



PARK ORCHARDS & WARRANDYTE

Parish of St. Gerard + St. Anne

Celebrating
50+ YEARS

Easter Sunday: 5 April 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

(Anointing Mass, first Tuesday of the month)
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 Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 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.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Gospel Acclamation

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



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: 5 to 12 April 2026

Sun	5 Apr	6:00am	Mass at St Anne's Chapel, Park Orchards
		10:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Tues	7 Apr	9:00am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
			<u>Anointing Mass</u>
Sun	12 Apr	10:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte

Experience Mass in the peace and beauty of Warrandyte

We warmly welcome everyone to join us for **Mass at St Gerard's in Warrandyte every Tuesday morning at 9:00am**. 3 McCulloch Street, Warrandyte

ANOINTING MASS

Starting on Tuesday 7th April, the 9:00am Tuesday Mass will be an Anointing Mass on the first Tuesday of the month except for the months of January and November (Melbourne Cup).



ROSTER: April 2026

Date	Reader	Commentator	Morning Tea	Welcomers	Flowers
5 April	Cathy Morell	Michelle Kearney	N/A		Anne-Marie Stevenson
12 April	Carmel Murphy	Nada Whittle	Caterina Brouwer	Elaine Macpherson	Anne-Marie Stevenson
19 Apr St Anne's	Anita Lynch	Saskia Harris	Anita Lynch	Michelle Kearney	Therese Chapman
26 April	Jill McLean	Michelle Kearney	Elaine Macpherson	Wilma Bouchier	Therese Chapman

PARISH AGM 2026—SAVE THE DATE

The 2026 Parish Annual General Meeting will be held immediately after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday 19th April at St Anne's Church.

PARKING AT ST ANNE'S

The resurfacing of the School's basketball court means that the new surface is not trafficable, the concern being that vehicle tyres could lift the surface and/or break the joins. **The basketball court is no longer available for parking** and the School intends to padlock the gates. Both Father Arsenio and the Parish Secretary will have keys to the padlock.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please return Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible. There's a drop off box at the back of St Gerard's. Receipts can be provided. Please see Paul Moritz.

PERMANENT DIACONATE: INFORMATION SESSION

The annual May Information session has been scheduled. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **every-one interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 2nd May 2026 and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but **if you forget, then just turn up** on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

Event Date: Saturday 2 May 2025, 10.00am–11.30am

Venue: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND, St PAUL'S RETREAT CENTRE

Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out for the two of you to focus on your most precious relationship. You will come away feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep your renewed intimacy alive. No group sharing is required. The weekend is based on Catholic values and couples of all faiths are very welcome.

The next weekend is just a few weeks away. Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

April 24 - 26th St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South.

Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm

Information/Bookings: Please phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

BUILDING THE SYNODAL WAY TOGETHER

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The *Synodal Way* calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit.

In the coming weeks, we will focus on deepening our commitment to:

- **Listening with an open heart** to the experiences, hopes, and concerns of others.
- **Engaging in meaningful conversation**, grounded in respect, humility, and prayer.
- **Strengthening our sense of communion**, recognising Christ at the centre of our shared mission
- **Discerning pathways forward**, so that our parish and wider Church can respond more faithfully to the needs of our time.

Reflection question: How can we deepen our understanding of synodality in our parish life?

The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email: Synod2026@cam.org.au

Synod Corner

For context, Parishes have been requested to maintain a spot in their Bulletins, a “Synod Corner”, where a weekly message from Bishop Ramirez is included. There are 50 weekly messages. The fourth is:

4. A Synod is not a parliament

The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.

Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne, 2026

Prayer for the Synod: *Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus*

Prayer to be said after Communion.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.





2026 EASTER MESSAGE

Easter offers a way forward

Friends,

Easter invites us to stand at the threshold from night into dawn. In the Gospel, we meet Mary Magdalen arriving at the tomb while it was still dark (Jn 20:1). She carries grief and confusion, yet a fragile hope. What she finds is not an ending but a beginning: the stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty. And before her stands the One who knows her name: Mary.

As dawn breaks, a quiet truth emerges: death has not had the final word; life has arisen.

The resurrection unfolds like morning light. It does not blind, but illumines. It does not erase wounds, but transfigures them. Christ, the Light of the World, comes to meet us as the light we need. Christ is present; Christ is life.

Yet many today experience absence. For the young especially, the world can feel stripped of mystery—flattened, reduced. Meaning feels distant; hope can seem lost. Our lives can appear dark and empty. Conflict and war confront us.

And yet, it is precisely there that Easter speaks our name. The empty tomb is the sign which awakens us to the truth that God is still with us; Jesus is still for us. This Easter, we are called not only to receive Christ's light, but to rediscover its wonder—and to bear that light for others.

Here in Melbourne, we see both vitality and vulnerability: generosity among neighbours, yet distance towards others. Into this world comes the risen Christ, shining light into every darkness and upon every life. To be a light is to reflect the One who brings hope, and to keep it alive in a world that can forget to hold in safety those in need.

In our divided and conflicted world, Easter offers not escape but a way forward: to live with compassion, seek truth, build peace, and stand for hope.

To the steadfast in faith: may this Easter renew your joy and courage. To those who feel distant: the light of Christ is already seeking you. To people of goodwill: Easter proclaims that life is stronger than death, love stronger than fear, and hope stronger than despair.

May the risen Christ bless Melbourne and all its people this Easter. And may we rediscover his company as we walk from darkness into his marvelous light.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne