

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

25 & 26 April 4th Sunday of Easter (A) Good Shepherd Sunday

Msgr John Woods- PP, Fr Andrew Yang-Korean Chaplain, 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

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 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

TO SHEPHERD IN GOD'S NAME

Jesus drew on everyday rural images to illustrate his profound message. The Gospel authors were also mindful of the circumstances of the faith community they wrote for. Both aspects are present in today's Gospel. The 'shepherd-sheep' images in today's readings goes back to David, a young shepherd (1 Sam 16:11-13) and first king of the house of Judah. Israelite kings were meant to shepherd their people. Few did but the long-awaited Messiah of the line of David was expected to be the truly 'Good Shepherd'. A good shepherd would watch over his flock during the day and at night he would put them in a communal sheepfold for protection. One shepherd would be the gatekeeper. Thieves would attempt to get into the sheepfold other than through the gate and then call the sheep to follow. Sheep attentive to their shepherd's voice would not follow a stranger and so remain safe. At daybreak the sheep would respond to the voice of their shepherd who would lead them to pasture. Jesus, in contrast to those who come to steal and to destroy, identifies himself as the 'good shepherd' (v. 11) This understanding resonated with the Johannine community in their struggle with Judaism and the Romans as they sought to establish their allegiance to Jesus, the only true Shepherd. **Jesus also speaks of being "the Gate of the sheepfold"**. The sheepfold gate allows access to protection and growth: through the gate to safety at night and out through the gate in the morning to pasture. *"By describing himself as 'the Gate of the sheepfold' Jesus is indicating that only through vital and continual interaction with himself will members of the community find life and growth" (Brendan Byrne).* **Each Sunday we gather 'in Christ' and we are sent out in his name. However, the dangers to our faith are more subtle than those faced by the Johannine community. In a time of unprecedented emphasis on the individual, we can be indifferent to the cry of the poor in all manner of guises. We can come and go from Mass barely touched by the struggles of others. In simple terms: "We can be so heavenly focused that we are of little earthly good"**. A faith that provides personal comfort but is not reflected in external action is to say the least problematic. On this Anzac Day long weekend we honour those who died in the brutality of war. Lest we forget. **In the foyer you could pick up a copy of the November 1945 reflections of Fr Lionel Marsden MS, Chaplain and POW on the Thai-Burma railway. His ministry in war (and after the war in establishing the Marist Mission in Japan) reflects the example of the Good Shepherd. For whom am I called to share the life of the Good Shepherd this week?**

Fr John

Archdiocesan Notices

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA LEBANON
EMERGENCY APPEAL**

Learn more or make a donation at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon



MIDDLE EAST EMERGENCY APPEAL – Aid to the Church in Need

To learn more or give today, please scan the QR code or visit www.rebrand.ly/EmergencyAppeal



PARISH YOUTH COORDINATOR: If you are a young adult and would be interested in part-time parish work with primary and secondary students, please contact Fr John for further details or access the archdiocese's QR code or cgevangelisation.org.au/parish-youth-coordinator.



CANA YOUTH

Parish Youth Coordinators will animate our parish based, archdiocesan Youth Ministry – Cana Youth. This includes running **Cana Kids** groups (yr 4-6), **Cana Youth** Groups (Yr 7-12) and working collaboratively to animate **Cana Main Events** (Retreats & Youth Events) and school connections through **Cana Outreach** and **Cana Connect** Groups.

SUPPORT OUR FUTURE PRIESTS – GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL

Please support the formation of our future priests **Please give today** using the payment slip (emailed with bulletin or in the foyer), envelopes, QR code or email:

Financial.Services@cg.org.au



Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

In April meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact, or join our May session for a live crossing to Timor Leste Scan below or see palms.org.au/events

April Session: Discover Palms Online! Scan this QR-

Date: Thursday 30 April 2026 **Time:** 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEST

May Session: Live from Timor Leste! Scan here-

Date: Thursday 21 May 2026 **Time:** 4 pm – 5:30 pm AEST

02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au



ACU BLACKFRIARS LECTURE: 5 May 5 pm

Misinformation as a Threat to International Security: The lecture examines misinformation as an emerging threat to international security. AI-generated content, and coordinated influence operations, misinformation have become a strategic tool. Information: www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/events

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DINNER 7 May 6 pm

Calwell Presbytery. RSVP Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

PROPHETIC INTERCESSION TRAINING with Cyril John. Head of the CHARIS Intercession Commission, **Wednesday 13 May** 6pm-9pm at St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla and **Thursday 14 May** from 8:30am-4pm and 6pm-9pm at Mary Help of Christians Parish, Pearce ACT. Evening sessions are free; the daytime cost \$20 (pay at the door) with lunch provided. Register at <https://shorturl.at/Yx8uV>. Information Susanna 0419 902 293.

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.

YOUNG ADULTS: Parishioners and friends aged 18-30 are invited to an informal gathering in the **Orana Centre (across from St Vincent's Church), 7:00pm, Tuesday, 5 May** to discuss the possibility of a young adults social and faith formation group. **'Not too heavy, not too lite/light!'** All welcome. Inquiries and suggestions to Fr John.

SR COLLEEN HOWE RSJ will be moving to the Mary of the Cross Apartments in Goulburn next month after six years in the St Vincent's Villas, Aranda. Sr Colleen was highly regarded for her 30 years pastoral ministry in St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Charnwood, most of which was with the late Fr Neville Drinkwater. We wish Sr Colleen every blessing in this next phase of her life.

MEN'S GROUP Thu 30 APRIL 6:15pm

Parish Centre, Aranda.

RSVP paul.pearson@bigpond.com (0412 685 582) by **COB**

Tuesday 28 APRIL 26.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 3 May

During 10 am Mass at St Vincent's, Aranda.

Next: 17 May

RECENTLY DECEASED

Joe Capezio, Claire Bickmore, Michael Higgins, Gunter Graf, Karen Cook, Pauline Murphy, Clare Manahan, Joachim Exell, Patricia Turnbull, Ante "Tony" Markezic, Giuseppina Blasi.

ANNIVERSARIES

Pope Francis, Jeffrey Mc Dermott, Joseph and Linda Balthazaar, Terry Stewart, Percy Knight, Mary Spillane, Iris Sloane, Aniela (Angela) Sobiepanek, Madeleine Williams.

THE SICK

Emily Robinson, Victor Anderson, Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, Sophy Jacob, Shirley Dellamarta, Matt Chunky, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Daryl Brohman, Kathryn Anderson, Anna Blackwell, Trevor Blake, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Mary East, Richard East, Ken Evenden, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Cate Sweeney, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

Project Compassion boxes and envelopes can be returned at any Mass or to the Parish Office. Please return by **3 MAY** so donations can be forwarded to Caritas

LAUDATO SI CIRCLE NEWS 14 May

Keeping your house warm for less - ACT government free workshop (Online) - learn how to find where your home loses heat then take simple actions to keep in the warmth and save on energy costs. Workshop includes information on support and available rebates.

Upcoming workshop- transitioning your home from gas to all-electric, Understanding home solar, battery storage systems, and EV vehicles. See Events list at <https://www.climatechoices.act.gov.au/> for information and to register.

	25 & 26 April 2026			2 & 3 May 2026		
	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Michael White Mary Williams	Helen Casey Mary Morris	Marie Carroll Mina Chiu	Lea Bewick Conor Bradley	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Ann Cleary Elizabeth Hannan
Senior Server	Paul Scholtens	Dennis Morris Sacristan	Jenny Murphy	Robyn Grubmueller	Damien Power	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Dorothy Lalor Colleen Meadley	Carmel Brady John Duck Jo Duck	Jane Burroughs Robin Taylor	Margaret Toye Michael White	Mary Morris Catherine Power	Annette Charge Helen Digan
Linen/Altar		Mary Morris			Janet Moyle	
Cleaning Group	Helen C, Eddie W, John & Millie McK, Gillian L		Betsy J, Jenson VL,, Nea J			

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD 4th Sunday of Easter (A) Good Shepherd Sunday

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41](#)

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

(L.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

(R.) He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)

(L.) You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R.)

(R.) Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading [1 Peter 2:20-25](#)

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel [John 10:1-10](#)

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life
and have it to the full.'



Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

Today's psalm reminds us that "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want." As you take the Blessed Sacrament to our brothers and sisters who cannot be here, bring them also the reassurance of the good shepherd's love for them.