

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

3-4 January Epiphany of the Lord (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

### A MYSTERY MADE MANIFEST

The bible teaches religious or theological truth. Committed to writing from oral traditions over some 1100 years, it is more truly a 'biblia' or library rather than one book, and with a variety of literary styles and authors' intentions. The bible or scripture does not claim to be a work of history or even less of science. In our Second Reading today we hear St Paul speak of a great "mystery". It is this mystery which is captured on this the Feast of the Epiphany. "The Christian believes that one tiny baby, in his ancient equivalent of a nappy, presented to those Wise Men from the East, brought the secret of the universe to fulfilment. They represent all the races of the world, and far beyond, coming to greet the Saviour who was presented to the world on that day" (Henry Wansbrough). Our First Reading (Isa 60:1-6) situates the significance of past events in speaking of the beautiful imagery of the elevated Jerusalem catching the early morning rays of the sun to which all folk are attracted. This vision is realised fully in the deference of the Wise Men or Magi who are drawn by the star, "a sign of a King of the Jews who would have universal significance. They have followed this star, but they need the scribal wisdom of Israel to locate the One whose birth it announces (in Bethlehem). Revelation comes, then, from a combination of natural wisdom and biblical prophecy" (Brendan Byrne). The Wise Men, most likely astrologers and political advisers from the East, represent the best of human wisdom for tradition held that this came from the East. We share the longing and faith of the Wise Men, offering the gifts of our lives to the one who is 'God-with-us' or Emmanuel. On the other hand, the weak and fearful Herod will search in vain with a closed fist to eliminate the child. There is none so blind as he who will not see. In eastern Christianity the Feast of the Epiphany rather than the birth of Jesus is seen as the manifestation of Christ to the world. "This is the meaning of the Greek word 'Epiphany'; it was the first used of the manifest coming of the Roman emperor on a state visit, for he was regarded as a deity to whom worship and adoration were due" (Wansbrough). Finally, mindful that Christmas is completed at Easter, might we also remember that as Romans proclaimed, 'Caesar is Lord', after his resurrection early Christians proclaimed, 'Jesus is Lord'. It is the Lord's life and love that we are to manifest to our fellow believers and perhaps more especially "to all those grumpy, depressed, selfish, worried, suffering, disadvantaged people we meet" (Wansbrough).

Fr John

## SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Thursday 1 January 2026

Mass 9:30 am at St Vincent's, Aranda and 9:30 am at St Matthew's, Page



### JANUARY 2026

Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy or Morning tea/cheese and bikkies during January

#### DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER

##### **Devotion and Prayers**

Monday 10 am St Vincent's, Aranda.

##### **Ignatian Spirituality**

2nd Monday 7:30pm Orana Centre, Aranda OR 2nd

Wednesday 11 am, Orana Centre, Aranda.

##### **Christian Meditation**

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at the Orana Centre - 6 pm For information please call 0414278774

##### **Centring Prayer**

2nd & 4th Wednesday of month 7.30pm Marian Hall, Page

##### **Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests**

Thursday after 9:30am Mass, Aranda

### *Archdiocesan Notices*

#### **NEW YEAR'S MMP PRAYER VIGIL 31 December 2025**

Sacred Heart Church, Pearce Wed 31 Dec 2025. Eucharistic Adoration starts at 8pm, with Rosary on the hour (Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful & Glorious). Concludes with Benediction at midnight- we receive two plenary Indulgences as we pray the Te Deum & Veni Creator.

**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](mailto:tribunal@cg.org.au)

**PLANNING TO MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?** Go to the Archdiocesan marriage and family webpage (<https://cgcatholic.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.

#### **CARITAS AUSTRALIA: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas**

This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to "be a light in the darkness" for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity. Donate today at <https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/>

#### **PAMBULA- Parish Officer**

People are invited to apply for the position of **Parish Officer** for the **Catholic Parishes of Pambula** including Our Lady Star of the Sea Eden, St Joseph's Merimbula and St Peter's Pambula. This is a permanent part time position of **12 hours per week** and will be based in the Parish Office, Merimbula. There may be some travel between parishes when required. Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email the Parish Office [pambula@cg.org.au](mailto:pambula@cg.org.au) Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Leanne Boyd, Parish Support Manager [leanne.boyd@cg.org.au](mailto:leanne.boyd@cg.org.au) and [kose.joseph@cg.org.au](mailto:kose.joseph@cg.org.au) by CoB 9 Jan 2026.

#### **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).

### Jesus Our Future

Lord Jesus, you come like a genius.  
like someone far ahead of their time.  
You come as a miracle,  
not breaking the laws of nature but fulfilling  
them.

You are the future towards which the Spirit  
draws us,  
the salvation offered to all humanity,  
the joy exceeding all exciting pleasures,  
the destiny that was prepared for us  
before the foundation of the world.

You come as the humble Perfection outside our  
grasp  
yet graciously within our reach.  
You are the beauty that is to come,  
the Beauty that calls us into that most natural  
of all miracles: the ministry of love.

O God's unique genius, we welcome you  
as Saviour, Friend and Lord. Amen.

Bruce D Prewer, 1998

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Victims of Bondi, Rob Jones, Marykuty Joseph, John  
Lowe, Lawrence Lawlor, Andrew Murphy, Stephen  
Prowse,

Patricia Mullins

### ANNIVERSARIES

Noel Isaac Cristobal, Brian Fitzgerald, David Baker,  
Richard Stalker.

### THE SICK

Paul Collins, Sally Pickering, Margaret Wilson, Daryl  
Brohman, Jacqueline Donohue, Kathryn Anderson,  
Elizabeth Binetti, Anna Blackwell, Trevor Blake, John  
Collard, 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, Mar-  
garet 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.

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

As you can see the request for prayers is very  
long and some people may no longer need to be  
on the list as they are now healed. **Please let  
the office know if there is anyone who can  
be taken off the list.**

belconnensouth@cg.org.au or 6254 1827

**THANK YOU to all who in any way assisted the life of our parish over the past year.** There are a  
'thousand and one ways' in which this occurs every day. **We therefore look forward with founded confi-  
dence to the new year.** May the child to whom the Wise Men were drawn be our guiding light in all things.

	3 & 4 January 2026			10 & 11 January 2026		
	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Lynne Foster Colleen Meadley	Paul Coghlan John Duck	Gerard Hogan Paul Scholtens	Lea Bewick Mary Williams	Yvonne McAdoo Mary Morris	Bernie Leger Jenny Murphy
<b>Senior Server</b>	Damien Sloane	Damien Power	Bernie Leger	David Ross	Dennis Morris Sacristan	Paul Scholtens
<b>EMHC</b>	Geraldine Lillingston	Carmel Brady Catherine Power	Jenny Murphy Lourdes O'Keefe	Colleen Meaqdley	Carolyn Burns Vince Burns	Jane Burroughs
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Margaret Sloane	Robin Taylor		Margaret Sloane	Christine Ross
<b>Cleaning Group</b>	2	Jennie Dwyer, Mark King, Andrew Sneddon				

## LITURGY OF THE WORD Epiphany of the Lord (A)

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;  
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

### **First Reading** [Isaiah 60:1-6](#)

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,  
though night still covers the earth  
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises  
and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light  
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:  
all are assembling and coming towards you,  
your sons from far away  
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,  
your heart throbbing and full;  
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;  
the wealth of the nations come to you;  
camels in throngs will cover you,  
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;  
everyone in Sheba will come,  
bringing gold and incense  
and singing the praise of the Lord.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

**(L.)** O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

**(R.)** In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R.)**

**(L.)** The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him. **(R.)**

**(R.)** For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading** [Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6](#)

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

### **Gospel** [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

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

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood. Bless our ministers as they bring the bread of life to our sick brothers and sisters; may the gift of yourself bring to them health, strength and happiness.