

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"

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Mass Readings (Year A) - July 26, 2026

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

First Reading - 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love Your commands.

Second Reading - Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

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.

‘WE ARE Called’ - VOCATIONS EXPO - with Archbishop Peter Comensoli

ACU Campus Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite you to come and explore what life looks like in Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan Priesthood, and Married life. Hear from speakers who will share what answering a call looks like, what challenges lie ahead and the many joys you find along the way. On Saturday 1 August, GREG CRAVEN CENTRE, LEVEL 7, ST TERESA OF KOLKATA BUILDING, ACU MELBOURNE.
From 9AM-1PM. Free event. Book - trybooking.com/DNKHK

Treasures of the Kingdom: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

What is your new life in Christ worth to you?

Do you love His words more than gold and silver, as we sing in today’s Psalm? Would you, like the characters in the Gospel today, sell all that you have in order to possess the kingdom He promises to us? If God were to grant any wish, would you follow Solomon’s example in today’s First Reading—asking not for a long life or riches but for wisdom to know God’s ways and to desire His will?

The background for today’s Gospel, as it has been for the past several weeks, is the rejection of Jesus’ preaching by Israel. The kingdom of heaven has come into their midst; yet, many cannot see that Jesus is the fulfillment of God’s promises, a gift of divine compassion given so that they—and we—might live.

We, too, must ever discover the kingdom anew. We are called to find it as a treasure, a pearl of great price. By comparison with the kingdom, we must count all else as rubbish (see Philippians 3:8). And we must be willing to give up all that we have—all our priorities and plans—in order to gain it.

Jesus’ Gospel discloses what Paul in today’s Epistle calls the purpose of God’s plan (see Ephesians 1:4): for Jesus be the firstborn of many brothers.

His words give understanding to the simple, the childlike. As Solomon does today, we must humble ourselves before God, giving ourselves to His service. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart, one that desires only to do His will.

We are called to love God, to delight in His law, and to forsake every false way. And we are to conform ourselves daily ever more closely to the image of His Son.

If we do this, we can approach His altar as a pleasing sacrifice, confident that all things work for the good—that we whom He has justified will also be glorified.

The 5 Love Languages - The Secret to Love that Lasts: Enrichment Day for Couples is based on the international bestseller by Dr Gary Chapman. We all need to feel loved. Men and women have an “emotional love tank”. When it’s full, we feel content, secure, and loved. We all communicate love primarily according to one of five love languages. And the truly life-changing moment comes when we understand and speak each other’s love language. Your presenters, Deb & Paul Cochran, have been married for 37 years and involved with Marriage Encounter for 27 years. They have presented the 5 Love Languages Enrichment to Couples in Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. Deb & Paul bring the concepts of the book alive in a humorous and relatable way as they share their own experiences. 9 am-5 pm, Sat, 15 August 2026 at Saint Eugene’s Retreat & Conference Centre, 45 John Field Drive, Newborough (Gippsland) VIC 3825. Cost: \$60 per couple (includes course materials, lunch and morning & afternoon tea). More information and booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DMSUR> Enquiries: Maria & Andre Rasquinha E: andrerasquinha@yahoo.com.au T: 0411 225 992.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil, July 25 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Mass of Thanksgiving - Brandon Collins

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, July 26 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Anthony Maurice Domingo
(*Birthday Remembrance* ✝)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 5:30pm Bruno Lebrasse, Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia & Hans Vydilingum (*Remembrance* ✝)

Monday, July 27

Mass 9:15am Maureen Jayamaha (*First Death Anniversary* ✝)

Tuesday, July 28

Mass 9:15am Rosie Nicholas (*Remembrance* ✝)

Wednesday, July 29 - Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Mass 9:15am Sarah Dennis (*Death Anniversary* ✝)

Thursday, July 30 - ** No Confessions this morning **

Mass 9:15am Jean-Claude Dedans, Jean Loup Gontran, Roger Christophe & Daniel Chung Chin (*Remembrance* ✝)

Friday, July 31 - Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Mass 9:15am Repose of the Souls of Mr & Mrs Caulfield and Hanna Caulfield (*Remembrance* ✝)

Saturday, August 1 - Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Mass 9:15am Geraldine Treck (*Death Anniversary* ✝)
and Thanksgiving on the birthday of Isabella

Saturday Vigil, August 1 - Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Bruno Lebrasse, Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia & Hans Vydilingum (*Remembrance* ✝)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Sunday, August 2 - Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Thanksgiving for, and repose of the soul of, Marie-Claire De Chalain ✝

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

Mass 5:30pm Intentions of the Parish

**Please visit the Piety stall to place your order for 'God's Word' for 2027.
Thank you.**

**Please note: Fr. Shanthaiah will be unavailable to hear confessions on
Thursday, 30th July as he is saying Mass at Nazareth College.
Thank you for your understanding.**

Please pray for...

Our sick: Fr Brendan Lane, Maria Tomaselli, Ricky Fagan, Anne Moorthy, Lynette Whetton, Lucia, Gration Vettivelu, Gabby Vettivelu, John Keble, Pamela Chen, Michael Bruno, Steven Dickson, Derek Chater, Franca Rechichi, Marion Quyn, David Naidoo, Barbara Daniells, Jackie Foulstone, Sean VanTwet, Damien Gerard Misquith, Christopher Patterson, Gerard, Frances Dos Remedios, Marie Thomas, Rosalie Wright, Michael DePenha, Antonimary, Margaret Rose Rochecouste, Fr Patolo Matiasi, Shaan

The recently deceased:

Fr Tad Ziolkowski, Rani Fernando, Lovett Dos Remedios, Fiorina Miranda, Fr Thomas Anikala MSFS, Fr Paul Theneth MSFS, Marie Therese Leclerc

Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Maureen Jayamaha, Beverley Deabe, Faustina Desa, Francesca & Dino Antonucci

Church Cleaning

Saturday, August 1

Mulipola Family

Saturday, August 8

R. Quyn, Xavier Family, T. Bui, and Sheela

Weekly Collection

July 19, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,471.00

Presbytery: \$807.75

Reading Roster

Saturday, August 1

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, August 2

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am Catechists

5:30pm L. Hector

Saturday, August 8

5:30pm J. Fernando

Sunday, August 9

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am K. Lopez

5:30pm H. Dennis

Daily Antiphons - Monday, July 27 to Saturday, August 1, 2026

Monday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 27

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: You have forgotten God who gave you birth.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The Father gave us birth by His message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of His creation. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Tuesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 28

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: For the glory of Your name, O Lord, deliver us.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to Him will live for ever. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Wednesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 29

Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Entrance Antiphon: Jesus entered a village, where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.

Responsorial Psalm: I will bless the Lord at all times.

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: Martha said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into this world.

Thursday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 30

Entrance Antiphon: God is in His holy place, God who unites those who dwell in His house; He Himself gives might and strength to His people.

Responsorial Psalm: Blest are they whose help is the God of Jacob.

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

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all His benefits.

Friday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - July 31 - Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Entrance Antiphon: At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, in Your great love, answer me.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Thus says the Lord: I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were kindled!

Saturday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time - August 1 - Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Entrance Antiphon: The mouth of the just man utters wisdom, and his tongue tells forth what is just; the law of his God is in his heart.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, in Your great love, answer me.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield his fruit in due season.