

Third Sunday in Advent: 14 December 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
God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
 let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
 let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
 let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
 the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
 they shall see the glory of the Lord,
 the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
 steady all trembling knees
 and say to all faint hearts,
 'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look your God is coming,
 vengeance is coming,
 the retribution of God;
 he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
 the ears of the deaf unsealed,
 then the lame shall leap like a deer
 and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,
 for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
 everlasting joy on their faces;
 joy and gladness will go with them
 and sorrow and lament be ended.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, come and save us.

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
 who is just to those who are oppressed.
 It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
 the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
 who raises up those who are bowed down,
 the Lord, who protects the stranger
 and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

It is the Lord who loves the just
 but thwarts the path of the wicked.
 The Lord will reign for ever,
 Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St James

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'



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: 14 to 21 December

Sun	14 Dec	10:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Tues	16 Dec	9:00am	Mass at St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte
Sun	21 Dec	10:30am	Mass at St Anne's Church, Park Orchards

ROSTER: December 2025

Date	Reader	Commentator	Morning Tea	Welcomers	Flowers
14 Dec	Carmel Murphy	Paul Moritz	Elaine Macpherson	Michelle Kearney	No flowers in Advent
21 Dec St Anne	Nada Whittle	Jill McLean	Therese Chapman	Wilma Bouchier	No flowers in Advent
25 Dec	Tasks as per sign up sheets.				Anne-Marie Stevenson
28 Dec	Anita Lynch	Saskia Harris	Anita Lynch	Barbara Young	Sue Waugh

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.

From: Australian Catholic University's Institute of Child Protection Studies

WISE Project (Women's Insights into Safeguarding Efforts in the Catholic Church)

What—Calling Catholic women worldwide: share your voice on safeguarding.

We're inviting women connected to the Catholic Church, whether lay or religious, to take part in the WISE Project (Women's Insights into Safeguarding Efforts in the Catholic Church).

This international study, led by researchers from [Australian Catholic University](#), [Tangaza University](#) and the Global Safe-guarding Alliance, explores how women perceive current safeguarding practices for children and vulnerable adults within the Church and how these can be improved.

Who can participate? Women aged 18+ who are part of the Catholic Church, contributing as laypeople, religious sisters or working in Catholic organisations.

Your involvement? A 20–30 minute anonymous online survey with both multiple-choice and open-ended questions. Your insights will help shape future safeguarding policies and elevate women's voices in Church safety efforts.

Why participate? Your perspective matters. Help us understand what's working, what's not, and how safeguarding can better protect everyone in Church communities.

Link to survey - <https://bit.ly/4kGSKWZ>



Strawberry Fair Plant stall

The beautiful weather has finally arrived and with the warmth and rain, the garden is springing to life. 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**

Advent and Christmas 2025

CHRISTMAS 2025 TIMETABLE

Service of Forgiveness: 7:00pm, Tuesday 16th December

St Anne's Church, Park Orchards

Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December:

- 6:00pm St Anne's Church, Park Orchards
- 9:00pm St Gerard's Church, Warrandyte

Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December:

9:00am St Anne's Church, Park Orchards



Holy Spirit Mass timetable for Christmas 2025:

Christmas Eve

- 5:00pm Childrens Mass, Holy Spirit Church
- 7:30pm Family Mass, Holy Spirit Church
- 10:30pm Mass, Holy Spirit Church

Christmas Day

- 9:00 Mass, Holy Spirit Church



Advent Reflection: Week 3

God wants us to be happy always. He knows us and loves us. If we allow the love of Christ to change our hearts, then we can change the world. This is the secret of authentic happiness.

Pope Benedict XVI.

Some ways to donate at Christmas—from *Melbourne Catholic* 10/12/25:

Donate your time—The Parish of St Anthony Glen Huntly and Caulfield East has been serving a traditional Christmas lunch to people in need or those who want company for more than 30 years. The lunch's organisers are on the lookout for volunteers to offer practical help preparing, cooking and serving the meal at their parish hall in Caulfield East, and for the clean-up afterwards. Apply via the wonderfully old-school method of filling in a paper form, available by contacting the parish: stanthony.christmasdinner@gmail.com

Donate some funds—While hearts may be more open to giving at Christmastime, charities need donations all year round.

- The [Cabriní Foundation](#), for example, helps asylum seekers and refugees with physical and mental health care. OR
- [Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans](#) (ACRATH) keeps an eye on migrant workers from the Pacific and Timor Leste. They can always use funds to help protect our vulnerable neighbours from exploitation. OR
- The Russian war against Ukraine is entering its fourth year, and the humanitarian situation remains dire. [Caritas Australia](#) raises funds to help its partner organisation in Ukraine provide shelter, food and clean water to the millions of people displaced by the conflict.