

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

31 January – 1 February 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (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](http://www.facebook.com/southbelconnen)

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

#### PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page  
Fr John 0418 208 129

### ATTITUDE AND ACTION

The predominant Gospel for this Year A, the first of the three-year cycle of Sunday Readings, is from Matthew. Matthew is most concerned to show how the hopes of the Old Testament are realised in the Christian community. Last week we heard of the call of the fisherman by the Sea of Galilee. Today, in the ‘Sermon on the Mount’, Jesus outlines the attitude of those who follow him. He does so, it is noteworthy, in the presence of “all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics and paralytics, ... great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan (4:24-25)”. He is telling his disciples that only with the right attitude and action will it be possible to serve the many and varied needs of humanity in his name. Further, as Matthew sees Jesus as the new Moses, it is the beatitudes which complete the Ten Commandments. “The Beatitudes are not commandments bluntly instructing the disciples about how they should live. They are rather invitations to adopt certain attitudes and live out certain values in the light of a particular vision of God” (ibid). The claim that those who live by the beatitudes are “blessed” or is to emphasise that they are fortunate because, contrary to the prevailing competitive and scheming approach of pursuing short-term gain, they are putting their trust in God’s faithfulness. While not a recipe for success by worldly standards, to so live is supreme wisdom. The Beatitudes “all cohere around the core idea of living in a non-competitive, non-grasping way. To be poor in spirit (as well as being actually poor); to be gentle and unselfish, rather than on the make; to be prepared to weep alongside the unfortunate rather than avoid them; to work for justice and peace; to exercise mercy and be single-minded in pursuit of the good (‘pure in heart’) to be ready to endure persecution and calumny for the sake of the gospel: all these things make one vulnerable here and now, entailing much loss. But then we have to note the second clause in each beatitude, stating the reason for the ‘blessedness’ in each case. All those passives: ‘shall be comforted’, ‘shall be satisfied’, ‘shall have mercy shown to them’, and so forth, indicate, in biblical parlance, the action of God” (ibid). Pope Francis described the Beatitudes as like “a Christian’s identity card”. Raymond Friel, a Catholic educator, notes that the Beatitudes “describe the type of person God wants us to be, liberated from the old self: open to God, loving humble and merciful. But there is work to be done as well: justice-seeking and peace-making, which require courage ... Virtues are those values in action, the habit of making those values a reality.” **The takeaway: To know ‘a peace the world cannot give’ (Jn 14:27) is to be graced with a Gospel attitude and action. It will cost but it will give so much more.**

Fr John

The **CANBERRA BACH ENSEMBLE** – Christe, du Lamm Gottes (Christ, Lamb of God). Choir, orchestra, and soloists, directed by Andrew Koll. Come and enjoy four Bach **Cantatas BWV 22, 23, 127 & 233** on Saturday 14 February at 7.30pm, and Sunday 15 February at 2.00pm at St Christopher's Cathedral, Franklin Street, Manuka. For more info and to purchase tickets, please visit [www.canberrabachensemble.com](http://www.canberrabachensemble.com)

**CONCERT TICKETS AT TRYBOOKING:**

<https://www.trybooking.com/DIQNB>

**FACEBOOK CONCERT EVENTS:**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/172VjkFU7D/>

**Save the Date - Cursillo Weekend**

Save the date: Fri 17 – Sun 19 April, St Clement's, Galong.

Contact [michaelderaadt@gmail.com](mailto:michaelderaadt@gmail.com) Info and registration: <https://tinyurl.com/cursillo2026>

***Archdiocesan Notices***

**LENTEN RETREAT: MEETING CHRIST IN OUR DEEPEST NEED 27 February – 1 March**

You are invited to a 3-session Lenten retreat, facilitated by Greg Sunter. More about Greg: <https://www.wholehearted.com.au/about/> Greg will reflect on this year's Lenten Gospels and there is time for personal reflection and optional sharing. Everyone is welcome no prior study needed and no pressure to speak.

- Friday 27th February 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm;
- Saturday 28th February 10 am - 11 am;
- Sunday 1st March 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Place: 25 Blackham St, HOLT ACT 2615

Cost: \$20 for all 3 sessions Register: [belconnenwest@cg.org.au](mailto:belconnenwest@cg.org.au)

**LENTEN RETREAT: MEETING CHRIST IN OUR DEEPEST NEED 10 March 7.00–8.30pm**

Marist College Canberra invites all members of the community to an Evening of Dialogue with Fr Laurence Freeman OSB.

Venue: Marist College Canberra Registration: <https://events.maristc.act.edu.au/eveningofdialogue2026>

The evening will offer a space for respectful dialogue on the National Marist theme 'Full of Grace, transformed by God's love' and its implications for Catholic education in the Canberra community.

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA** appeals for support for vulnerable communities across Africa. Conflict, violence, hunger, and displacement are tearing communities apart. In places like the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan and across the Horn of Africa, the situation is critical. Caritas Australia is supporting partners across the region to provide vital aid including emergency shelter, food and nutrition support, and access to clean water. Your support is urgently needed. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Africa Crisis Appeal. You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/africa](http://www.caritas.org.au/africa) or phone 1800 024 413

**GOT YOUR WEDDING PLANS UNDER CONTROL?**

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site:

[www.engagedencounter.org.au](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au). Choose any of the coming Weekends: Feb 21-22, May 23- 24, Aug 8-9

**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 MATTHEW'S GARDENERS Tuesday mornings 9.00am until 1030am**

Come, join the team of volunteers working in the church gardens of St Matthews, Page. Our gardening involves weeding, trimming small shrubs, sweeping up leaves, and general tidying.

All you need are gloves, suitable head, and footwear, we will provide the tools required if you do not have your own garden equipment/tools. We would love you to join us, even if you are only able to come on an irregular basis.

Looking forward to meeting any people who would like to help us. If you need to discuss, please call John or Jan Woods on 6254 1482 who can further outline what we do.

**AFTER MASS**

- Morning Tea after 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of the month St Matthew's. (1st February)
- Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Vincent's. (7th February)
- Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's. (15 February)

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

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

**1 February** and 15 February, 1 March and 15 March

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Sally Marchant, Gus Grubmueller, Mick Ryan, John Needham, Paul Mowbray, Neil Charge, Nicole Court, Elizabeth Binetti, Carmen Johnson, Fr Frank Fuchs, PP Aranda (2007-2013), Victims of Swiss fire, Sr Rita Fitt SGS.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Helen McKeown, Peter Donnan, June Donnelly, Everard Willis, Paul Roberts, Bob Larcy.

**THE SICK**

Matt Chunky, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Paul Collins, Sally Pickering, Margaret Wilson, Daryl Brohman, Jacqueline Donohue, Kathryn Anderson, Anna Blackwell, Trevor Blake, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Maureen Dalzell, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, 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, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Cate Sweeney, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

**PARISH KEY-Audit**

Have you finished a ministry but still have a parish key/s? Have you handed your key/s to another parishioner but not informed the office? It is vitally important that ALL unused keys are returned to the Parish Office:

7 Bindel Street, Aranda or contact belconnensouth@cg.org.au or 6254 1827

Thank you to those who have responded

**31 January & 1 February 2026**

**7 & 8 February 2026**

	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Gabrielle Jarvis Michael White	Yvonne McAdoo Mary Morris	Michael Allam Marie Carroll	Mary Patton Mary Williams	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Lourdes O'Keefe Elizabeth Hannan
<b>Senior Server</b>	David Ross	Damien Power	Paul Scholtens	Damien Sloane	Dennis Morris Sacristan	Jenny Murphy
<b>EMHC</b>	Judi Ahern Lynne Foster	Carmel Brady Catherine Power	Jane Burroughs Annette Charge	Lea Bewick	Mary Morris Joan Murphy	Mina Chiu
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Pauline Cunneen	Amanda Kabaila Rachelle Stannard		Pauline Cunneen	Robin Taylor
<b>Cleaning Group</b>	<b>4</b>	Bernard Williams, Catherine Gilbert, Patrick Tierney				

**Hearing Aid Loop** is installed in both Mass centres, St Matthew's **only** middle 2 sections turn your hearing aid to the 1 switch

## LITURGY OF THE WORD 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Save us, O Lord our God!

And gather us from the nations,  
to give thanks to your holy name,  
and make it our glory to praise you.

### **First Reading** [Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13](#)

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity,  
seek humility:

you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name  
of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

**(L.)** It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

**(R.)** It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**

**(L.)** It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,

Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading** [1 Corinthians 1:26-31](#)

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame

what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

### **Gospel** [Matthew 5:1-12](#)

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'



### **Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion**

We remember the members of our community who are sick or housebound. Comfort them with this life-giving sacrament that they may rejoice with us in the Lord's friendship.