

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

26-27 Second Sunday of Easter (C)

Msr 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
Samoan (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

WE REMEMBER AND SEE ANEW

Today we pray that Pope Francis may rest in peace to rise in Easter glory. Over this Anzac Day weekend, we offer the same prayer all those who have died in or as a result of war. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, later Pope Francis, was the first child of Mario and Rosa Bergoglio, born in humble circumstances on 17 December 1936 in Buenos Aires, Argentina and baptised on Christmas Day by Father Enrique, a close family friend. In his autobiography *“Hope”* (44-45, 2025), Pope Francis reflected that Christmas has been a *“double celebration for me, truly a great day to be baptised. It’s another birthday: the birthday of rebirth. It is the day on which we are reborn forever . . . it is a gift that makes us belong to God . . . And it asks us to look at life as He looks at it – He who always sees us in us an irrepressible kernel of beauty. The last word on history is not evil, is not hatred, is not death. Baptism tells us all this. It is the first encounter with Jesus, not with a figure from the past, but with a Person living today; whom we don’t get to know in the history books, but we encounter in life. And if we want to give ourselves a gift, let us begin by recalling that date, and by celebrating it as it deserves.”* When we enter and leave the church, we bless ourselves with holy water in memory of our baptism. Lest we forget who we are and who we are called to be. Next weekend our nation votes (if not before in pre-polling). Pope Francis made many observations about fulfilling our civic duties. **He identified the common good or those conditions which allow communities and individuals access to their fulfilment as “a unifying principle of social ethics” (Laudato Si n. 156, 2015). He did not advocate socialism yet he tempered endorsement of a market economy on the basis of a universal destination to the world’s goods. Catholic social teaching is not either, or but both, and. It calls for an integral approach respecting the dignity of all and our connection with all of creation.** He quotes the New Zealand Bishops who ask what the commandment, *“Thou shalt not kill”* means when *“twenty percent of the world’s population consumes resources at a rate that robs the poor nations and future generations of what they need to survive”* (n. 96). He insisted: *“Put simply, it is a matter of redefining our notion of progress. A technological and economic development which does not leave in its wake a better world and an integrally higher quality of life cannot be considered progress”* (n. 194). In the 24-hour news cycle following the death of Pope Francis he was universally recognised as a good man. **Perhaps his lasting legacy will be the call to ‘synodality’ or simply to listen to one another as we all belong and we all have a story which can enrich our common good. Finally, with respect to individual moral dilemmas and not without his critics in this and other matters, Pope Francis stated:** *“Because of forms of conditioning and mitigating factors, it is possible that in an objective situation of sin – which may not be subjectively culpable, or fully such – a person can be living in God’s grace, can love and can also grow in the life of grace and charity, while receiving the Church’s help to this end”* (Amoris Laetitia n. 305, 2016). **May this humble man of God who had “the smell of the sheep” and who saw the Church as a “field hospital” for the needy know the fullness of the Father’s loving mercy.**

Fr John

THANKS TO MAUREEN AND MICHAEL WORSNOP: Arriving in Scullin in 1970 and after decades of service, age and health issues have necessitated Maureen and Michael relinquishing their various commitments within and around St Matthew's church, presbytery and grounds. I sincerely thank them on behalf of past and present parishioners and priests. Their commitment enhanced the amenity, liturgical ambience and presentation of St Matthew's. May their example inspire others. At a later date we will have a post-8:30am Sunday Mass morning tea to honour them.

Caritas Australia would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support of Project Compassion this Lent.

Your generosity is helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities, enabling them to overcome challenges and lift themselves out of poverty.

Thank you for standing with us!

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES can be left in the sacristy

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 4 May 2025
during 10:00 am Mass, Aranda

Archdiocesan Notices

JUBILEE OF FAMILIES EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE 19 May 2025

St Peter's Parish, Pambula, together with Fr George Ogah invite you to join our Jubilee of Families European Pilgrimage. 19 May-4 June, 2025. Contact pambula@cg.org.au

PLANNING TO MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH? Go to the Archdiocesan Marriage and Family webpage at www.marriagefamily.org.au to choose a marriage preparation program. Inquiries can be forwarded to Helena at: marriage.preparation@cg.org.au or text 0405 440 463.

MARYMEAD CATHOLIC CARE HAVE VACANCIES WITHIN THE NDIS CHOICES PROGRAM FOR SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING at Kambah, or at Dorothy Sales Cottages in Hughes for individuals with acquired brain injury. Further information, 6163 7647.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DINNERS, alternating between a presbytery and the Archbishop's House, are held on the second Thursday of the month for men interested in discerning a call to the priesthood. Enjoy a meal and prayer with others considering the same. For more information contact Fr Emil Milat, Vocations Director, emil.milat@cg.org.au.

MERICI COLLEGE ENROLLING NOW Visit www.merici.college for all dates and information for our Open Day and enrolment events.

- Open Day, Principal's Address and Year 7 2026 Information Night: Wednesday 7 May
- Be a Merici Girl Days: 2, 5, 12 May
- Talk and Tours: 10 May

MOTHERHOOD REFLECTION MORNING - Saturday 3 May 9.45am - 12pm Orana Centre, St Vincent's Aranda. This event offers an opportunity to be renewed in faith and community. Hear from our guest speaker Sharon Brewer, a panel of women from diverse walks of life, and connect with like-minded women on the journey. This reflection morning is being sponsored by the Archdiocesan Women's Taskforce. Free with morning tea provided. See flyer on notice board. Please register: <https://forms.gle/3dcXRMuuNYCzqRc77>

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.

Prayer Requests

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Pope Francis, Fr Michael Fallon MSC, Percy Knight, Margaret McKinnon, Lorraine Birch, Therese Neal, Robert Rajasingam.,

ANNIVERSARIES

Richard Stalker, Cyril and Daisy Angeles, Iris Sloane, Joseph and Linda Balthazar, Maria Hribar, Terry Stewart, Arthur Set Bo, Peter Kyan

THE SICK

Kathryn Anderson, Lorraine Birch, Trevor Blake, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Nicole Court, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Helen Driver, Mary East, Richard East, Joachim Exell, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Percy Knight, Anne Laffan, Sally Marchant, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Glenn Mowbray, Paul Mowbray, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Matthew Schembri, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Denis Tarbuck, John Turyn, Olga Turyn, Jennifer Webster, Michael Worsnop, Angela Williams.

A BIG THANK YOU TO JERRY COBANOV

who recently organised professional assistance to help him clean the 'sticky' post-COVID pews at St Vincent's. He also cleaned the window sills and interior windows (Chris Grubmueller later cleaned the outside) and vacuumed. A great effort, especially as Jerry is an octogenarian! Thanks too to Greg Pocock for cleaning the windows at St Matthew's.

THE SACRAMENT OF ANNOINTING will be celebrated at the 9.30am Mass on the first Friday each month commencing on Friday 2 May. A cuppa will follow Mass in Marian Hall and a plate to share would be appreciated.

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER

Devotion and Prayers

Monday 10 am St Vincent's, Aranda.

Ignatian Spirituality

2nd Monday 7:30pm Orana Centre, Aranda OR 2nd Wednesday 11 am, Orana Centre, Aranda.

LIBRARY NEWS

- There is a display of books by and about Pope Francis in the library at St Matthews
- New copies of The Tablet are now available also. They are located in the large white folders.

Reminder – Please fill in borrowing sheet and return items as soon as you have finished (preferably within a month) so others can use them

R.I.P



1936—2025

Christian Meditation

1st and 3rd Wednesday 5.30 pm Orana Centre, Aranda. Other Wednesdays via zoom.

Centring Prayer

2nd & 4th Wednesday of month 7.30pm Marian Hall, Page

Genacle of the Marian Movement of Priests

Thursday after 9:30am Mass, Aranda

26th April & 27th April

3rd May & 4 May

	6pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Conor Bradley Mary Williams	Mary Morris Christina Rowe	Gerard Hogan Kate Hourigan	Gabrielle Jarvis Geraldine Lillingston	Helen Casey Paul Coghlan	Marie Carroll Lourdes O'Keefe
Senior Server	Damien Sloane	Luka Tolovae	Bernie Leger	Damien Sloane	Vince Burns	Jenny Murphy
EMHC	Colleen Meadley	Jo Duck John Duck	Helen Digan Rachelle Stannard	Margaret Sloane	Carolyn Burns Kevin McInerney	Jane Burroughs Mina Chiu
Linen/Altar		Mary Morris			Janet Moyle	Amanda Kabaila Rachelle Stannard

Entrance Antiphon

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16](#)

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

(R.) Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

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

(L.) The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

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

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

(R.) O Lord, grant us salvation;

O Lord grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19](#)

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the

keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel [John 20:19-31](#)

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion:

Take the sacrament of the Lord's body and blood to the absent members of our congregation, that they may share with us in our Easter Eucharist.