

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

9 & 10 May 6th Sunday of Easter (A)

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 (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 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 DISCERN HERE AND NOW

We come to the Sixth Sunday of the Easter Season. Next Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost the following Sunday. The Easter Season has seen us reflect on the early Church and the relationship of Jesus with his Father and our being called to share in that intimacy. **Initially, the Church was going ‘gang busters’ in Jerusalem:** sharing all in common, going to the temple each day and gathering for a communal meal before the Eucharist. Many joined them. **However, resentment and persecution followed. Stephen is honoured as the first martyr. The Church moves out of Jerusalem into Gentile (or non-Jewish) areas. We hear of that in our First Reading.** Those baptised following the ministry of Philip amongst the Samaritans await the visit of the Apostles who will lay hands on them to receive the Holy Spirit (First Reading). *“This rather curious separation between baptism and the coming of the Spirit in a way foreshadows the sacrament of Confirmation. However, the ‘separation’ should not be pressed too rigidly. Fundamentally, Christian Baptism does impart the Spirit. The narrative of Acts at this point probably has in mind a more experiential (‘Pentecostal’) awareness of the gift” (Brendan Byrne).* **Jesus had prepared the disciples for outpouring of the Holy Spirit or ‘another paraclete’.** *“One thinks perhaps of a highly respected person whom you might ask to go to court with you and act as character witness. ... Though Jesus may no longer be physically present, the comfort and assurance his presence gave the disciples during his lifetime will continue in the presence of the Holy Spirit” (ibid).* The presence of the Paraclete or ‘the Spirit of truth’ will afford them a conviction when challenged as to what they believe and why (Second Reading). **We reflected last week that we are in the ‘between time’ of the Church’s mission. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit we seek the will of God for ourselves and out community.** On Wednesday the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) met. A decision was made to hold a **‘Discernment Night’ in August** (date to be decided) for parishioners to consider what the PPC does and whether they feel drawn to becoming a member. An anonymous comment is appropriate: *“Christ is the lamp of faith in our hearts, not to be hidden under fear, comfort or silence. Faith that remains private and unexpressed grows weak. St James reminds us that faith without works is dead. When our faith is lived through kindness, honesty, forgiveness, and service, it becomes visible. The world may never open the Bible, but it reads our lives.”* **You are invited to pray about the ‘Discernment Night’, mindful that we seek a truly representative PPC.**

Fr John

Archdiocesan Notices

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL FOR OUR SEMINIARIANS

Thanks to those who have supported this appeal.

If yet to do so, please use the payment slip in the foyer, QR code or email: Financial.Services@cg.org.au



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.

PUBLIC LECTURE- HONOURABLE JUSTICE SIMON STEWART AC of the High Court of Australia **13 May 5:30 pm** Address on jurisprudence and theology at the ANU Law School. This event marks the ACT launch of Australian Catholic Students Association National Conference (3-5 July 2026, Sydney). Registration is essential — <https://events.humanitix.com/public-lecture-by-justice-simon-stewart/tickets>



JESUS YOUTH TRIVIA NIGHT 15 May 6:00 pm

Haydon Hall, 55 Franklin St Forrest. With a theme of Saints and Bible favourites, pull out your saint costumes. Young adults 18+, snacks and drinks provided. Register via QR code or Instagram @jycanberra!!

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER -FAMILY DAY 16 May 10:00 am

Celebration of the 800th Anniversary of the Transitus of St Francis at Our Lady of Mercy Shrine, (Penrose Park), 120 Hanging Rock Road, Sutton Forrest. From 10am (arrive by 9.30am) to 3pm, includes Holy Mass at 11am, procession to the Grotto saying the Rosary, some fun activities for everyone. Bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee etc will be supplied.

ALIVE-BBQ AND PRAISE Thursday 21 May 2026 6pm

Young Adults- Whether you're seeking renewal, encouragement, or simply a moment to pause and encounter God. ACU Signadou Chapel, Ground Level, Building 302, 223 Antill Street, Watson. Enquiries Ethan 0413 545 808

PENTECOST EVE NIGHT OF WORSHIP 23 May 7 pm

Holy Spirit Parish, Amaroo Internationally recognised worship artist Gen Bryant, will lead an evening of music, prayer and celebration for the parish feast day and the birthday of the Church. This is a free community event and all are welcome. Refreshments provided afterwards. Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/DLPRF>

PENTECOST CHORAL VESPERS 24 May 4pm

St. Joseph's Parish, O'Connor. Sacred music and prayer with Eucharistic Benediction, followed by afternoon tea. More details here: <https://linktr.ee/stjoseph.choristers>.

WOMEN'S VOCATION DISCERNMENT DINNER 4 June 6:00 pm

For women between the ages of 20 and 40 interested in discerning a call to religious life. Kate Cleary present on the mission at *The Farm in Galong*. A meal provided. RSVP: Kate 0404 112 428 or Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

ST PETER AND PAUL'S FEAST DAY 28 June 10:00 am

Mary Queen of Apostles Parish Goulburn. Beginning with Mass in the Old Cathedral at 10am, followed by lunch at the Goulburn Workers Club. Tickets available on QKR! or through the Goulburn Mission Office after 1 May. A two-course meal with tea and coffee is \$50 per person, with Guest speaker, Ron Tesoriero discoursing from 12pm. Enquiries to goulburn@cg.org.au.

SPECIAL LEARNING SEMINAR ON THE EUCHARIST 6 - 9 July

The ACU postgraduate unit THLS601 is open to those who wish to attend all or part without any assessment requirement. Fee is \$800 for 12 hours of learnings including sessions on "Eucharist and Sacrifice", "From Meal to Symbol – Later Medieval Eucharistic Developments: Devotions", "Current Principles of Eucharistic Celebration: Exploring Liturgical Theology". More information can be found at www.acu.edu.au/PL-CfL.

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



CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

For students Yr 6 and above enrol via the QKR App or email the Parish Office:
belconnensouth@cg.org.au

Enrolment closes 22 May

PARISH FAMILY MASS 16 May 6 pm

St Matthew's Church, Page

CONFIRMATION COMMITMENT MASSES

23/24 May or 13/14 June

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 17 May

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

Next: 7 June & 21 June

AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea after 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of the month St Matthew's.
- **Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Matthew's. (9 May)**
- Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's. (17 May)

LADIES' DINNER 25 May 6pm

Southern Cross Club, Jamison. RSVP 5pm Friday 22 May to

jennymurphys@icloud.com or 0437 034 148

TINNIES FOR VINNIES

Your ongoing generosity and support has resulted in Vinnies receiving a total of \$19,000 from the Tinnies Initiative – thank you.

To participate, please leave your refundable (cans and bottles with the 10c logo) in the boxes provided at the side of the Parish Centre, Aranda. They are collected and delivered to the Recycling Centre each Friday afternoon.



Prayer Requests

RECENTLY DECEASED

Anne-Marie Marek, John O'Donnell, Fr Jim Littleton, Ellen O'Brien, Mick Rice, Joe Capezio, Claire Bickmore, Michael Higgins, Gunter Graf, Karen Cook.

ANNIVERSARIES

John Toye, George Bernard O'Keefe, Pope Francis, Jeffrey Mc Dermott, Terry Stewart, Joseph and Linda Balthazaar.

THE SICK

Elizabeth Basevi, 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, Kathryn Anderson, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please check this list. Is there anyone you know who does not need to be on this list?

	9 & 10 May 2026			16 & 17 May 2026		
	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Peter Davies Lynne Foster	Paul Coghlan John Duck	Lisa Harris Gerard Hogan	Colleen Meadley Mary Patton	Yvonne McAdoo Mary Morris	Anne McCarthy Jenny Murphy
Senior Server	Paul Scholtens	Greg Pocock Sacristan	Jenny Murphy	Robyn Grubmueller	John Woods	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Margaret Sloane Mary Williams	Jan Woods John Woods	Lourdes O'Keefe Rachelle Stannard	Judi Ahern Lea Bewick	Greg Pocock Jan Woods	Jane Burroughs Robin Taylor
Linen/Altar		Janet Moyle			Janet Moyle	
Cleaning Group	Marcelo & Marianna P, Brendan G		Paul P, David R, Mary W, Bill P.			

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 6th Sunday of Easter (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:

The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading [Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17](#)

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

(L.) Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

○ sing to the glory of his name.

○ render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R.)**

(R.) 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'

Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **(R.)**

(L.) He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.

Let our joy then be in him;

he rules for ever by his might. **(R.)**

(R.) Come and hear, all who fear God.

I will tell what he did for my soul:

Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **(R.)**

Second Reading [1 Peter 3:15-18](#)

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel [John 14:15-21](#)

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and
keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

May these holy gifts help our absent friends to continue to live in the presence of the Lord and be filled with his love.