

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

16-17 August 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Msgr John Woods- PP, Fr Andrew Yang-Korean Chaplain, Deacon Joe Blackwell, Jacinta Dinn - Parish Secretary.

“Inspired by our faith in Jesus, we pray, listen, and welcome all as we reach out in service to transform the world.”

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH

12 Chewings Street, Page

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

7 Bindel Street, Aranda

Sunday Masses

Saturday	6:00pm	Page
Sunday	8:30am	Page
	10:00am	Aranda
Samoa (4thSun)	1:00pm	Page
Korean	3:00pm	Aranda

Weekday Masses

Mon	7:00 am	Liturgy of the Word	Page
Tue	5:30pm	Aranda (Adoration 4:45pm)	
Wed	7:00 am	Page	
Thu	9:30 am	Aranda	
Fri	9:30am	Page (Anointing 1st Friday)	
Sat	12:00 pm	Page	

Confessions

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am and 5:00pm-5:30pm Page

Baptisms

11:30am 2nd and 4th Sundays

Weddings

By appointment

PARISH OFFICE (MON, TUE & THU)

Orana Centre, 7 Bindel Place, Aranda
PO Box 4266 Hawker ACT 2614
02 6254 1827

belconnensouth@cg.org.au

Website – cg.org.au/belconnensouth

Facebook – www.facebook.com/southbelconnen?

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/Bleconnen P>

PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page
Fr John 0418 208 129

EDUCATION FOR LIFE, NOW AND FOREVER

Education is highly valued. Education is big business. International education is worth over \$50 billion to the Australian economy (AFR). **Australian Catholic schools educate 20% of the school age population.** The 56 systemic schools of the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese (which do not include the 3 Congregational Schools of St Edmund's, Daramalan and Marist) educate nearly 27,000 students in the ACT and NSW in an area 30% bigger than Tasmania. The annual turn-over of approximately \$450 million is variously funded by Federal, State and Territory Governments and school fees. The administration of our schools is the responsibility of **'Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Limited' (CAGEL)**, the incorporated body consisting of the appointed Board answerable to the single Member (or the Archbishop and other Trustees of the Archdiocese), with day-to-day operations being the responsibility of the Director of the Catholic Education Office (CEO), Mr David De Carvalho. **Of late I have been engaged in different aspects of the educational apostolate.** As a Trustee I was at a meeting of the Member and Board. Two days later there was the annual gathering of Principals, Religious Education Co-Ordinators, CEO Personnel and Clergy. On Saturday I celebrated the annual 'Old Boys Mass' at St Edmund's (where I was a student). On Monday and Tuesday, I spent time with Year 12 students from St Francis Xavier College, Florey on their final retreat at Colaroy. On Thursday evening there was the online parish gathering of parents presenting their children for the celebration of First Eucharist. **Each occasion was a gathering of the Body of Christ. Each was characterised by faith, hope and charity, necessary hallmarks of the Church discerning into the future.** I would suggest that students today are more respectful of difference and have a more developed sense of social justice than when I was at school. Perhaps they reflect **orthopraxy** ('walking the talk') whereas my cohort were more formed in **orthodoxy** ('speaking the talk'). **Of course, we need to embrace both to be truly Catholic.** Archbishop Christopher has a priority of forming teachers to be evangelisers, that is, people who have **encountered** the person of Jesus, who continue to be **formed** in that relationship and who **share** the fruit of the same. Our Catholic schools are striving for educational excellence founded in the 'science of learning'. Their success has attracted interest from across Australia and New Zealand. **Some 50% of our students are not Catholic.** This creates challenges and opportunities for a lived experience of the Gospel. Proud Wiradjuri man and renown journalist, author and commentator, **Stan Grant** points to the need for such when he observes: *"Modernity has reduced us to a brain in a vat: a mind severed from our spirit. We humans are more than our minds; we yearn for the divine. Cut off from the transcendent, we become miserable, reduced to fleeting entertainment and distraction because we have closed the door on eternity"* (*"Miuriyang – Song of Time"*, p.17). **Like Jeremiah in our First Reading and Jesus in our Gospel, Catholic schools invite to a way of life that is both counter-cultural and life-giving, now and beyond death.**

Fr. John

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA): The RCIA is the journey of those considering full sacramental communion with the Catholic Church. They are accompanied by members of the parish community and the parish priest. All share life and faith experiences in the light of Church teaching and all are thereby enriched. **The RCIA journey is synodal ('walking together'). It is an experience of being Church in which all, including the wider parish, are enriched.** The RCIA journey culminates at Easter when the candidates are received into the Church. If you know of folk who might be interested candidates, please let them know of the process. If they would like to know more, have them contact me. Likewise, if you would like to know more about being part of the RCIA team let me know. Fr John

Archdiocesan Notices

MOTHERS PRAYERS RETREAT DAY 23 August 2025 8:45 AM - 4:00 PM

Become like children (Matt 18:3-5)

Come aside together for a day - ignite the child within as we explore, share, pray for our children and have fun in this nurturing community. The day includes talks, reconciliation and an introduction to Mothers Prayers. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. Gluten free options will be available for morning tea but not for lunch.

Parish Centre, Holy Trinity Church 3 Strangways Street, Curtin ACT 2605

REGISTER BY 8 August <https://www.trybooking.com/DBRES> ENQUIRIES Anne

at Australia@mothersprayers.org

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD 5 September 6:00pm

The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn cordially invites you to the Ordination to the Priesthood of **Deacon Joseph Nivaskaran MGL** and **Deacon Michael Last MGL**.

The ceremony will be presided over by Most Reverend Archbishop Christopher Prowse on Friday, 5 September 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at St Christopher's Cathedral, Canberra.

You are most welcome to join the faithful in this solemn celebration as these deacons are ordained to serve as priests in the Church.

ACU CANBERRA OPEN DAY 13 September 11:00am—2:00pm

Join us at the Australian Catholic University - Canberra campus. For more information, go to <https://openday.acu.edu.au/>

or contact futurestudy.CBR@acu.edu.au



90th Anniversary of St. Patrick's Church, Braddon 19 October

The anniversary will be commemorated on Sunday, 19th October with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Prowse at 8am followed by refreshments. For more information please contact Ray Toohey 0411 82545 or Mary Boyle, marye-boyle8@gmail.com.

Parish Administrative Support Assistant

This is a full-time permanent position supporting parishes across the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn with the inputting of financial data and reporting requirements. Part-time hours may be considered for the right applicant.. This position is advertised on the Archdiocesan webpage at this link <https://cgcatholic.org.au/job-vacancies/parish-administrative-support-assistant/>

Parish Safeguarding Commitment:

The Parish of St Matthew and St Vincent de Paul is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all of our children and vulnerable people.

Communicating Safeguarding concerns: Parishioners are encouraged to raise any safeguarding issues by contacting Fr John by emailing or phoning the Parish office or by contacting our Safeguarding Volunteer, Ann Cleary, at SafeGuarding.BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au.

The Manager for the Archdiocese's Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding, Maria Hicks, can be contacted at ipss@cg.org.au.

Parish News

Prayer Requests

WELCOME: Students and their families as they begin their journey to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.



AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea** after 10am Mass **St Vincent's, Aranda**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY
 During 10 am Mass 17 August, 7 September, 21 September, 19 October, 2 November, 16 November, 7 December and 21 December

NATION-WIDE MARCH FOR PALESTINE, 12:00pm, Sunday, 24 August, Civic Square. See foyer notice for details.

RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Chris Logan, Michael Tlise, Bishop Peter Elliott, Col Joye, Fr Chris Riley, Sam Backo, Peter Cook, John Bryan, John Pratt, Glenn Mowbray, Victims of war in Iran, Israel, Gaza, South Sudan and Ukraine.

ANNIVERSARIES
 Tim Durick, Clare Menezes, Mirela Manenica.

THE SICK
 Kathryn Anderson, Elizabeth Binetti, Trevor Blake, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Nicole Court, Maureen Dalzell, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Shirley Dellamarta, Stephen Dinn, Helen Driver, Mary East, Richard East, Joachim Exell, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hanon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Sally Marchant, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Jon-Paul Mather, Paul Mowbray, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Matthew Schembri, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, John Turyn, Olga Turyn, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2026 ORDER NOW!
 Please contact the Parish Office 6254 1827 (during office hours Mon, Tue & Thu) or belconnensouth@cg.org.au
ORDERS CLOSE: 4 September 2025

PARISH FINANCES: Forms are still available in the foyer. **Sincere thanks to all who have come on board and for those who continue to support the financial good of the parish.** Please DO NOT submit credit card details via email. The form can be placed in the collection bowl, in an envelope in the letterbox at St Vincents or dropped into the Parish Office

CANBERRA CATHOLIC BALL FOR 18-35 YEAR OLDS, 27 September, 7:00-10:30pm, The Marion, Barrine Drive, Parkes. Dress Code: Old Hollywood. Early Bird tickets \$80, see QR Code on foyer poster.

	16 & 17 August			23 & 24 August		
	6pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Lynne Foster Geraldine Lillingston	Janet Moyle Yvonne McAdoo	Marie Carroll Ann Cleary	Mary Patton Michael White	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Gerard Hogan Bernie Leger
Senior Server	Damien Sloane	Damien Power	Bernie Leger	Paul Scholtens	Greg Pocock Sacristan	Jenny Murphy
EMHC	Lynne Foster	Greg Pocock Cathy Power	Lourdes O'Keefe Rachelle Stannard	Dorothy Lalor	Kevin McInerney Joan Murphy	Annette Charge Robin Taylor
Linen/Altar		Pauline Cunneen	Amanda Kabaila Rachelle Stannard		Pauline Cunneen	Robin Taylor

Hearing Aid Loop is installed in both Mass centres, St Matthew's **only** middle 2 sections turn your hearing aid to the T switch

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading [Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10](#)

The king's leading men spoke to the king.
'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.'
'He is in your hands as you know,'
King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.
Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.'
At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm**(R.) Lord, come to my aid!**

(R.) I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **(R.)**

(L.) He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.

He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. **(R.)**

(R.) He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **(R.)**

(L.) As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.

You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! **(R.)**

Second Reading [Hebrews 12:1-4](#)

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep

running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Luke 12:49-53](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

Communion Antiphon

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

**Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion**

Bring Christ's word and Christ's presence to all those whom you meet today. May your visit bring hope and joy to our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.