



Parish of St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul South Belconnen

3rd Sunday of Easter
Year A

26 April 2020

Online Masses, reflections and resources

South Belconnen Parish Mass:

Saturday Vigil 6pm 25/4/20

<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 -
22 April 2020**

<https://soundcloud.com/simonfalk28/2020april22midweekmessagemp3>

**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>

**Fr Simon's Blog - Longing for the
Eucharist**

<http://simonfalk28.blogspot.com/2020/04/longing-for-eucharist.html>

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

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

This Week:

Acts 2:14 22-33
1 Pet 1:17-21
Lk 24:13-35

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

Cry out with joy to God, all the
earth; O sing to the glory of his
name. O render him glorious
praise, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm

**R. Lord you will show us the
path of life.**

W. Preserve me, God, I take refuge
in you. I say to the Lord: 'You
are my God.' O Lord, it is you
who are my portion and cup; it
is you yourself who are my
prize. **R.**

M. I will bless the Lord who gives
me counsel, who even at night
directs my heart. I keep the
Lord ever in my sight: since he
is at my right hand. I shall stand
firm. **R.**

W. And so my heart rejoices, my
soul is glad; even my body shall
rest in safety. For you will not
leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know
decay. **R.**

M. You will show me the path of
life, the fullness of joy in your
presence, at your right hand
happiness for ever. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain
to us. Make our hearts burn with
love when you speak. Alleluia!

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

The disciples recognised the Lord
Jesus in breaking of the bread,
alleluia.



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

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

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: Billy, Therese & Rodrick Loard, Sr Stephanie Duck RSM, Peter Sullivan, Josip Grilec, Geoff Meagher, Maurice Bobbin, Josip Grilec, Carmela Russoniello.

Anniversaries:

Confession Times: Saturday

St Matthew's 11.00am-11.50am
St Matthew's 5.00pm - 5.30pm
Fr Simon will sit on the bench seat outside St Matthew's Church and he is happy to walk the grounds with you if you wish.

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.

Parish News

Liturgy Line - Anzac Day

Anzac Day marks the landing of the Australian soldiers at Gallipoli on the shores of what is now Anzac Cove in Turkey on the 25th April 1915.

Traditionally on this weekend many Australians and New Zealanders would gather on those same shores to commemorate the memory and sacrifice of those who died so young. We join in that spirit of prayer to remember those who paid the ultimate price of the sacrifice of their lives. Through the celebration of the Eucharist we gather to commemorate the sacrifice of Jesus who offered his life in a death for all humanity. *Pastoral Liturgy Magazine, Vol 50, 2.*



Vinnies COVID-19 Emergency Appeal

Vinnies is launching a COVID-19 Crisis Appeal to raise funds for the additional need we are already seeing due to Covid-19. **This appeal is replacing the Winter Appeal.**

Please donate online at www.vinnies.org.au/covid19crisisappeal or by calling 13 18 12.

To receive the Catholic Voice Weekly by email each week, please go to <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/weekly-voice/> to add your email address to the list or email directly catholic.voice@cg.org.au.

Roster for Webex Mass Readers

Here is a roster to the end of May for the Vigil Mass that is being celebrated at 6.00pm each Saturday for the time being. The first named for each week is the for the First Reading and Psalm and the second named for the Second Reading and the Prayer of the Faithful.

Please contact the parish office if you have any queries regarding online Mass.

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|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 19 April | Charmaine Miranda Lorraine Higgins |
| 26 April | Mary Morris Michael White |
| 3 May | Cheryl Hamill Jenny Murphy |
| 10 May | Christina Rowe Bernie Leger |
| 17 May | Colleen Meadley Mary Williams |
| 24 May | Lorraine Higgins Mary Morris |
| 31 May | Belen Lamond Michael White |

Prayers of the Faithful 3rd Sunday of Lent 26 April 2020

Father: As your people, God our Father, and nourished by your Word broken for us, we give ourselves to Your loving care.

Reader: For the leaders of our church: That our Holy Father, Pope Francis, the college of bishops and all the clergy may proclaim with courage and conviction the Resurrection of Christ. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the leaders of all nations: That leaders and their people work for and celebrate a peace that overcomes boundaries and divisions. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For a deeper understanding of Christ's presence among us: That, like the Apostles on the road to Emmaus, we may journey confidently through life, knowing that Christ is always among us, especially in the Breaking of the Bread. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those who have lost their lives in war or who have been wounded or traumatised in the course of their service: May those who have sacrificed their lives enjoy forever that peace that only Christ can give and may the wounded and traumatised find healing in body and mind and be given the care that justice demands. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For those families who have lost loved ones in violence common to all theatres of war. May they be consoled in the knowledge that sacrifice does not go unrecognised, and in the hope that hatred may one day be overcome by love and that forgiveness and mutual respect might replace the discord of war. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all those living and dead: May the God of compassion and forgiveness hear the prayers we now make in the silence of our hearts..... We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Father: God of mercy and forgiveness, we pray for peace in our world. May warfare be replaced by kindness. We ask you to hear our prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen

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 four 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. CDF Bpoint payment page. Go to <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA> and follow the prompts.
4. 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 five 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. CDF Bpoint payment page. Go to <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA> and follow the prompts.
4. use the **Qkr! App** to pay with credit card. Instructions for using Qkr! can be found on our website.
5. 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.

Plenary Council - listening and discernment session

As many of you will already know, the first Plenary Council Assembly, originally scheduled to be held in Adelaide in October, will be postponed due to Covid-19.

However, the opportunities we have for listening and discerning the voice of God in our Catholic communities, are able to continue.

The next theme we have been asked to consider is **'How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is humble, healing and merciful'**? You will remember these themes have come from the thoughts contributed during the initial listening and discerning phase last year.

Despite not being able to meet, our parish would like to invite those interested to submit their thoughts on this theme. The link below will take you to the relevant page on the Plenary Council website:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/listening-and-discernment/>

The webpage provides information to help you with your **discernment** process. It has the list of the themes, resources to help your reflections, relevant scripture passages, and snapshots of the themes. During our discernment we are encouraged to think about the themes in terms of our local and national context.

In order to encourage some form of **listening** in these tricky times, you are asked to **submit your thoughts either electronically or by snail mail to the parish office.**

(BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or PO Box 4266 Hawker ACT 2614).

These will then be forwarded to me, as the person responsible for facilitating this next session.

Could you please submit your thoughts by **Friday 8 May**. I will collate the contributions within a week and put them out in the bulletin for your 'listening responses' over a further 2 weeks. Once this process is complete I will submit our final thoughts to the Plenary Council by the end of May, and provide a copy to the parish through the bulletin.

We hope many of you will take this opportunity to participate in this process, even if you have not been able to do so previously. It is a chance to influence how our Australian Catholic Church responds to the Spirit in the 21st century.

Beth Gibson.

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](#).



Hello,

I just wanted to let you know that I am thinking of you and keeping you in my prayers during this difficult time. I hope you are keeping well and are in good spirits. It can be hard to stay positive and have hope when faced with something like this, particularly as many of us are unable to see family and friends.

I have found the readings over Easter have given me hope and courage in these testing times. I often think of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, so worried about what was to happen that he sweated blood! His friends had abandoned him and betrayed him in what was a hopeless and dire situation. His subsequent suffering and death on the cross was witnessed by his mother and closest supporters who could only watch on helplessly. Yet, out of great suffering, pain, loss and death, came new life. Jesus' resurrection reminds me of the need to walk by faith and that, even when all seems lost, I should "let go and let God". This always fills me with great peace.

Over Lent I started saying the rosary every day and continue to offer it to all those around the world who are struggling physically, mentally and spiritually due to the virus. In my prayers I include our elderly residents who are struggling with isolation and ask God to send you all his comfort, blessings and peace.

This will come to an end and we will all be reunited with our loved ones in the future. I can't wait to see my family again, give them all a hug and tell them how much I love them. I'm sure your loved ones are wanting to do the same.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope ..."

(Romans 15:13).

Take Care.

xoxo

Here are some encouraging words from St Mary MacKillop for our elderly in the Parish

Although many of us will be far apart, we can be united in spirit and pray for each other.

Do what you can with the means at your disposal and leave all the rest calmly to God

May God bless you and keep you strong and help you in your anxieties.

I confidently ask of God to comfort and encourage you all.

The View from my place in Evatt

I thought you may like to see the lovely autumn colours and flowers Canberra has at the moment. Autumn is my favourite time of year and many Canberrans are out walking and cycling to get a bit of fresh air. The evenings are cooling down but the days are still sunny, if a bit windy this week.

These are some photos from my front garden – it is a colourful riot of hardy plants like salvias (red, red/white, pink, white, purple and purple/white) and daisies (yellow and white), rock roses, lavenders and rosemaries. I also have native plants like correas, callistemons, and a small groundcover wattle.



Having a garden is just how I was brought up. My mum lives in Tumut and loves her garden. Mum is 76 and working in her garden each day in the sunshine is giving her a lot of joy. It's her exercise and a chance to make something beautiful. Dad is 78 and has a vegetable patch. They currently have too many beans and I have too many tomatoes and zucchinis and we laugh that we can't share at the moment. Dad shares his produce with his sisters and friends.

We share plants with each other. She gave me some of my Salvias and seaside daisy. I have bought some plants at the local fetes at Miles Franklin, St Monica's and St Matthews and others at the Hall Markets or nurseries.



The garden is shaded by two large iron bark gums which are our street tree (you can see the trunks in the second picture). In the second photo you can also see our cherry tree on the right and a miniature lemon tree on the left (the lime green leaves).

My garden is next to a laneway and so people can walk past and see it from the front and side. Every day we also get visitors in the form of bees, butterflies, and birds like honeyeater, white cockatoos and Currawongs.

The Currawongs are enjoying the fruit on my large "true service" tree out the front. Here is a photo of them jumping around eating the fruit.

As you can see, I haven't got around to putting in a lawn at the front yet. Time seems to get away from me with work and caring for my twelve-year-old son and I miss the good times in autumn!



In my backyard, our pear tree is so bright with its autumn leaves. I took this photo yesterday as the morning sun was just striking it.

I also have a vegetable patch. This year I grew lots of tomatoes, put them on a trellis to grow up. I got lots of zucchinis this year. The beans didn't grow very well with the heat, but I resowed another crop and I might get a few beans before

the big frosts arrive. I also grow rhubarb (my mum and I like rhubarb and apple with custard), raspberries and I have a fig tree but I don't think it will give me any fruit this year.

To give the local kids a treat, we have put out some teddy bears in our front garden for them to enjoy. I have included them as they might give you a smile.

I hope you are able to sit in your residence garden soon and enjoy the sun. We will have many blue-sky days to come this autumn.



Thinking of you at this time,
Caroline Weller, from St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish.

22nd April 2020.