

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

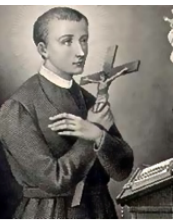
Parish Phone: 9792 4422 Email: dandenongnorth@cam.org.au Address: 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

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 changes

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



Third Sunday of Easter - Mass Readings (Year A) - April 18/19, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of His name. O render Him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 2: 14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy; my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence. 'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, You will show us the path of life.

Second Reading - 1 Peter 1:17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make Your word plain to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Luke 24:13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.' Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

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"

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.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session - 2 May 2026 - The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 50+, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. To be held Saturday, 2nd May, 10.00am–11.30am in person at The Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne. Email: Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish. All are welcome.

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.

DANDENONG DEANERY COUNCIL DINNER PROGRAM
Listening To: The Voices That Echo the Glory of God through Peace & Mercy. DATE: Wednesday 29th April. VENUE: Graduate's Restaurant, St John's Regional College, Caroline Street, Dandenong. Arrive: 5.30pm for 5.45pm start. COST: \$48 per person. 3 course meal, wine & Beer. GUEST SPEAKER: Dalal Smiley - Wellsprings for Women CEO. RSVP: Friday 24th April to Paddy 0422 296 961 or e-mail: dandenongdeanery@live.com.au

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!
Join Palms International Volunteering for two special sessions where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. In April meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, or join our May session for a live crossing to Timor Leste and see how lives are changing today. Visit palms.org.au/events. Date: Thursday 30 April 2026, 7 pm – 8:30 pm. Live from Timor Leste! Date: Thursday 21 May 2026, 4 pm – 5:30 pm. Call 02 9560 5333 or visit palms@palms.org.au

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.

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.

26. Synodality and the Holy Spirit

At the heart of synodality is trust in the Holy Spirit. Without prayer, synodality becomes mere strategy. With prayer, it becomes a path of grace.

27. Synodality and Scripture

From Abraham's journey to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Scripture is full of stories of God walking with His people. Synodality places us within that biblical story.

28. Why participation matters

Participation helps people move from being passive recipients to active disciples. This deepens faith and strengthens mission.

29. Synodality is not uniformity

Different cultures, communities, and parishes will live synodality in different ways. Unity does not require sameness.

30. Synodality and hope

A synodal Church believes that renewal is possible, even in difficult times. Hope is not naïve optimism—it is trust in God's faithfulness.

31. Synodality and young people

Young people long to be heard and taken seriously. Synodality invites the Church to listen attentively to their questions and hopes.

32. Synodality and families

Families are schools of synodality, where listening, patience, and forgiveness are lived daily. The Church learns synodality from family life.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 18th April - Third Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Roger and Anne-Marie Dalta (*Death Anniv.* ✠)
and Serge Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✠)

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 19th April - Third Sunday of Easter

Mass 8:30am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Giovanni Cardamone (*Death Anniversary* ✠)
and Serge Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Patrick Scanlon (*Recently Deceased* ✠)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 3:30pm French Mass

Mass 5:30pm James Carville & David Nolan (*Remembrance* ✠)

Monday, 20th April

Mass 9:15am Margaret & Alexander Stewart (*Death Anniv.* ✠)
and Mass of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, 21st April

Mass 9:15am James Carville & David Nolan (*Remembrance* ✠)
and Serge Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fernando family for
graces of good health and blessings

11:00am Rosary, followed by Funeral Mass for Serge Savannah ✠

Wednesday, 22nd April

Mass 9:15am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and John Cook (*1st year Death Anniversary* ✠)

Thursday, 23rd April - ****Please note amended Mass time****

No confessions will be heard today.

Mass 8:30am William Hart (*Death Anniversary* ✠)
and Ben Martin (*1st Month Remembrance* ✠)

Friday, 24th April

Mass 9:15am Hillary Egodamahawatte (*Remembrance* ✠)
and Ben and Zillah Martin (*69th Wedding Anniversary*)

Saturday, 25th April - **ANZAC DAY - No Confessions after Mass**

9:15am Thanksgiving to St. Anthony and Thanksgiving
on Belinda's Birthday

Saturday Vigil, 25th April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

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 Intentions of the Parish

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

The recently deceased:

Ben Martin, Rita Culloden, Karine Johnston, Serge Savannah, Roberto Morando, Jeanne Joseph, Patrick Joseph Scanlon, Mitchel Agullo

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Roger & Anne-Marie Dalta,
John Cook

Church Cleaning

Saturday, April 25

Gonsalves Family, Mario, Ignatius

Saturday, May 2

Maronite Community

Weekly Collection

April 12, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,586.50

Presbytery: \$800.80

Reading Roster

Saturday, April 25

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, April 26

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am J. Abraham

5:30pm M. Yallapa

Saturday, May 2

5:30pm J. Fernando

Sunday, May 3

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am E. Ebert

5:30pm L. Hector

****Please note****

**On Thursday, 23rd April,
Mass will be held at 8:30am and
NO confessions will be heard.**

**On Saturday, 25th April,
Confessions will only be heard
from 8:15am to 9:00am.**

NOT after the Mass.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, April 20th to Saturday, April 25th, 2026

Monday of the Third Week of Easter - April 20

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

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed are they who walk in the way of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *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 Third Week of Easter - April 21

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: Into Your hands, O Lord, I entrust My Spirit.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the bread of life, says the Lord; whoever comes to Me will never be hungry. *Alleluia!*

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

Wednesday of the Third Week of Easter - April 22

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 all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* All who believe in the Son have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

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

Thursday of the Third Week of Easter - April 23

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

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. *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 Third Week of Easter - April 24

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

Responsorial Psalm: Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* All who eat My flesh and drink My blood live in Me and I in them, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

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

Saturday of the Third Week of Easter - April 25 - ANZAC Day

Entrance Antiphon: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Let them rest from their labours, for their good deeds go with them.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.