

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

7-8 February 5th 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 (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 Aranda

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?

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

PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page
Fr John 0418 208 129

FAITH AND LIGHT

Last Monday parishioners gathered at St Vincent's for the Funeral Mass of Paul Mowbray. Paul was only 34. He was the youngest son of Trish and Glenn (predeceased in July '25). Paul had Down's Syndrome but embraced life before succumbing to cancer. When his organs were failing, he never complained. Paul endeared himself to the hospital staff, as he had to his carers over the years. He was adopted, as were his brothers Peter and Luke, who also have Down's Syndrome. Their sister Emily was also adopted. Paul loved to eat, to 'meet and greet' and he liked football. He was a big fan of Greg from the Wiggles. Many wore yellow at the funeral. Paul took 'Gregory the Great' as his saint's name for Confirmation. He loved coming to Mass, especially the 'Fire Mass' (Easter Vigil with the fire outside) and meeting folk at any parish occasion. He had a special affinity with homeless people. Paul and his family have been a part of **'Faith and Light'**. The latter is a group of families who meet regularly to socially and prayerfully support their physically and, or mentally impaired child/ren and each other. **The themes of faith and light are found in all three readings this weekend.** Last week's Gospel saw Jesus outline the Beatitudes or attitudes of those considered 'blessed' or 'happy' because they lived in a non-grasping way, putting their trust in God. In so living, they become, as we are called to be in today's Gospel, 'salt of the earth' and 'light of the world'. **The Mowbray family have been 'salt' and 'light' for each other and for our parish family.** Our First Reading insists that if we get social justice right, all else falls into place. **Justice, like love, is found in respect for oneself and for others.** Love and justice should be nurtured in our hearts, homes and neighbourhoods. **Jesus probably drew on the everyday use of communal ovens to come up with the images of salt and light.** Inside the earthenware ovens on top of a block of salt were placed dung patties made of camel or donkey dung mixed with salt. When the catalytic properties were expended, the dung patties and block of salt were thrown out (*John J. Pilch, 'The Cultural Word of Jesus'*). **We too need to be renewed in our faith journey. Every Mass is a "Fire Mass"!** **Let us pray: Gracious Father, pour your Spirit anew on us. May we be fired with a trust in you. Give us discerning hearts and minds to see as you see. Afford us courage to affirm the dignity of all and to be salt and light in your name.**

Fr John

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

During 10 am Mass at St Vincent's, Aranda.
15 February, 1 March and 15 March

Archdiocesan Notices

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)

BISHOPS GATHERING: From this Wednesday, 11 February until Friday, 13 February there will be a gathering at St Christopher's Cathedral precinct of recently ordained bishops and those soon to be ordained bishop. You are most welcome to join them at the 7:30am Cathedral Mass from Wednesday to Friday. Our prayers otherwise would be greatly appreciated by them.

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

CONCERT TICKETS AT TRYBOOKING:

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

FACEBOOK CONCERT EVENTS:

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

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

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.

Volunteer with **IMPACT**

Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in this special session where you'll learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.

Venue: Online- Scan the QR or register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 19 February 2026

Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au

Want to visit a community first? Join our 13-day **Encounter Tour to Timor Leste!**

Book by **28 February** for the May tour! See palms.org.au/encounters



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.

Parish News

LADIES' DINNER 16 February 6pm.

The first dinner for 2026 will be at the Southern Cross Club, Jamison. Please RSVP by Monday 16 February 9 am jennymur-phys@icloud.com or 0437 034 148

Parish Financial Report for December 2025

	Actual	Planned	Variance	
	12 mth to	12 mth to	against	
	31/12/2025	31/12/2025	Plan	
	\$	\$	\$	
Direct Giving	182,114	177,000	5,114	over budget
(Planned Giving and 2nd collection for administration of the Parish)				
Parish Income & Expenditure Statement				
Income *	232,353	219,600	12,753	over budget
Expenditure	207,323	217,900	10,577	under budget
Surplus/(Deficit)	25,030	1,700	23,330	

* Income = Direct Giving and other income

The Finance Council is preparing for parishioners a more detailed report on the Parish's 2025 finances which will be made available in coming weeks.

Your ongoing financial support of the Parish and Clergy is required and greatly appreciated. Contact the Parish Office on belconnensouth@cg.org.au for details on how to contribute to the Clergy (first collection) and Parish (Planned Giving and second collection).

Prayer Requests

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Greg Thornton, Sally Marchant, Gus Grubmueller, Mick Ryan, John Needham, Paul Mowbray, Neil Charge, Nicole Court, Elizabeth Binetti, Carmen Johnson

ANNIVERSARIES

Penny Durick, Blundell & McMaster families, Helen McKeown, Peter Donnan, June Donnelly, Everard Willis, Paul Roberts.

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.

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ST MATTHEW'S GARDENERS Tuesday mornings 9.00am until 10:30am

Come, join the team of volunteers working in the church gardens of St Matthews, Page.

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.

If you would like to know more, please call John or Jan Woods on 6254 1482

7 & 8 February 2026

14 & 15 February 2026

	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Mary Patton Mary Williams	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Lourdes O'Keefe Elizabeth Hannan	Lea Bewick Lynne Foster	Helen Casey Paul Coghlan	Gerard Hogan Graham Williams
Senior Server	Damien Sloane	Dennis Morris Sacristan	Jenny Murphy	Robyn Grubmueller	John Woods	Paul Scholtens
EMHC	Lea Bewick	Mary Morris Joan Murphy	Mina Chiu	Catharina Koopman	Kevin McInerney Jan woods	Helen Digan Catharina Williams
Linen/Altar		Pauline Cunneen	Robin Taylor		Pauline Cunneen	Christine Ross
Cleaning Group				5	Helen Casey, Eddie Wheeler, John & Millie McKeough	

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

Entrance Antiphon

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading [Isaiah 58:7-10](#)

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

(L.) He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.

The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**

(R.) The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**

(L.) With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.

His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

Second Reading [1 Corinthians 2:1-5](#)

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 5:13-16](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'



Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

May the Lord who is the light of our world shine through you as you carry the Eucharist to those who cannot be with us for today's celebration.