



Parish of St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul South Belconnen

2nd Sunday of Easter
Year A
19 April 2020

Online Masses, reflections and resources

South Belconnen Parish Mass:

Saturday Vigil 6pm 18/4/20

<https://1983-roo.my.webex.com/webappng/sites/1983-roo.my/meeting/download/abd5239852f94f46aaafb7155d3ac7e0?siteurl=1983-roo.my&MTID=m0f501ebb3f9a88069755283691084e96>

Fr Simon's mid week message - 14 April 2020

<https://soundcloud.com/simonfalk28/2020april14midweekdiaconateanniversarymp3>

Fr Simon's Blog - Messages of Prayer and Concern for Elder Parishioners During Coronavirus aka COVID-19

<https://simonfalk28.blogspot.com/2020/04/messages-of-prayer-and-concern-for.html>

Daily Mass is available on the Catholic Voice website online from 6am each day (www.catholicvoice.org.au)

Other sites such as Pray as you go <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> and Sacred Space <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> offer reflections and prayers on daily readings.

See **instructions** on how to set this up on your computer or by telephone attached to the bulletin email.

This Week:

Acts 2:42-47
1Pet 1:3-9
Jn 20:19-31

Entrance Antiphon: (*as ministers gather in courtyard—not said if hymn is sung*)

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

W. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end,' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'
R.

M. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just.
R.

W. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr Simon Falk PP (6254 1827)
Fr Thomas Jin APP (6254 1827)
Deacon Joe Blackwell
Youth Ministers: Sarah Larkin (sarah.larkin@cg.org.au)
Claire Tagliapietra (Claire.Tagliapietra@cg.org.au)
Parish Safeguarding Volunteer: Beth Gibson (belconnensouth@cg.org.au)

St Matthew's Church
12 Chewings Street, Page

St Vincent de Paul Church
7 Bindel Street, Aranda

Page Office: Tues - Thurs 9.00am-3.30pm (6254 1827)

Email: BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au

Website:
cg.org.au/belconnensouth

Facebook & Twitter:
www.facebook.com/southbelconnen/
<https://twitter.com/BelconnenP>

Mailing Address:
PO Box 4266 Hawker ACT 2614

day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: (*not said if hymn is sung*)

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



Next Week : Acts 2:14, 36-41 1Pet 2:20-25 Jn 10:1-10

Prayer Requests

We pray for the sick:

Naomi Aldons, Caroline Aldridge, Martin Baker, David Baker, Sue Bartlett, Nancy Biviano, Fr Laurie Blake, Michael Brayshaw, Ian Brown, George Bulbrook, Lisa Baulman, Leslie Cheeseman, Mary Cleary, John Clerk, Monica & Colin Colquhoun, Mary Coman, June Donnelly, Pat & Jim Dunne, Frances Dyball, Joachim Exell, Ryan Fawke, Ivka Ferinas, Grace Fluitsma, Amy Fogarty, Grant Hanrahan, Bruce Hassall, Mick Hay, Christine Hermely, Richard Hourigan, Paul Idilton, Graham Jackson, Cath Jane Keen, Sarah Kelly, Val Kilmier, Michael Mathias, Jill McDonald, Mary-Anne McGrath, Dr Graeme McIntosh (brother of Heather Robinson), Monica Molloy, Peter Naughton, Cedric Netto, Me con Nguyen Thi No, Noel Noonan, Belinda O'Flynn, Kathleen Preece, Dana Riminic, Peter Robbins, Heather Robinson, Paul Shanahan, Sister Yvonne, Peter Stewart, Nicole Tavares, Richard Toombs, Lina Varmiento, Jenny Webster, Angela Williams, Berenice Wright and Robert Wrightson.

We pray for the deceased:

Recently: Josip Grilec, Geoff Meagher, Maurice Bobbin, Josip Grilec, Carmela Russoniello, Norma French, Bryan Ward, Nelson Waslin, Margaret Wilkinson.

Anniversaries: Madeline Williams.

Project Compassion boxes can be left at the office door (Page) during office hours - **Tues - Thur 9am - 3.30pm only**. Envelopes can be placed in the slot beside the door.

If you didn't receive this bulletin by email and would like to be added to the parish email list, please contact the parish office at belconnensouth@cg.org.au.

Parish News

Some reflections on online Masses by Colleen Dulle, just before Easter, ..
" *The first Sunday the doors of my parish remained locked all day, I needed to go to Mass. As a New Yorker, my Sunday obligation, like that of most American Catholics at that point, had been lifted. But I needed to feel, in a moment when my body had to remain distant from the bodies of others, the paradoxical unity of the Body of Christ. There is a vast gulf, I discovered that day, between going to Mass and simply watching Mass the way one watches Netflix. One is a foretaste of heaven; the other is, well, not.*" Dulle goes on to talk about postures, sacred spaces and liturgical roles. More here <https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2020/03/31/coronavirus-has-cancelled-public-masses-how-can-we-participate-our-own-homes> .

The **first collection** supports our clergy and the administration of the Archdiocese, both of which need to continue in these difficult times. Unfortunately, we have been asked **not to encourage cash payments** for our collections as there is a risk of passing on COVID-19 through handling money.

There are three options for contributing to the first collection:

1. complete the CDF Direct Debit Form (**on our website**) and return it to the parish office to be set up.
2. direct transfer to:

Account Name:	South Belconnen Parish
BSB:	062-786
ACC no.:	29248
Reference:	Sth Belc(your surname) Very important this is included
3. use the **Qkr! App** to pay with credit card. Instructions for using Qkr! can be found on our website.

Please note: Fathers Simon and Thomas are still offering Masses privately for our parish, country and world and you are welcome to place any Mass offerings in the slot beside the front door of the Presbytery at Page or in the letterbox outside St Vincent's Church.

The **second collection (incl Planned Giving)** supports the operation of our parish, including many projects, programs and capital improvements.

There are four options for contributing to the second collection:

1. complete the CDF Direct Debit Form (**on our website**) and return it to the parish office to be set up for ongoing planned giving.
2. direct transfer to:

Account Name:	South Belconnen Parish
BSB:	062-786
ACC no.:	29461
Reference:	Sth Belc(your surname) Very important this is included
3. use the **Qkr! App** to pay with credit card. Instructions for using Qkr! can be found on our website.
4. set up a credit card payment each month with the parish office - contact the office on belconnensouth@cg.org.au.

If you are currently contributing to Planned Giving using envelopes, please think about changing to electronic means. Please contact the parish office on belconnensouth@cg.org.au for more information.

Prayers of the Faithful 2nd Sunday of Lent 19 April 2020

Father: "My Lord and my God". With Thomas we profess our faith in the risen Christ and we turn to You, our Father, with our needs.

Reader: We pray for our Church and our parish:

That we may be a community united in faith, in prayer and in the breaking of Bread.... We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: The Resurrection fills us with hope and joy:

May the Resurrection also console us in these difficult and uncertain times and remind us that You are always with us....We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Jesus has said "You are the light of the world".

May we discover new ways to be this light for others in the restricted manner we are now to live. May we share the light of Christ with those whose lives are sorely impacted by such different circumstances. May phone or email contact with them bring Christ's light into their lives....We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the gift of faith:

May we grow in faith, firmly believing that You are ever present with us even in these dark hours. May we believe ever more strongly in Your love and Your care for us..... We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those whose work prevents them from self-isolation:

That these selfless workers be sheltered from this cruel virus. Give your protection, Lord God, to our nurses and doctors, our teachers and shop workers, our food deliverers and transport workers. May we truly understand and value the meaning of "essential services"....We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the faithful who have died:

That they may have life in the name of the risen Christ.... We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Father: God of life and love, We ask You to listen to the prayers we offer and to grant our requests. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Messages of Prayer and Concern for Elder Parishioners During Coronavirus aka COVID-19 April 7, 2020

We have heard from some sources that the impact of isolation and lack of ability to access electronic information is becoming quite traumatic. This can be especially so for some of our elder parishioners.

Below are a few photos of places where some of them live.

We know that some parishioners have been connecting with some people. They have been dropping off things or running errands. Others have done phone or video calls to hear the voice or to see the smiling face.



What a great thing to do!

Not all of our elder parishioners can access all these things. But they may be able to receive messages. Some of us can remember when we were younger and our mothers or grandparents loved sending and receiving letters. They would keep the letters for years and read them over and over. A good example is of writer Roald Dahl and his Mother

in [Love From Boy.](#)

So, we are launching a request for parishioners to write in messages and prayers of love, support and concern for our elder parishioners. If you can send them by email to belconnensouth@cg.org.au by lunchtime on Thursdays that will help. We can collate them and someone from each residential care centre will receive them from us for distribution. You are very welcome to remain anonymous. Don't have the ability to email them? No problem. Pop them in an envelope and slide them in the mail slot of the parish office.

Thank you for your concern for our elders.

Regards and blessings,

Fr Simon

PS: Looking for some thoughts on elders and spirituality? You might like a browse at Joan Chittister, OSB, [The Gift of Years](#). Also available on [Kindle](#) or [Kobo](#).



I feel for those who are so alone because of Corona-virus. At the same time I am inspired by the attitude of some who live alone and can only go out rarely.

Why am I so inspired:

1. some tell me that they spend their days praying.
2. some ask me to pray for them. I consider this a compliment.
3. they show concern for me when in comparison I have an easy life as both my husband and I are relatively healthy, we have each other, we have many activities/ interests and we can go out. How considerate of them to think of us.

I am particularly concerned for those in Residential Care who cannot see those dear to them and are unable to even use the phone as they are too weak to do so. This is so hard on both them and those who love them.

I am reminded how alone Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane. I pray that those feeling lonely and suffering receive some comfort in knowing that Jesus understands what is happening to them. I also give thanks that there are such inspirational people who are willing to share their faith with me; and I am also reminded to thank God for all that is beautiful and good. In addition I pray that I may have more courage and faith when there are problems in my life.

Elizabeth

Dear Sir / Ma'am

I work at St Matthew's Primary School and understand how difficult this current crisis has been for all in our community, including the elderly congregation.

My own grandparents passed 18-24 months ago but still remain steadfast in my heart everyday. The Bible verse above was my Pa's favourite and my Nanna loved the hymn, 'Jesus loves me'.

In disheartening times, such as these, I revisit both verse and song and remember how beautiful and lucky I am in that my memories can sustain me during this time of isolation. I hope that your memories too, provide strength and hope for a future without these restrictions.

I have been working hard to conference with students and email parents across multiple online platforms, which is very overbearing. As a teacher, I always feel like I never have time for myself but when I do, I don't know what to do with myself, except to think of the children. They are my life.

I think connection is what people crave most. I hope my short connection with you offers some reprise from the situation you're facing at the moment.

Father Simon is also providing many opportunities for the congregation to connect online with Mass and his sermon. If you need help in any way in learning or viewing this, I hope I can help in future.

God Bless x

Kind Regards

Michelle Dempsey

Ideas for Prayer Spaces

How to make a home altar: <http://katiewarner.com/homemaking/how-to-make-a-home-altar.html>

Home Altar Ideas: <http://catholicmom.com/2012/12/23/home-altar-ideas/>

Making a Prayer Space in 4 Steps <https://www.getfed.com/how-to-home-prayer-corner-four-steps-5829/>

Prayer Space Ideas for kids: <https://www.nlchurch.org.uk/church/new-life-kids/childrens-prayer-space-2/#.XpbYo8gza70>

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: <https://www.cgsusa.org/homepage/covid-19-response/>

