

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC PARISH

**PARISH PRIEST: FR. SHANTHAIAH MARNENI**

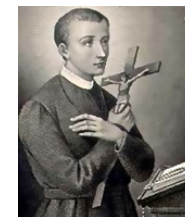
**Parish Phone:** 9792 4422 **Email:** dandenongnorth@cam.org.au **Address:** 71 Gladstone Road, Dandenong North, Victoria, 3175

**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"

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Mass Readings (Year A) - August 23, 2026

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

### First Reading - Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, Your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of Your hands.

### Second Reading - Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* You are Peter, the rock on which I will build My Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. *Alleluia!*

### Gospel Reading - Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

### Please Note:

**Father Shanthaiah will be on annual leave from Monday, 24th August until 21st September.**

**In his absence, visiting priests will be saying daily mass.**

**During this time, Confession will not be heard during the weekdays and only heard after Mass on Saturday until 10:30am by a visiting priest.**

## 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.

**Melbourne Synod** - Archbishop Comensoli has formally convoked a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. A synod is a gathering of God's people – bishops, priests and lay faithful – who come and discern together about matters regarding faith, governance, and pastoral care. This process involves prayer, dialogue, and consultation, aiming to foster a deeper understanding of the Church's mission in the contemporary world. You have been invited to contribute towards the synod by submitting your reflections on the themes: Young Discipleship, Missionary Leadership, and Formation & Participation. Please access the synod papers and make your submission via <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026> by Friday 21 August 2026.

**Pre Father's Day Dinner Dance - St. Mary's Social Club** invites all dads, families, and friends to join us for a special Pre Father's Day Dinner Dance. Friday, 4 September 2026 at 7:00 PM till late at St. Mary's Community Centre, 26 New Street, Dandenong. Enjoy a delicious dinner, live music by Matrix Dance Band, and a wonderful evening of celebration and fellowship. Tickets: Adults \$40 (dinner included). Children 5–12 years \$20. BYO Drinks. Dress Code: Smart Casual. For tickets, please contact: Bernard Barr 0412 372 566 | Brian David 0430 076 691 | Melanie Watts 0402 709 406. All are welcome! We look forward to celebrating with you.

This is a final reminder to complete your pledge to the **2026 Archbishop's Campaign** and to play your part in supporting vital ministries that serve our faith community across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The campaign invites all the faithful to support the formation of seminarians, the care of our retired priests, and the important charitable and evangelisation works of the Archdiocese. Further details, along with information on how to make a gift, can be found in the brochures available in the pews and foyer today. While recognising the challenges many may be facing, I encourage you to consider giving generously in whatever way you are able. - Archbishop Peter.

### The Catholic Faith Explained / RCIA Program - Are you considering becoming Catholic?

Or would you like to know more about your faith? Join our 20 session "Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained" program commencing Tuesday 8 September at 7pm in the Majellan Hall and find the answers to the questions you are seeking. This beautifully crafted video series provides a deep exploration into our faith that will benefit all who attend. Whether you are considering becoming Catholic, are new to the faith or are an experienced Catholic, you are guaranteed to learn something and find it to be a worthwhile experience. Contact: Jeff Zaher on 0477 188 883.

### KSC Information Night

The Knights of the Southern Cross are hosting an Information Evening for any Catholic gentlemen wishing to join and learn about their role within the Church. The evening will take place on Wednesday September 9. Please contact Carmine Miranda at 0412 817 995 or [carminemiranda5@gmail.com](mailto:carminemiranda5@gmail.com) for further information.

### KSC Archbishop's Dinner - Friday October 16, 2026

The 26th Knights of the Southern Cross Archbishop's Dinner for the Priests Support and Education Fund will feature guest speaker Peta Credlin AO (News 24 Presenter and Herald Sun Columnist). A great opportunity to meet Archbishop Comensoli, while contributing to the education of Victoria's seminarians. To be held at Grand Star Reception and Convention Centre Altona North on Friday October 16. If you are interested in attending, would like more information, or to make a donation to the Fund to assist our seminarians please contact Andrew Vaccaro at [avaccaro@internode.on.net](mailto:avaccaro@internode.on.net), or 0404 390 824 by Friday September 11. For further details, refer to the advertisement on the Bulletin Board.

### DANDENONG DEANERY COUNCIL DINNER PROGRAM FOR 2026 Listening To: The Voices That Echo the Glory of God through Peace & Mercy.

To be held, Wednesday 16th September 2026 at the Graduate's Restaurant - St John's Regional College, Caroline Street, Dandenong. Please arrive at 5.30pm for 5.45pm start. COST: \$48 per person 3 course meal wine & Beer. GUEST SPEAKER: Jo Hastings: Board Director a Sea Wolf & plenty more surprises!! RSVP: By Friday 11th Sept. 2026. Contact Paddy on 0422 296 961 or e-mail: [dandenongdeanery@live.com.au](mailto:dandenongdeanery@live.com.au).



# MASS and INTENTIONS

## Saturday Vigil, August 22

### Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm Sarah Cleary (*3rd Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Christine Neydorff (*Recently Deceased* ✚)  
and Pat Corera (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Esme Peiris (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

### Sunday, August 23 - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Ina Adams (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Bruno Lebrasse, Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia &  
Hans Vydilingum (*Remembrance* ✚)

Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions

**Mass 3:30pm French Mass**

Mass 5:30pm Louis Charles Kerver (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Intercessory Prayers from St. Scholastica for Private  
Intention

**Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community**

### Monday, August 24 - Saint Bartholomew

Mass 9:15am Slavka Katic (*Remembrance* ✚)  
and Sebastian Francis (*Death Anniversary* ✚)

### Tuesday, August 25

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

### Wednesday, August 26

Mass 9:15am Bruno Lebrasse, Joelle Lebrasse, Nadege Atchia &  
Hans Vydilingum (*Remembrance* ✚)

### Thursday, August 27 - Saint Monica

Mass 9:15am Thanksgiving Mass for James and family

### Friday, August 28 - Saint Augustine

Mass 9:15am Nada Skoblar (*Birthday Remembrance* ✚)

### Saturday, August 29 - The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Mass 9:15am Frank Donaldson (*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
and Thanksgiving on the birthday of Zaire Mroczkowski

## Saturday Vigil, August 29

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 5:30pm John Cleary (*First Death Anniversary* ✚)  
Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

### Sunday, August 30 - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass 8:30am Repose of the soul of Anthony Maurice Domingo  
(*Death Anniversary* ✚)  
Mass 10:30am Pro Populo - No Mass Intentions  
Mass 5:30pm Jean-Claude Dedans, Jean Loup Gontran, Roger  
Christophe and Daniel Chung Chin (*Remembrance* ✚)

## Please pray for...

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

### The recently deceased:

Jackie Foulstone, Raju Padikkala, Mary Abrew, Ansley Gero, Antonette Augustus, Christine Neydorff

### Anniversaries/Remembrances:

Sarah Cleary, Pat Corera, Darryl Williams, Clive Akom, Esme Peiris

### Church Cleaning

#### Saturday, August 29

Gonsalves Family, Mario,  
Linda and Ignatius

#### Saturday, September 5

Maronite Community

### Weekly Collection

#### August 16, 2026

Thanksgiving: \$1,453.10  
Presbytery: \$724.25

### Reading Roster

#### Saturday, August 29

5:30pm P. Kroon

#### Sunday, August 30

8:30am C. Becerra

10:30am E. Ebert

5:30pm S. Antony

#### Saturday, September 5

5:30pm J. D'Souza

#### Sunday, September 6

8:30am G. Dos Remedios

10:30am Catechists

5:30pm L. Hector

# *Daily Antiphons - Monday August 24, to Saturday August 29, 2026*

## **Monday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 24 - Saint Bartholomew**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Proclaim the salvation of God day by day; tell among the nations His glory.

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

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Master, You are the Son of God, You are the king of Israel. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** I confer a kingdom on you, just as My Father has conferred one on Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, says the Lord.

## **Tuesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 25**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord comes to judge the earth.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

## **Wednesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 26**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn Your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in You, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to You all the day long.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Happy are those who fear the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** The earth is replete with the fruits of Your work, O Lord; You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

## **Thursday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 27 - Saint Monica**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Behold a wise woman who has built her house. She feared the Lord and walked in the right path.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will praise Your name for ever, Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Whoever does the will of My heavenly Father is My brother, and sister, and mother, says the Lord.

## **Friday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 28 - Saint Augustine**

**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.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. *Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ, and you are all brothers.

## **Saturday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time - August 29**

### **The Passion of Saint John the Baptist**

**Entrance Antiphon:** I spoke, O Lord, of Your decrees before kings, and was not confounded; I pondered Your commands and loved them greatly.

**Responsorial Psalm:** I will sing your salvation.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** John answered and said, He must increase; but I must decrease.