



PARK ORCHARDS & WARRANDYTE

Parish of St. Gerard + St. Anne

Celebrating
50
+ YEARS

The Baptism of the Lord: 11 January 2026



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

No 9:00am Mass from 30 Dec 25, resumes 3 Feb 26
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) **Resumes 1 Feb 26**

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

Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit
that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,
or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed,
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;
he will neither waver, nor be crushed
until true justice is established on earth,
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;

I have taken you by the hand and formed you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the people
and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,

to free captives from prison,

and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

O give the Lord you sons of God,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.

Adore the Lord in his holy court. **R.**

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,
the Lord on the immensity of waters;
the voice of the Lord, full of power,
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **R.**

The God of glory thunders.

In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'

The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;

the Lord sits as king for ever. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ - but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the
Father's voice was heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'



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: 11 to 18 January 2026

Sun	11 Jan	10:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Tues	13 Jan	NO MASS	
Sun	18 Jan	10:30am	Mass at St Anne's Church, Park Orchards

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES IN JANUARY

- *9:00am Tuesday at St Gerard's*— First Mass for 2026 will be held on 3rd February.
- *5:00pm Sunday at Holy Spirit Chapel*— First Mass for 2026 will be held on 1st February.



Vale Sister Theresa Lechte IBVM

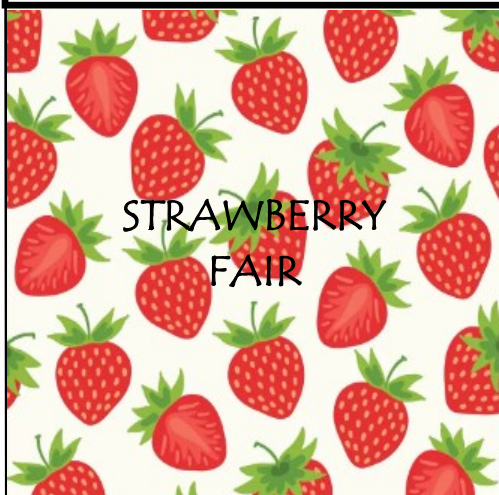
Sister Therese Lechte IBVM passed away on January 6, 2026 after a long illness. She served as our wonderful Pastoral Associate for over eight years beginning in 1998.

We pray for the repose of her soul and give thanks for her life of service to the Church in education and later in Parish work.

Rest in peace Therese.

POWER GROUP— the next get together of the POWER Group is this coming Wednesday 14th January at 12:30pm at Cherry Hill.

MORNING TEA 25TH JANUARY— a volunteer is needed for Sunday 25th January. Please let Michelle know if you can assist by emailing parkorchards@cam.org.au or phoning 7064 3922 or simply letting her know after Mass.



Strawberry Fair Plant stall

Calling all garden lovers and green thumbs to start propagating for the Strawberry Fair plant stall!

Ellen is coordinating again and would love to hear from anyone who has any ideas or would like to help in any way with plant stall!

Call 0404 357 023

Epiphany & the Baptism of Jesus: A Revealing and Costly Alignment

Epiphany begins with strangers from afar - the Magi - who arrive bearing gifts that reveal more than they conceal. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh name who this child is: King, Servant, and one whose life will be costly. These gifts are outward signs of a deeper truth: God's light has entered the world, not to mirror its power, but to expose and transform it.

Set against this revelation stands Herod - a ruler known for fear, violence, and brutality. Epiphany is not sentimental. It is political and prophetic. It invites us to pay attention to where God's light truly shines, and to discern which visions of power we will follow.

That same revelation continues at the Jordan where Jesus is revealed as the Spirit-filled, beloved Son of God, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. He aligns himself not with religious or political elites, but with ordinary people - sinners, seekers, the vulnerable. Baptism becomes an outward and inward sign of a new way of being: a public renunciation of what defies God, and a wholehearted commitment to what brings life.

For us, baptism is not simply a moment remembered, but a way of life lived. It immerses us into God's mission of love, justice, compassion, and peace - a counter-cultural allegiance that challenges unjust power and invites the world into hope. May our Epiphany worship be both revelatory and welcoming, as we follow the light that leads us into God's transforming work.

Prayer

*God of revelation and renewal,
You call us into the light of Christ
and immerse us in a way of life shaped by love and justice.
Where we have clung to the world's power, loosen our grip.
Where we have lost courage, strengthen our resolve.
Renew in us the promises of our baptism,
that we may live as signs of your kingdom —
for the sake of the world you so deeply love.
Amen.*