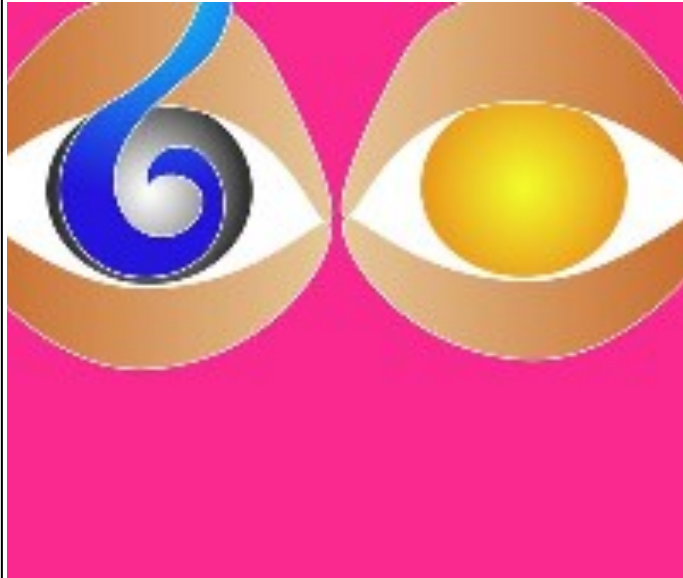




Fourth Sunday of Lent: 15 March 2026



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

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 first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures
 where he gives me repose.
 Near restful waters he leads me,
 to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
 he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
 no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
 with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
 in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
 my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
 all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
 for ever and ever. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.



Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel *short form*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. [text omitted] He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' [text omitted]

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet', replied the man.

[text omitted]

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him'. Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say "we see", your guilt remains.



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: 15 to 22 March 2026

Sun	15 Mar	10:30am	Mass at St Anne's Church, Park Orchards
Tues	17 Mar	9:00am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Sun	22 Mar	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.

Consider adding this Mass to your Lenten discipline this year.

St Gerard's, 3 McCulloch Street, Warrandyte

ROSTER: March and April 2026

Date	Reader	Commentator	Morning Tea	Welcomers	Flowers
15 Mar St Anne 1st Euch	First Eucharist candidates	Michelle Kearney	Elaine Macpherson	Michelle Kearney	LENT, no flowers
22 Mar 1st Euch	First Eucharist candidates	Jill McLean	Ellen Holmes	Wilma Bouchier	LENT, no flowers
29 Mar	Saskia Harris	Paul Moritz	Therese Chapman	Barbara Young	LENT, no flowers
5 April	EASTER MASSES: Volunteers required. Sign up sheets at St Gerard's				Anne-Marie Stevenson

Morning Tea for First Eucharist Sundays 15th and 22nd March—HELP!!!!

St Anne's students will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion this Sunday and next, the 15th March at St Anne's and the 22nd at St Gerard's. Current bookings have 124 people coming on the 15th and 41 on the 22nd.

It would be wonderful if the generosity of the congregation for the Commitment Mass morning tea was repeated for these two Sundays!

Music & Song Event, 5:00pm Sunday 15th March 2026 at
St Stephens Church, 5-7 Stiggant St, Warrandyte.

This music event will be followed by a sausage sizzle. Come along and get some great exercise by singing in God's praise. All welcome.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross, 10:30am 3rd April at Stiggants Reserve, Warrandyte.

Our Parish has been asked to provide Readers for the Opening Prayer, Stations, 4, 8, and 12. Ann Serong will do the Opening Prayer. If you can do one of the Station Readings, please let Michelle know. 7064 3922 OR parkorchards@cam.org.au

The funeral for Sean McGowan will be held at 11:00am on Wednesday 18th March 2026 at Holy Spirit Church, North Ringwood.

Trading Table—The Trading Table will be donating money from February/March to Project Compassion. We are aiming for \$100 donation.

First Eucharist Reflection Day was held on Thursday 12 March at St Anne's Primary School. In a great example of Parish and School "just getting on with it" in tandem, three parishioners, Bernadette Peyton, Jill McLean and Michelle Kearney were privileged to be part of the day, serving a Parish-provided lunch to the students. It was lovely working with the teachers even for a short time and witnessing their dedication to passing on the faith that sustains us all.

If you can assist: an elderly Park Orchards gentleman, Michael Sheehan, requires assistance with house cleaning and gardening. Perhaps there is someone in your network of friends and acquaintances who could help even if you can't yourself. Please contact his son Paul to discuss on 0401 386 034 or at pablosheehan@hotmail.com . Thank you

Synod Corner For context, Parishes have been requested to have a spot in their Bulletins, a "Synod Corner", where a weekly message from Bishop Ramirez can be included. There are 50 weekly messages. The first is:

1. What is a Synod?

A Synod is a moment when the Church deliberately pauses to listen, pray, and discern together. It is not simply a meeting or a conference, but a spiritual process rooted in faith that the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church today. In a Synod, we ask not only "What do we think?" but more importantly, "What is God asking of us at this moment in our mission?"

Pope Leo urges peace

Prayer to St Francis

As tensions and unrest escalate across the globe, revisit the prayer to St Francis of Assisi that Pope Leo XIV shared with the members of the Franciscan order at the commencement of the 800th anniversary of St Francis' death in January.

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognised true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.

Amen.

Source: The Record [Archdiocese of Perth] published 12 March 2026

Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne, 2026

Prayer for the Synod: *Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus*

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.



Information provided by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, 4 March 2026. Prayer to be said after Communion.

A Lenten Reflection as provided in the newsletter of the Good Samaritans, 12 March 2026

Lent: Lament, Hope, Transformation

Lent invites us into a rhythm the soul already knows well: things come together, and things fall apart; we hold joy and sorrow side-by-side; we lose, we grieve, and we are reshaped.

Lament

Lament is not despair. It is the courageous naming of what breaks our hearts— the losses that have accumulated, the diminishment we did not choose, the endings that arrived too soon. It is standing in the truth that things have changed and will continue changing. Lament is the honesty that allows us to stop pretending, to feel what is real, and to let God into our tender places.

Hope

Hope is not optimism. It is the quiet trust that even while we stand in ashes, God stands with us. It is the belief that grief and grace are not opposites but companions. Hope takes shape when we discover that we are not alone— when our stories, prayers, and tears become the place where God's love takes root again. Hope rises slowly, like light returning to a dim room, asking us not to rush the process but to stay awake to it.

Transformation

Transformation rarely feels like change at first— it feels like discomfort, unravelling, or stepping into a space we never asked for. And yet, like the blind man who returns able to see, like the woman who leaves her water jar behind, like Lazarus stumbling from the tomb, God calls us into a new way of being. Not polished. Not finished. But more whole. More aligned with love. More willing to risk the next step.

Courtesy of Elia Cardenas and Pat Murray, Leadership Collaborative www.thelc.global/resources

EASTER 2026

Timetable for Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday 29th March

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

Forgiveness Service 31st March

7:30pm Tuesday Holy Spirit, North Ringwood

Holy Thursday 2nd April

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

Good Friday 3rd April

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

Holy Saturday 4th April

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

Easter Sunday 5th April

Dawn Vigil 6:00am St Anne's Chapel, Park Orchards

Easter Mass 10:30am St Gerard's, Warrandyte

Sign up sheets for Good Friday and Easter Sunday are at the back of St Gerard's Church for those who can help.

An invitation to the Easter Sunday Dawn Service

The Parish of St. Gerard and St. Anne extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to come and join us for the Easter Sunday Dawn Service to be held in St. Anne's Chapel. The Chapel aspect offers a stunning and spiritual atmosphere as the sun rises over the nearby hills. This very special Mass will commence at 6:00am (sunrise will be at approximately 6:37am). We will follow the Mass with a light breakfast.

To assist us with catering, can you please indicate if you will be attending and staying for breakfast by contacting Jill McLean on jillianmclean25@gmail.com or 0408 405733 or leave a message at the Parish Office 7064 3922.

Fr Arsenio Tuazon, Parish Priest

The Parish of St. Gerard and St. Anne Liturgy Committee