

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

17—18 May Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)

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	Page
Sunday	8:30am	Page
	10:00am	Aranda
Samoan (4thSun)	1:00pm	Page
Korean	3:00pm	Aranda

#### Weekday Masses

Mon	7:00 am	Liturgy of the Word Page
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 and 5:00pm-5:30pm Page

#### 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?](https://www.facebook.com/southbelconnen?)

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/BleconnenP>

#### PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page  
Fr John 0418 208 129

#### WE COULD BE SO MUCH MORE

'Disenchantment' was a description given to our times by journalist, author, television presenter and Wiradjuri man Stann Grant. He made the comment on Tuesday evening in his reflective and thought-provoking 'Marian Lecture'. The latter is an annual occurrence sponsored by the Marist Brothers. Drawing on his own experience (he returned recently from writing a novel in the English countryside) and philosophy (cf. the 'death of God' movement), literature (T.S Eliot and Dostoevsky amongst others) and theology (with particular reference to Mary) he made a compelling case for the contemporary reduction of meaning and purpose to the claims of the individual, science and reason. **He affirmed the great value of each but not at the expense of our true individual and communal good and the greater mystery of which we are all a part.** On Thursday evening parents of children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation next month gathered online to reflect on the significance of the sacrament they will soon celebrate with their child. **In part inspired by Grant's talk, I shared that the first of the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit received in Confirmation are Wonder and Awe.** Grant spoke of observing young people getting up before dawn to experience the magic of a sunrise. Life is a gift, to be marvelled at. **Maths and science reflect our discovery of order, not our creation of it. We are part of 'something more'. Indeed, time is how we presume to situate ourselves in the presence of God who self-describes as: "I Am who I Am" (Gen 3:14). Revelation is in time and place and to that extent our understanding is limited.** As we draw to the end of the Easter Season, our First Reading today reminds us that it was not until Antioch that the followers of Jesus were first called 'Christians'. Jesus was a Jew; he would not have had any concept of being a 'Christian'. Christians initially understood themselves as akin to a sect within Judaism (cf. governance structure that Paul and Barnabas established). Only later did they break away. **However, both Jews and Christians are waiting: Jews for the promised Messiah, Christians for his return. We look forward as 'pilgrims of hope'.** In our Second Reading from the last book of the bible, we see an appreciation of the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies of Ezekiel and Isaiah in wedding imagery and that of a new Jerusalem affirming the passing of the old order in Christ. **As we move to celebrate the birth of the Church at Pentecost, we see Jesus in today's Gospel not as a distant figurehead but as present amongst his disciples in the love they have for one another. Michael Leunig points out there is either openness in love or withdrawal in fear. The one is ground for enchantment, the other anything but:**

There are only two feelings.

Love and fear.

There are only two languages.

Love and fear.

There are only two activities.

Love and fear.

There are only two motives, two procedures, two frameworks, two results.

Love and fear.

Love and fear.

Fr John

## Archdiocesan Notices

**LAUDATO SI' Week 17-24 May** this year marks a time of spiritual significance globally with events at the Vatican and the 10th anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark teachings on Care for Our Common Home as central to our faith journey.

- ♦ Catholic Earthcare Australia is convening a webinar to mark the time in Australia and our region of Oceania on Zoom at 12 noon on Friday 16-May. The webinar will focus on the need for international responses in this year of the Jubilee with details and registration at <https://www.caritas.org.au/act/turn-debt-into-hope/>
- ♦ In the Archdiocese there will be a special Mass at St Christopher's Cathedral at midday on Saturday 17th May to mark the spirit moving at this time on Care for Creation. The Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Haydon centre. All are welcome.
- ♦ The parish Laudato Si' circle will also help mark this time reflecting on the Papal teachings locally - at our weekend Mass, in continuing practical actions around the parish, and in our social activity.
- ♦ To help celebrate Laudato Si' Week the following podcast and short video look at the impact of Pope Francis' ongoing legacy in teachings on Care for Our Common Home: <https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/soul-search/the-green-pope-francis-and-his-climate-legacy-in-the-pacific/105149034> <https://www.news.com.au/world/pope-francis-to-be-remembered-for-his-warmth-and-kindness/video/ac6e128ae8099eb44ebe532b11d40859>

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE - May 18th 4:30 pm

All Christians are warmly invited to the service which will feature the songs of the Taize community. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 37 Burnie St, Lyons 4:30pm - bring and share afternoon tea in Hall Followed by a service in the Church. Enquiries to Caroline Weller - [caroline.wellercbr@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.wellercbr@gmail.com)

### FEAST OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PILGRIMAGE PLACE 24 May 2025

MHOC Parish South Woden becomes an official pilgrimage place for the Jubilee year on May 24, the Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians. To celebrate Fr Emil will give a special blessing & anointing prayer after the Saturday and Sunday Masses and two events have been planned for the weekend

### MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND 23 – 25 May 2025

Come and join us on a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or [nswbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wwme.org.au)

### CLARE DE SALIS TALK 25 May 2025

Clare de Salis will give a short sharing at the 10am Mass Pearce. All are welcome to come and join us in the parish centre afterwards for a cuppa and Clares sharing of the inspiring power of Christ in her life, about being a Catholic, 24 years old, an athlete (100 & 200 metre runner) and an exercise physiologist.

### HOME: MOVIE NIGHT FUNDRAISER 23 May 2025 6:00 pm

The movie is 'Hunt for the Wilderpeople' **Place:** The Q Theatre – 253 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan. **Tickets:** \$85 Purchase your tickets at [www.theq.net.au](http://www.theq.net.au) or contact (02) 6285 6290. HOME provides a long-term home in a loving and caring environment for people living with an enduring mental illness who are at risk of homelessness.

### MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SUNDAY EVENT 1 June 2025 11 am

For the celebration of the Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents & the Elderly, Mass at St Christopher's followed by EVENT at 12pm in the Haydon Hall, Manuka. The Archbishop will be available to bless your family. Light refreshments provided – but you must register online here <http://www.bit.ly/MFR2025>.

### 90th ANNIVERSARY OF ST PATRICK'S, BRADDON 19 October 2025

St. Patrick's Church Braddon was dedicated on 20th October 1935. The anniversary will be commemorated on Sunday, 19th October with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Prowse at 8am followed by refreshments. Organisers wish to contact former pupils to share their memories, to attend the Mass and celebrations on the day. For more information please contact Ray Toohey 0411182545 or Mary Boyle, [maryeboyle8@gmail.com](mailto:maryeboyle8@gmail.com).

### 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).

## Prayer Requests

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Frank Caputo, Alain Gilsoul

### ANNIVERSARIES

Mini Allam, Joseph and Linda Balthazaar.

### THE SICK

Kathryn Anderson, Trevor Blake, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Nicole Court, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Helen Driver, Mary East, Richard East, Joachim Exell, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Anne Laffan, Sally Marchant, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Glenn Mowbray, Paul Mowbray, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Sam Ross, Matthew Schembri, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Denis Tarbuck, John Turyn, Olga Turyn, Jennifer Webster, Michael Worsnop, Angela Williams.

## Parish News



We Welcome Confirmation Candidates and their families this weekend.

### AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea after 10am Mass Sunday at **St Vincent's**,

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES** Please return them as soon as possible

## ST MATTHEW'S PRIMARY SCHOOL – Now Enrolling for 2026

St Matthew's Primary School is now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2026. If you have a child ready to start school or know of a family who may be interested, we invite you to contact the school office on **6254 2653** to arrange a tour with our Principal, **Sarah Lowe**.

Come and see the wonderful learning and community spirit at St Matthew's!

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY 18 May 10 am Mass at St Vincent's, Aranda.

### MEN'S GROUP – THURSDAY 29 MAY 25 6:15 pm

The next get together will be at the Parish Centre, Aranda. Please RSVP [paul.pearson@bigpond.com](mailto:paul.pearson@bigpond.com) (0412 685 582) by COB TUE 27 MAY 25



**WHO OWNS THE HOLY LAND?** You are invited to a panel discussion hosted by the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Framework (PIEN), 6:30pm, Wednesday, 28 May, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall St, Barton ACT. See flyer in foyer.

**POPE LEO:** Collect a copy of the prayer for Pope Leo along with some personal bio and information about the conclave on the sheet in the foyer

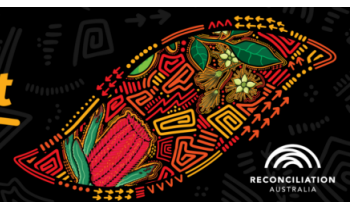
[National Reconciliation Week - Reconciliation Australia](https://www.reconciliation.org.au)

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

**Bridging Now to Next**

27 MAY – 3 JUNE

#NRW2025 | RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



### 17 May & 18 May

### 24 May & 25 May

	6pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Colleen Meadley Mary Williams	Mary Morris Janet Moyle	Lisa Harris Gerard Hogan	Lea Bewick Conor Bradley	Paul Coghlan Christina Rowe	Kate Hourigan Ann Cleary
<b>Senior Server</b>	Damien Sloane	Damien Power	Paul Scholtens	Damien Sloane	Luka Tolovae	Jenny Murphy
<b>EMHC</b>	Michael White	John Churchill Cathy Power	Lourdes O'Keefe Robin Taylor	Mary Williams	Jo Duck John Duck	Jane Burroughs
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Janet Moyle	Christine Ross		Janet Moyle	Maddalena Cobanov Katy Frino

**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 sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**First Reading** [Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27.](#)

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

**(L)** The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

**(R.)** All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God,  
to make known to men your mighty deeds  
and the glorious splendour of your reign. **(R.)**

**(L)** Yours is an everlasting kingdom;  
your rule lasts from age to age. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** [Revelation 21:1-5](#)

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will

be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

**Gospel** [John 13:31-35](#)

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,  
and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him,  
God will in turn glorify him in himself,  
and will glorify him very soon.

My little children,  
I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another;

just as I have loved you,  
you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,  
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

**Communion Antiphon**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.



**Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion:**

Take this holy sacrament to our sisters and brothers who are sick and show them every kindness. May it put fresh heart into them.