

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

23-24 August 21st 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 (4th Sun)	12:00pm	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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:belconnensouth@cg.org.au)

Website – [cg.org.au/belconnensouth](http://cg.org.au/belconnensouth)

Facebook – [www.facebook.com/southbelconnen?](http://www.facebook.com/southbelconnen?)

[southbelconnen?](http://southbelconnen?)

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

#### PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page  
Fr John 0418 208 129

### 'YES' IN FAITH AND 'YES' IN ACTION

**“God wants faithfulness not performance.” So said St Teresa of Calcutta when asked by an American politician about the impact her actions had on the poverty around her. We want results. God wants our response under grace. The two are not opposed but there is a priority. Our aim is to respond to where the Spirit is stirring. We may or may not achieve by some criteria but we will be living the truth in love. Our response to God’s call underpins today’s readings. Jesus tells his group-oriented followers not to presume that they are a part of his fictive or created family of disciples. To have kinship with him goes beyond sharing a meal. No less than “a radical change of life is also necessary to establish a kinship relationship” (John J Pilch). When we come to Mass we are comforted and challenged by both Word and Sacrament to say ‘yes’. The fifth century St Caesarius of Arles (Sermon 78:2) has a perennial question: “Which do you think more important – the word of God or the body of Christ? If you want to answer correctly, you must tell me that the word of God is no less important than the body of Christ! How careful we are, when the body of Christ is distributed to us, not to let any bit of it fall to the ground from our hand! But we should be just as careful not to let slip from our hearts the word of God that is addressed to us, by thinking or speaking of something else. He (sic) will be no less guilty who listens negligently to the word of God than he (sic) who by his negligence allows the Lord’s body to fall to the ground.” French priest Michel Quoist reflects insightfully on the struggle to say ‘yes’. Firstly, he reflects for us: “I am afraid of saying ‘yes’, Lord. Where will you take me? . . . I am afraid of signing my name to an unread agreement, . . . And yet I am not at peace. You pursue me, Lord, you besiege me . . . Where shall I hide? I meet you everywhere. Is it then impossible to escape you? He then has God respond: Say ‘yes’ . . . I need your ‘yes’ as I needed Mary’s ‘yes’ to come to earth, for it is I who must do your work, it is I who must live in your family, it is who must be in your neighbourhood and not you. For it is my look that penetrates, and not yours, my words that carry weight and not yours, my life that transforms and not yours . . . And concludes with our possible response: O Lord, I am afraid of your demands, but who can resist you? That your Kingdom may come and not mine, that your will be done and not mine, help me to say ‘yes’” (1963). Our ‘yes’ might be tentative, but the journey to true freedom begins with it. And the nature of our ‘yes’ will be as varied as we are. This is the beauty of our being ‘One in the One’, as Pope Leo’s motto would have it.**

Fr John

## Archdiocesan Notices

**STAND FOR LIFE** with the Australian Christian Lobby at the Babies Booties event, between 11.30am - 1:30pm on Wednesday 27th August 2025 at Parliament House in Canberra. This event is highlighting the tragedy of abortion and the many thousands of lives lost each year. Supporting pro-life MPs and Senators will speak at the event. We are praying that abortion legislation in Australia changes to protect the most vulnerable - babies in the womb.

To read more information and/or attend this event, please register your attendance - <https://www.acl.org.au/babybooties/>  
There is plenty of parking under Parliament House and in the car parks around. Contact for the event is Sarah at ACL - [volunteer@acl.org.au](mailto:volunteer@acl.org.au)

This is the 3rd annual event of this kind with the initial impetus to support the Babies Born Alive Bill.

### **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](mailto:futurestudy.CBR@acu.edu.au)



### **90<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:marye-boyle8@gmail.com).

### **PART TIME PARISH SECRETARY BUNGENDORE**

This is a part-time permanent position for 10 hours per week.

Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email the Parish Office [bungendore@cg.org.au](mailto:bungendore@cg.org.au)

Applications addressing the Selection Criteria above with attached resume may be sent to Fr Sijo Jose, Parish Priest [si-jo.jose@cg.org.au](mailto:si-jo.jose@cg.org.au) and must be received by COB 29 August 2025.

### **OFFICE MANAGER- HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, AMAROO**

Permanent Part-time – Four days per week (up to 25 hrs) including some evening and weekend work.

Tuesday to Friday – 9.00am to 3.00pm

For the full job description and selection criteria, please contact Theivani Evers on 02 6242 9622 or [theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au) (Tuesday to Friday).

The successful candidate will be a practicing Catholic who is enthusiastic, friendly and approachable. To apply please provide a covering letter outlining your skills, experience and qualifications along with your Curriculum Vitae to Fr Troy Bobbin via email to [recruitment@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:recruitment@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au).

Please nominate at least three referees one of which will need to be a Parish Priest.

**Closing date:** 5:00pm Friday 5 September 2025

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au).

**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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Ukrainian Bishop Peter Stasiuk, Bob Simpson, Ugo Damiano, Chris Logan, John Pratt, Michael Tlise, Bishop Peter Elliott, Col Joye, Fr Chris Riley, Sam Backo, Peter Cook, John Bryan, Glenn Mowbray, Victims of war in Iran, Israel, Gaza, South Sudan and Ukraine.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Malcolm Petrie, Carmel Petrie, Michael Craft, Kevin Moyle, Thomas Pearson, Eileen Pearson, Max Holmes, Tim Durick, Douglas Dowler

**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 Hannon, 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, Kate Sweeney, John Turyn, Olga Turyn, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

Men's Group – THURSDAY 28 AUG 25 6:15 PM

The next get together will be at the Orana Centre, Aranda. Please RSVP to [paul.pearson@bigpond.com](mailto:paul.pearson@bigpond.com) (0412 685 582) by COB TUESDAY 26 AUGUST 25.

**COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2026 ORDER NOW!**

Please contact the Parish Office 6254 1827 (during office hours Mon, Tue & Thu) or [belconnensouth@cg.org.au](mailto:belconnensouth@cg.org.au)  
**ORDERS CLOSE:** 4 September 2025

**MOWING AT ST MATTHEW'S: SATURDAYS 8AM**

Volunteers sought to join a small team of women and men. For details, contact John Duck 0403895256



**Save the date during the Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4)**

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 2 pm our parish will host an ecumenical prayer gathering at St Matthew's Church to celebrate and contemplate Creation. All are invited.

**THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL'S (PPC)** August meeting discussed **draft PPC guidelines and the Parish Renewal.** Several suggestions for the guidelines were discussed and the guidelines will be finalised following the Parish Renewal. **Phil Billington, who will facilitate the Renewal, joined the meeting and outlined a process commencing on the weekend of 1 and 2 November.** PPC members endorsed the approach which will be refined at the PPC's September meeting.

**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

	23 & 24 August			30 & 31 August		
	6pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Patton Michael White	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Gerard Hogan Bernie Leger	Lea Bewick Mary Williams	Paul Coghlan Mary Morris	Anne McCarthy Lourdes O'Keefe
<b>Senior Server</b>	Paul Scholtens	Greg Pocock Sacristan	Jenny Murphy	Damien Sloane	Luka Tolovae	Bernie Leger
<b>EMHC</b>	Dorothy Lalor	Kevin McInerney Joan Murphy	Annette Charge Robin Taylor	Margaret Sloane	Cathy Power Damien Power	Jane burroughs Mina Chiu
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Pauline Cunneen	Robin Taylor		Pauline Cunneen	Christine Ross

**Entrance Antiphon**

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the  
day long.

**First Reading** [Isaiah 66:18-21](#)

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) Go out to all the world  
and tell the Good News.**

**(L.)** O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**

**(R.)** Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** [Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13](#)

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** [Luke 13:22-30](#).

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

**Communion Antiphon**

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work,  
O Lord;

you bring forth bread from the earth  
and wine to cheer the heart.

**Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion**

Brothers and sisters, in the service of the pilgrim Church, bring Christ to our brothers and sisters who travel on a difficult road.