

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

29 –30 November 1st Sunday of Advent (A)

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 Aranda
Sunday	8:30am Page
	10:00am Aranda
Samoa (4thSun)	12:00pm Page
Korean	3:00pm Aranda

#### Weekday Masses

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 Page and 5:00pm-5:30pm Aranda

#### 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/](https://www.facebook.com/southbelconnen/)

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

#### PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page  
Fr John 0418 208 129

### HOPE - PAST AND FUTURE

**This Sunday we enter the Season of Advent, the start of the Church’s liturgical year. There is a two-fold focus in Advent.** Initially we reflect on the ‘end-times’ or the fulfilment of the reign of God. Then our focus shifts to preparing ‘a way for the Lord’, whose first coming we celebrate at Christmas. **Advent is about hope. In this Jubilee Year of Hope (running from Christmas Eve 2024 until 6 January 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany), it would be well to recall some thoughts of Pope Francis.** *“Christian hope is invincible because it is not a desire. It is the certainty that we are all travelling, not toward something that we want to be there, but something that is already there”* (‘Hope’, 2025, p. 252). He continued: *“It is often said that “so long as there is life, there is hope,” but the truth, if anything is the opposite: it is hope that keeps life going, protects it, takes care of it, helps it to grow. If men and women hadn’t always cultivated this virtue, if they hadn’t been encouraged by it, they would never have left their caves and would have left no mark in history. It is the most divine thing that can exist in the human heart”* (ibid, p.254). Pope Francis drew on the early twentieth century French poet Charles Peguy who spoke of hope as an unnoticed little girl: *“Faith sees only what is. But she, she sees what will be. Chaiyry loves only what is. But she, she loves what will be.”* He also quoted words of St Teresa of Calcutta.

**The most beautiful day? Today.**

**The biggest hurdle? Fear.**

**The easiest thing? Being wrong.**

**The biggest mistake? Giving up.**

Little wonder that early Christians symbolised hope as an anchor. **Pope Francis also noted the need for a sense of humour.** After all, we are the descendants of Abraham and Isaac, whose name means *“he who laughs”*. Abraham and Sarah, well on in years, laughed when told they would bear a child. We are offspring of their son Isaac. Pope Francis spoke of his love above all for meeting with little children, noting experts tell us they laugh ten times more than adults. *“Those who are always dull or rigid are stuck, and humour is a prime means of inverting this process. If you can smile at one thing you can also change it: This is why children and saints are great revolutionaries, and the Lord is the greatest of them all: “God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong”* (1 Cor 1:27). **This Advent a God who smiles is calling us anew in our parish synodal journey. Where is the Holy Spirit calling me to be a sign and instrument of hope in our parish and beyond?** Fr John

## 2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION 16 December, St. Michael's, Kaleen at 7.00pm

### Library News—St Matthew's:

- Clark, Randy and Healy, Mary: *The spiritual gifts handbook: using your gifts to build the Kingdom* 2018 [Spirituality]
- Pope Leo XIV: *Dilexi te: Apostolic exhortation to all Christians on love for the poor* 2025 [Encyclicals and Exhortations]
- White, Christopher: *Pope Leo XIV: inside the conclave and the dawn of a new papacy* 2025 [Church and Catholic Faith]

Resources for Advent and Christmas on display and available for loan

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

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY: 7 & 21 Dec during 10 am Mass at St Vincent's, Aranda.**

**Archdiocesan Notices**

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT 6 December 6:30 pm

Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, .Bring a picnic to the free Canberra Times Carols by Candlelight supported by the Woden Valley Youth Choir, 2CA/2CC, National Capital Authority, Canberra Southern Cross Club, Eclipse Sound and Lighting, ECG Electrical, Canberra City Band and Lifeline.

### ST CLEMENTS RETREAT CENTRE, GALONG 6 December

A pilgrim site during this "Pilgrims of Hope" Jubilee year, the bus departs 7.45AM from Waramanga and returns approx. 5.30PM. Cost is \$65 per person. Registrations, full itinerary and enquiries: westoncreek@cg.org.au. Or register via Qkr! app (under Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish).

### A HANDEL CELEBRATION 13 December 7:30pm

Canberra Choral Society (CCS) annual Come and Sing event. Music by George Frideric Handel, directed by Erin Helyard, French Soprano, Myriam Arbouz, a 160-voice choir and professional orchestra.

**TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:** Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Canberra Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. For further information, phone the Canberra Office of the Tribunal on 6239 9813 or email tribunal@cg.org.au

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA appeals for support for communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and across the Horn of Africa where millions of people are the victims of conflict, violence, hunger, and displacement.** Caritas Australia is supporting partners across the region to provide vital aid including emergency shelter, food and nutrition support, and access to clean water. You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/africa](http://www.caritas.org.au/africa) or phone 1800 024 413

**PLANNING TO MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?** Go to the Archdiocesan marriage and family webpage (<https://cgatholic.org.au>.) for information and to choose a marriage preparation program. Email inquiries to [marriage.preparation@cg.org.au](mailto:marriage.preparation@cg.org.au) or text Helena on 0405 440 463.

**VACANCIES AT SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT HOMES:** Marymead-CatholicCare has two vacancies in their Supported Independent Living homes within the NDIS CHOICES Program, supporting and empowering people with disabilities. Call our CHOICES and Aged Care number, 6163 7647.

**VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DINNERS:** Alternating between a presbytery and the Archbishop's House on the first Thursday of the month, the dinners, along with prayer and discussion, are for men discerning a call to the priesthood. RSVP to Vocations Director, Fr Emil, [emil.milat@cg.org.au](mailto:emil.milat@cg.org.au).

### **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, West Belconnen Positions Vacant – Parish Officer x 3**

On 1 January 2026 the parishes of St Thomas Aquinas, Charnwood and St John the Apostle, Kippax will combine **\*Parish Officer - 6 hrs/ week, 18 hrs/week and 24 hrs/week**

Employment will commence in January 2026..Duty Statement/s please email Kippax Parish Office [kippax@cg.org.au](mailto:kippax@cg.org.au) or Charnwood Parish Office [charnwood@cg.org.au](mailto:charnwood@cg.org.au) Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to the Parish Priest, Fr Tru Nguyen MSC [tru.nguyen@cg.org.au](mailto:tru.nguyen@cg.org.au) by CoB 5 Dec 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).

**ST MATTHEWS' WORKING BEE:** From 8:00am next Saturday, 6 December join the working bee to clean up garden areas around the church. Good exercise, great people!

**ST VINCENT'S WORKING BEE Saturday 13 December 8:30 – 12:00**

Main tasks cleaning the carpark gutters, some trimming and general tidy up of the church grounds. The church windows could also be cleaned

Morning tea provided.

Further info: Colleen & Bern: [meadleycb@outlook.com](mailto:meadleycb@outlook.com)

**LOST AND FOUND AT ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH**

**LOST:** A jewellers gift bag containing a box with a cross and also an amber bead necklace. Left at Baptism Sunday 9 November.

**FOUND:** In the collection, a key ring with engraved initials and a single key attached.

**URGENT: CHURCHCLEANING: More help is needed at St Matthew's and St Vincent's.** Many hands make light work. **If interested, please contact the Parish Office 6254 1827 or [belconnen-south@cg.org.au](mailto:belconnen-south@cg.org.au)**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Lyn Tankey, Murray Scott, Paul Robertson, Fr Francis Moloney SDB, Graham Richardson, Sr Monica Stallard RSM.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Elizabeth Smith, Brian Coates, Nance Wilmer, Ian Brown, Terry Williams, Fr Phil Buckley (former Page PP)

**THE SICK**

Margaret Wilson, Daryl Brohman, Steven Prowse, Jacqueline Donohue, Kathryn Anderson, Elizabeth Binetti, Anna Blackwell, Trevor Blake, John Col-lard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Nicole Court, Maureen Dalzell, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Shirley Dellamarta, Helen Driver, Mary East, Richard East, Ken Evenden, Joachim Exell, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Sally Marchant, Paul Mowbray, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Cate Sweeney, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

**SR MARY GLOWERY:** The cause for sainthood for this Melbourne-born doctor and missionary religious who founded India's Catholic Health Association, the country's now largest non-government healthcare network, was advanced after Pope Leo XIV recognised her "heroic virtues" in declaring her Venerable Mary of the Sacred Heart. She is only the second Australian, after St Mary MacKillop, to be accorded this status.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Your financial help enables the Aranda and Page conferences to provide Christmas hampers in our community. The need is pressing.

**We are holding the South Belconnen Parish appeal next weekend, 6 and 7 December.**

Thank you in anticipation of your support

**ADVENT PROGRAM- IN HOLY STILLNESS**

A limited number of the program booklets are available in the foyer.

	29 & 30 November			6 & 7 December		
	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Conor Bradley Peter Davies	Yvonne McAadoo Mary Morris	Marie Carroll Elizabeth Hannan	Bernie Leger Geraldine Lillingston	Helen Casey Christina Rowe	Lisa Harris Anne McCarthy
<b>Senior Server</b>	David Ross	Greg Pocock Sacristan	Paul Scholtens	Robyn Grubmueller	Damien Power	Jenny Murphy
<b>EMHC</b>	Michael White	Joan Murphy Jan Woods	Rachelle Stannard Robin Taylor	Mary Williiams	Carmel Brady Catherine Power	Annette Charge Mina Chiu
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Janet Moyle	Ladies of the Korean Community		Janet Moyle	Amanda Kabaila
<b>Cleaning Group</b>				<b>5</b>	Helen Casey, Eddie Wheeler, John & Millie McKeogh	

## LITURGY OF THE WORD 1st Sunday of Advent (A)

### Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.  
The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is not said.

### First Reading [Isaiah 2:1-5](#)

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.  
In the days to come  
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord  
shall tower above the mountains  
and be lifted higher than the hills.  
All the nations will stream to it,  
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the Temple of the God of Jacob  
that he may teach us his ways  
so that we may walk in his paths;  
since the Law will go out from Zion,  
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'  
He will wield authority over the nations  
and adjudicate between many peoples;  
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,  
their spears into sickles.  
Nation will not lift sword against nation,  
there will be no more training for war.  
O House of Jacob, come,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

**(L.)** I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

**(R.)** It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David. **(R.)**

**(L.)** For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!' **(R.)**

**(R.)** For love of my brethren and friends

I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. **(R.)**

### Second Reading [Romans 13:11-14](#)

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

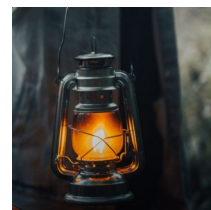
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

### Gospel [Matthew 24:37-44](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'



"So stay awake,  
because you  
do not know  
the day when  
your master is  
coming."

Matthew 24:42

### Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

Go forth, carrying the body and blood of Christ to those who are sick. As they receive the bread of life may they know the deep consolation that comes only from the Lord.