You who sent Me, says the Lord, alleluia.

