



PARK ORCHARDS & WARRANDYTE

Parish of St. Gerard + St. Anne

Celebrating
50
+YEARS

Fifth Sunday of Lent: 6 April 2025



The Parish of St Gerard & St Anne

Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon
Pastor Emeritus: Fr. John Dupuche

St Anne's 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards 3114
St Gerard's McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

Mass Times: St Gerard & St Anne

Sundays 10.30am

Third Sunday of each month St Anne's Park Orchards
All other Sundays St Gerard's Warrandyte

Tuesdays 9.00am

St Gerard's Warrandyte

Mass Times: Holy Spirit Ringwood North

Wednesday 9.15am Mass

Friday 9.15am Mass

Saturday 6.00pm Mass

Sunday 9.00am Mass

Sunday 5.00pm Mass (*in the Chapel*)

St Anne Parish Office 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards

Phone: 7064 3922

Email: parkorchards@cam.org.au

Sacraments

Please contact the parish office for:

Baptisms: Every 2nd Sunday at St Anne's Chapel

Reconciliation: Holy Spirit Church, Nth Ringwood

Weddings: By appointment

St Anne's Primary School

Principal: Michael Edmonds **Ph:** (03) 9876 1533

Child Safe Committee: Private Mailbox

parkorchards.safeguarding@cam.org.au

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:
No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **R.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **R.**

Second Reading A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.



Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'



NEWS FROM ST GERARD'S/ST ANNE'S PARISH

Reaching out in Prayer, Hospitality and Action

Committed to a Child Safe Environment

Private Mailbox: parkorchards.safeguarding@cam.org.au



The Parish of St Gerard & St Anne acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of this land.

EVENTS THIS COMING WEEK: 30 March to 6 April

Sun 6 Apr **10:30am** Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Tues 8 Apr **9:00am** Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Sun 13 Apr **10:30am** Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte

Parish AGM

The Parish AGM will be held after 10:30 Mass on Sunday 6th April 2025. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Timetable for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday 13th April

10:30am St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte.

Forgiveness Service 15th April

7:00pm Tuesday St Anne's Church, Park Orchards

Holy Thursday 17th April

Mass of the Last Supper 7:30pm Holy Spirit Church, Ringwood North

Good Friday

The Passion of the Christ 3:00pm St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil 7:30pm Holy Spirit Church, Ringwood North

Easter Sunday

Dawn Vigil 6:30am St Anne's Chapel, Park Orchards

Easter Mass 10:30am St Anne's Church, Park Orchards

Combined Churches of Warrandyte

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10:30am.

We are invited to join the Choir. Practice will be on Sunday 13th April, top level of the Warrandyte Community Church, from midday till about 12:30pm. Enter through the door at the front of the building.

Parish Amalgamation

Dear Parishioners:

As we continue our journey of faith together, I want to share to you important news regarding our parish. After much prayerful consideration and discernment, the Take the Way of the Gospel Strategy Committee of the Melbourne Archdiocese has proposed the amalgamation of St Gerard's, Warrandyte and St. Anne's, Park Orchards with Holy Spirit, Ringwood North to form a new, united community of faith.

This proposal, while bringing about change, is rooted in a desire to strengthen our collective ability to serve God and our community. As both parishes have been twinned for many years, factors contributing to this proposal include evolving demographics, shifting pastoral needs, and a commitment to ensuring the long-term vitality of Catholic presence in our area.

What Does Amalgamation Mean?

Amalgamation is a process of bringing together two or more parishes into a single, unified entity. This will involve:

- **Combining Resources:** Sharing pastoral staff, financial resources, and physical facilities to optimise our ability to serve the spiritual and practical needs of our community.
- **Building a Shared Identity:** Fostering a sense of belonging and unity among parishioners while respecting the unique identity and history of each of the two parishes.
- **Pastoral Care:** Providing a wider range of ministries, programs, and support services to meet the diverse needs of our parishioners.
- **Strengthening Community Outreach:** Collaboratively engaging in outreach initiatives to serve those in need within our local area.

The Process Moving Forward:

The amalgamation process will unfold in phases, guided by a transition team composed of representatives from each participating parish and with the Archdiocese support. This team will:

- Identify and develop a comprehensive plan for integrating parish operations, ministries, and programs.
- Facilitate open communication and dialogue with parishioners to address concerns and answer questions.
- Organise opportunities for parishioners to meet and connect with one another, fostering a sense of community.

Meetings and Information Sessions:

I understand that this news may evoke a range of emotions and questions. To ensure transparency and provide opportunities for dialogue, there will be a series of future information sessions and further meetings. I encourage all parishioners to attend these sessions to learn more about the amalgamation process and to share their thoughts and concerns.

Let us remember the words of St. Paul: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)

Let us embrace this opportunity to build a stronger, more vibrant community of faith, united in our love for God and our commitment to serving one another. I ask for your prayers and support as we move forward together.

In Christ,
Fr. Arsenio