

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

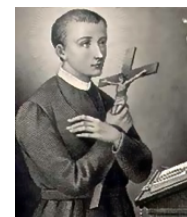
Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

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 *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"

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Mass Readings (Year A) - April 25/26, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know My sheep, and Mine know Me. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - John 10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

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

The 6th National Count of Attendance at Mass and Other (Sunday) Assemblies will begin next weekend, 2nd & 3rd of May 2026. 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 COVID-19 pandemic, which influenced attendance patterns in 2021.

Altar Server Training will resume on Thursday, 30th April.
Please call Ron Maroun on 0412 212 287 if you have any queries or wish to join.

Please return your Project Compassion boxes to the office or directly to Fr. Shanthaiah. Please do not leave them in the foyer of the Church. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

Please note that the office will be closed on Friday, 1st May. Thank you.

The Secret of the Holy Face Australian Tour: Fr Lawrence Carney, author of *The Secret of the Holy Face*, has dedicated many years to promoting and teaching this powerful devotion. Fr Carney will share the history, meaning, and spiritual significance of the Holy Face devotion and how simple daily prayers can become a profound act of reparation and renewal in our world. To be held: 26 & 27 April. Locations: Blackburn North, Mill Park & Caroline Springs. Free tickets for entry / donations to be collected after talk. Books and merchandise available (cash sales). Contact: Evelyn Ogilby 0405 156 971.

The World Day of Prayer for Vocations is Sunday 26th April.
Pope Leo tells us: Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use (cf. Mt 25:14-30) and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ. Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal will be taken next weekend.
CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action - empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. 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)

Middle East Emergency Appeal – Aid to the Church in Need
Aid to the Church in Need is calling for urgent prayer and support for Christian communities affected by war in the Middle East. Your help will provide emergency food packages, support parishes sheltering displaced families, keep schools running, and supply vital medical and pastoral care. To learn more or give today, please visit www.rebrand.ly/EmergencyAppeal

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

33. Synodality and mission beyond the Church

A synodal Church listens not only inwardly but outwardly, engaging respectfully with society and culture.

34. Synodality prevents isolation

When leaders and communities walk together, no one carries the burden alone. Synodality builds shared responsibility.

35. Synodality and courage

Listening honestly may reveal uncomfortable truths. Synodality requires courage to face them with faith.

36. Synodality is a long journey

A Synod is not a one-time event. Synodality is a way of life that unfolds over time.

37. Synodality and renewal

Renewal does not come from programs alone but from transformed relationships. Synodality nurtures those relationships.

38. Synodality and mercy

Listening with compassion reflects the mercy of Christ, who always began with encounter.

39. Synodality invites responsibility

Being heard also means being responsible for the Church's mission.

40. Synodality and prayer

Without prayer, synodality loses its soul. Every step must be rooted in prayer.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 25th April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Ana & Mijo (Michael) Glavacevic (*Remem.* ✚)

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 26th April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
and Conrad Chmielewski (*Death Anniversary* ✚)
and Serge Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions
Baptism Welcome Rite blessing

Mass 5:30pm Liberata Fortuna (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Monday, 27th April - No Confession today

Mass 9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
and Peter Netto (*Remembrance* ✚)

Tuesday, 28th April - Saint Peter Chanel - No Confession today

Mass 9:15am Simone Valadon (*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)

Wednesday, 29th April - Saint Catherine of Siena

Mass 9:15am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✚)
and Repose of the souls of Antonette & Charles Henry
Vettivelu (*Remembrance* ✚)

Thursday, 30th April

Mass 9:15am Harold Edmonds (*Remembrance* ✚)
and K.T. Jose (*5th Death Anniversary* ✚)

Friday, 1st May - Office Closed today

Mass 9:15am Eva and Djuro (George) Jozicic (*Remembrance* ✚)

Saturday, 2nd May

9:15am Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes from
Isabelle, Christelle, Rosabelle D'Vaz and Luke
Lewis

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 Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✚)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 5:30pm Patrick Collins Senior (*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 Savannah, Roberto Morando, Jeanne Joseph, Patrick Scanlon, Mitchel Agullo, Rita Joseph, Liberata Fortuna, Michael Hoare

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Eamon Flynn, Conrad Chmielewski, Lina Occhietti, Simone Valadon, Peter Netto

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 2

Maronite Community

Saturday, May 9

French Community

Weekly Collection

April 19, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,482.50

Presbytery: \$730.15

Reading Roster

Saturday, May 2

5:30pm J. Fernando

Sunday, May 3

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am E. Ebert

5:30pm L. Hector

Saturday, May 9

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, May 10

8:30am G. VanHees

10:30am M. Naidoo

5:30pm Janet D'Souza

Amendment to Confession

Confession will not be heard on

Monday 27th April or

Tuesday 28th April.

Confession will resume on

Wednesday, 29th April prior to the
morning Mass from 8:30am until

9:00am. Thank you.

Explore the powerful and life-changing teachings of
Saint Pope John Paul II's Theology so that teens may discover a deeper
understanding of their identity, relationships, and purpose.

FOR TEENS YEAR 9 - YEAR 12

ENROL NOW FOR 2026

\$40 enrolment covers materials & provisions



EVERY FRIDAY EVENING
24TH OF APRIL - 26TH OF JUNE (TERM 2)

8.30 PM TO 8.30 PM

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH
496 PRINCES HWY, NARRE WARREN



Daily Antiphons - Monday, April 27th to Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter - April 27

Entrance Antiphon: Christ, having risen from the dead, dies now no more; death will no longer have dominion over Him, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for the living God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know My sheep, and Mine know Me. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Jesus stood in the midst of His disciples and said to them: Peace be with you, alleluia.

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter - April 28 - Saint Peter Chanel

Entrance Antiphon: Perpetual light will shine on Your Saints, O Lord, and life without end for ever, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: All you nations, praise the Lord.

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

Communion Antiphon: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Easter - April 29 - Saint Catherine of Siena

Entrance Antiphon: Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: O God, let all the nations praise You!

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

Communion Antiphon: If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of His Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin, alleluia.

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter - April 30

Entrance Antiphon: O God, when You went forth before Your people, marching with them and living among them, the earth trembled, heavens poured down rain, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Jesus Christ, You are the fruitful witness, firstborn from the dead; you have loved us and washed away our sins in Your blood. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter - May 1

Entrance Antiphon: You have redeemed us, Lord, by Your Blood, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us into a kingdom, priests for our God, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: You are My Son; this day I have begotten You.

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!*

Communion Antiphon: Christ our Lord was handed over for our transgressions and was raised again for our justification, alleluia.

Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter - May 2 - Saint Athanasius

Entrance Antiphon: In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: No one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ, alleluia.