

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI

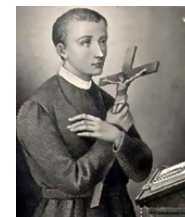
Parish Phone: 9792 4422 **Email:** dandenongnorth@cam.org.au **Address:** 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

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"

The Ascension of the Lord - Mass Readings (Year A) - May 16/17, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw Him go, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading - Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Go and teach all people My gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, 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 Wonder of Pentecost, A Sacred Music Concert at St Peter's Toorak

DATE: Friday 22 May 2026 · 7pm LOCATION: St Peter's Catholic Church, 581 Toorak Road, Toorak.

BOOKING: trybooking.com/DJRJP. Experience the beauty of a centuries-old musical tradition in a historic church.

This event forms part of the St Peter's *Encountering Beauty* 2026 Sacred Music Concert Series, which draws from the Church's rich musical tradition. Each performance within the series offers a distinct programme. Across the series, audiences encounter stunning live performances from Melbourne's leading singers and musicians. Original compositions and timeless classical pieces encompass choral works, Gregorian chant, ancient polyphony and organ repertoire, enriched by strings, harp and chamber orchestra. Admission is by donation, supporting this concert series and helping make the Church's rich musical tradition accessible to all. Light refreshments will be served during the evening.

To assist with catering, please book your place in advance: trybooking.com/DJRJP

Seminary Enquiry Day 2026 - The Archbishop invites all young men to join him at Corpus Christi College on Saturday, 23rd May 2026. Corpus Christi is the place where young men discern and study for the priesthood. You may or may not be considering a vocation, however, you are encouraged to join and hear more about a vocation and enjoy lunch with current Seminarians.

Please email vocations@cam.org.au for more information and to RSVP.

FRANCISCUS: Celebrating 800 Years of St Francis of Assisi!

The Capuchin Franciscan Friars are hosting a **2-day Conference** at St Anthony's, Hawthorn on the weekend of **30th-31st May** to celebrate this **Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi**; to reflect upon and share about the amazing life and enduring legacy of this great saint. Each day will commence with registration at 8:30am and a 9am talk; each day concluding at 5pm. Across the 2 days, there will be six talks, a workshop, a Q&A Panel, as well as daily Mass and concluding each day with Evening Prayer. Light lunch provided. No registration fee but there will be the opportunity to donate to support the running of the Conference.

For more details, and to **Register**: <https://www.trybooking.com/DMBUF>



For the month of May, we invite everyone to **Spiritually Adopt a Child** in the womb at risk of abortion.

To make the pledge, say a prayer in front of a crucifix or holy picture. Sign up and become a champion for the unborn and be a voice for a baby that does not have one. This will involve commitment to prayer for the next nine months. Spiritual adoption is open to all ages. For more information, please note your name on the sign up sheet and collect a prayer card from the Church foyer or text Clarke on 0402 341 649.

Congratulations!

We extend our congratulations to the following candidates who will be confirmed this weekend;

Xavier Bo, Rafael Bobic, Cecilia Thien My Dang, Hailey Deiparine, Sophia Fernando, Hayden Francis, Victoria Hanson, Katalina Kassianou, Illejandra Plavljanic, Dekota Rezel, Hudson Schoorman, Matej Strukar, Chelsea Vitoria, Alleah Wooldridge

May we continue to pray for these children and their families, that the Holy Spirit will give them strength and draw them closer into a life of faith where their love for God will empower them.

The children's journey of faith would not have been possible without the support of parents, family members, teachers and sponsors. Thank you all!

Thank you to Episcopal Vicar for the Southern Region Fr. Andrzej Madry CR for ministering the Holy Spirit to our children and inspiring them to be faithful friends of Jesus.

The 6th National Count of Attendance at Mass and Other (Sunday) Assemblies will 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.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, 16th May - The Ascension of the Lord

Mass 5:30pm Congratulations to the children being Confirmed
and Trevor Pereira (*Remembrance* ✠)

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 17th May - The Ascension of the Lord

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

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 3:30pm French Community

Mass 5:30pm Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Thanksgiving for favours received
and Mario Civitante (*Recently Deceased* ✠)

Monday, 18th May

Mass 9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and For the health of Karen and Hermione Daniells and for their
deceased loved ones

Tuesday, 19th May

Mass 9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and For the health of Michael Bruno
and Intercessory prayers from St. Scholastica for Private Intention

Wednesday, 20th May

Mass 9:15am Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Anthony George Nihal Wijesekera (*6th Death Anniversary* ✠)
and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and For the Holy Souls in Purgatory & Private Intention

Thursday, 21st May

Mass 9:15am Carmela Bruno (*Remembrance* ✠)
and Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)

Friday, 22nd May

Mass 9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Sheila White (*Remembrance* ✠)
and Wayne Deabe (*Death Anniversary & Remembrance* ✠)
and Edgar Peiris (*Death Anniversary* ✠)

Saturday, 23rd May

9:15am Rita Joseph (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Stanley Van Twest (*Birthday Rememb. & Death Anniv.* ✠)
and Sharlane Van Twest (*Death Anniversary* ✠)
and For the health of Karen & Hermione Daniells and for their
deceased loved ones

Saturday Vigil, 23rd May - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 5:30pm Rachel Radeve (*Remembrance* ✠)
and Thanksgiving Mass for Branca Patel

7:00pm Maronite Mass

Sunday, 24th May - Pentecost Sunday

Mass 8:30am Aurore La Rue (*Death Anniversary* ✠)
and Rita Culloden (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Serge Savannah (*Recently Deceased* ✠)
and Patrick Scanlon (*40th day Remembrance* ✠)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 5:30pm Zdenka Halupa (*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, Marion Quyn, David Naidoo, Barbara Daniells, Jackie Foulstone, Sean Van Twest, Damien Gerard Misquith, Christopher Patterson, Gabby Vettivelu

The recently deceased:

Serge Savannah, Carmel Mary, Fr. Peter Foley, Fr. Grant O'Neill, Eleonora Fogal

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Mike Lovett, Rosina Cardamone, Mario Civitante, Olive Anthony, Apolonio Rosare, Edgar Peiris

Church Cleaning

Saturday, May 23

Frank, Zenon, Betty, Robert, Kim

Saturday, May 30

Mulipola Family

Weekly Collection

May 10, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,385.10

Presbytery: \$744.45

Reading Roster

Saturday, May 23

5:30pm P. Kroon

Sunday, May 24

8:30am C. Becerra

10:30am K. Lopez

5:30pm J. Panicker

Saturday, May 30

5:30pm B. Collins

Sunday, May 31

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm L. Hector

Confession

Confession will not be heard on Sunday or Monday.

Confession is heard Tuesday to Saturday from 8:20am to 8:50am including after the Mass on Saturday until 10:30am.

Daily Antiphons

Monday, May 18th to Saturday, May 23rd, 2026

Monday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 18

Entrance Antiphon: You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you will be My witnesses, even to the ends of the earth, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

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: I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come to you again, and your heart will rejoice, alleluia.

Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 19

Entrance Antiphon: I am the first and the last, I was dead and am now alive. Behold, I am alive for ever and ever, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Father will send you the Holy Spirit, says the Lord, to be with you for ever. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of all I have told you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 20

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

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

Communion Antiphon: When the Paraclete comes, whom I will send you, the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness to Me, and you also will bear witness, says the Lord, alleluia.

Thursday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 21

Entrance Antiphon: With boldness let us approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace as a timely help, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Keep me safe, O God; You are my hope.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* May all be one as You are, Father, and I in You; let the world believe that You sent Me, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I tell you the truth, it is for your good that I go; for if I do not go away, the Paraclete will not come to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 22

Entrance Antiphon: Christ loved us and washed us clean of our sins by His Blood, and made us into a kingdom, priests for His God and Father, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has set His throne in heaven.

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: When the Spirit of truth comes, He will teach you all truth, says the Lord, alleluia.

Saturday of the Seventh Week of Easter - May 23

Entrance Antiphon: The disciples devoted themselves with one accord to prayer with the women, and Mary the Mother of Jesus, and His brethren, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The just will gaze on Your face, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* I will send you the Spirit of truth, says the Lord; He will lead you to the whole truth. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: The Holy Spirit will glorify Me, for He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you, says the Lord, alleluia.