

# St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

## South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

13-14 September THE EXALTATION of the HOLY CROSS (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
Samoa (4th Sun)	12:00pm	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/Bleconnen\\_P](https://twitter.com/Bleconnen_P)

#### PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page  
Fr John 0418 208 129

### THE CRUIFORM PATTERN OF LIFE

Today's feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross invites us to see the life, death and resurrection of Jesus anew. **Most Christians subscribe to 'atonement theology': on the cross Jesus paid the price or ransom to our aggrieved Father for our salvation.** This understanding paints the Father in a rather cruel manner with Jesus being seen as the 'scapegoat' who takes our sins away. Early Christians were conflicted about venerating the cross as it was means of terrible execution. This changed when Emperor Constantine (306-337AD) became Christian and abolished crucifixion. The way was clear for veneration of the cross. This was anticipated in today's Gospel from John, the fourth and last Gospel. Jesus being lifted up on the cross is seen as his 'glorification' and beginning of his return to the Father. A development of this is seen in the Franciscan theology of St Bonaventure and Duns Scotus. **Rather than paying a price as such, the understanding is that Jesus enters in or identifies with all the suffering of the world and is transformed by it as is evidenced by his resurrection.** Fr Richard Rohr OFM (with my highlights and one comment) explains: *"The Divine Mind transforms all human suffering by identifying completely with the human predicament and standing in full solidarity with it from beginning to end. . . The cross is not just a singular event. It's a statement from God that reality has a cruciform pattern. Jesus was killed in a collision of cross-purposes, conflicting interests, and half-truths, caught between the demands of an empire and the religious establishment of his day. The cross was the price Jesus paid for living in a "mixed" world, which is both human and divine, simultaneously broken and utterly whole. He hung between a good thief and a bad thief, between heaven and earth, inside of both humanity and divinity, a male body with a feminine soul, utterly whole and yet utterly disfigured—holding together all the primary opposites (see Colossians 1:15-20).*

**. . . Reality, we know, is always filled with contradictions, what St. Bonaventure and others . . . called the "coincidence of opposites." This is what we all resist and oppose much of our life.**

Jesus the Christ, in his crucifixion and resurrection, "recapitulated all things in himself, everything in heaven and everything on earth" (Ephesians 1:10). This one verse is the summary of Franciscan Christology. **Jesus agreed to carry the mystery of universal suffering. He allowed it to change him ("Resurrection") and us, too, so that we would be freed from the endless cycle of projecting our pain elsewhere or remaining trapped inside of it.**

**. . . The people who hold the contradictions and resolve them in themselves are the saviors of the world. They are the only real agents of transformation, reconciliation, and newness.**

Christians are meant to be the visible compassion of God on earth more than "those who are going to heaven." . . . Some people feel called and agree to not hide from the dark side of things or the rejected group, but in fact draw close to the pain of the world and allow it to radically change their perspective. **They agree to embrace the imperfection and even the injustices of our world [and their personal dark side and inconsistencies – Fr John], allowing these situations to change them from the inside out, which is the only way things are changed anyway"** (adapted from 'The Universal Christ' (2019), pp. 147-148).

Fr John

## **MEN'S GROUP – THURSDAY 25 SEP 25 6:15 PM**

The next get together will be at the Parish Centre, Aranda.

Please RSVP to [paul.pearson@bigpond.com](mailto:paul.pearson@bigpond.com) (0412 685 582) by **COB TUESDAY 23 SEP 25**.

**LIBRARY NEWS:** In recognition of the Season of Creation, there are displays of books on the care of our common home and integral ecology at both libraries. **Reminder** – Please fill in the borrowing sheets provided and return items as soon as you have finished (preferably within a month) so others can use them

## **CARISTAS AUSTRALIA GAZA APPEAL**

*God of light,*

*You meet us in the darkest places.*

*Every year, when we light our Easter candle, we pray 'may the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our minds and hearts.'*

*We pray today that all people may work with you to dispel the darkness of violence and war.*

*May this fragile light be a sign of our hope for the people of Gaza.*

*May they find healing and lasting peace. Amen.*

If you are able to support **Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal**, donate online at [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413

## **Archdiocesan Notices**

**THREE PART SYNODAL FORMATION SERIES** exploring (1) Synodality, (2) Evangelisation and (3) Charisms through an input from Archbishop Christopher, a panel of practitioners and a Conversation in the Spirit. The series commences with Synodality on Thursday, 18 September, 5:30-8:30pm, Haydon Hall (behind the Cathedral), and continuing with Evangelisation on 21 October and Charisms on 20 November. Register at [www.cgevangalisation.org.au/events/series](http://www.cgevangalisation.org.au/events/series)

**'THE BULLETIN'** is a production of the Archdiocesan Synodal Evangelisation Team. It reports on parish endeavours arising from our Archdiocesan Assembly of October last year, preparatory to another Archdiocesan gathering next year. Copies of 'The Bulletin' are available in the foyer. **Our parish will be holding a parish renewal in November with the focus being in our Sunday Masses. Details to follow.**

**THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION** is in the process of establishing a branch in the ACT. Membership is open to Catholic doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and medical students. Those eligible are invited to attend the Saturday, 27 September 9:00am Healing Mass at St Christopher's followed by a gathering with refreshments in the Haydon Hall. For more info, visit the website, <https://catholicmedicine.org/>, or contact Dr Paul Burt, [dendritepb@icloud.com](mailto:dendritepb@icloud.com)

**50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION OF CATHOLIC GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, BRADDON AND DARAMALAN COLLEGE, DICKSON 1975 YEAR 12 (and those who finished earlier) , 18 OCTOBER:** Email [CGHS.Dara1975@gmail.com](mailto:CGHS.Dara1975@gmail.com) or on Facebook go to Darra-Braddon 1975 group. Ticket sales close 6 October.

**MAGNIFICENT VOICES OF SPRINGTIME**, Chambers Pavilion, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall Street, Barton, 1:00 – 4:00pm, Saturday, 20 September. Guest Speakers will be Michael Green, Marist Brother who has an interest in the Church's ongoing renewal and Jeni Miller who is passionate about empowering people to protect God's creation. Registration fee of \$20. Contact [Brendan-bergin@mcc.act.edu.au](mailto:Brendan-bergin@mcc.act.edu.au)

**DISCOVER PALMS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING:** Join an online session Thursday, 30 October, 7:00 – 8:30pm where you'll chat with past Palms volunteers and hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities. Match your life experience to the experience of a lifetime! Scan the QR or register at [palms.org.au/event](http://palms.org.au/event), or call 9560 5333, or check out [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)



### **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).

## Parish News

## Prayer Requests

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY:** The Catholic Church in Australia marks **Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday)** on the second Sunday of September -- at the conclusion of **National Child Protection Week**. Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

**PRAYERFUL CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL FIRST EUCHARIST STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.** You remind us of the great gift of the Eucharist, the body and blood of Christ so necessary for a flourishing life. We look forward to your ongoing enrichment as you continue to be nourished with the parish community.

**LADIE'S LUNCH Thursday 18 September 12 noon.**

Venue: Southern Cross Club, Jamison. RSVP by 5pm, Tuesday 16 September: [jennymurphys@icloud.com](mailto:jennymurphys@icloud.com) or 0437 034 148.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Afghanistan earthquake victims , Dr. Neil Harrigan, Sonja Perinovic, Ugo Damiano

### ANNIVERSARIES

Vida Kabaila, Malcolm Petrie, Carmel Petrie, Michael Craft, Kevin Moyle, Thomas Pearson, Eileen Pearson, Adam Groves, Fr Jim Duck, Marie McMahon.

### THE SICK

Kathryn Anderson, Elizabeth Binetti, Trevor Blake, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Nicole Court, Maureen Dalzell, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Shirley Dellamarta, Stephen Dinn, 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, Sally Marchant, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Jon-Paul Mather, Paul Mowbray, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power, Pat Power, Sam Ross, Matthew Schembri, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Kate Sweeney , John Turyn, Olga Turyn, Bro Bob Wallace, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

**FATHER'S DAY APPEAL– Collection for our retired priests:** The Archdiocesan Clergy Retirement Foundation thanks everyone who contributed so generously.

**Bishop Pat Power said recently** *"I humbly extend my deepest gratitude for your generous support of our 23 retired priests, I thank God for each of you, everyday".*

Envelopes are available in the church foyer and can be left either with the weekend collection or posted to the Foundation Office. Donations can also be made at [www.cgatholic.org.au/donate](http://www.cgatholic.org.au/donate)

**On behalf of the 23 retired priests of this Archdiocese, thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.**

**MONDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD AND HOLY COMMUNION:** The 7am Monday time has proven to be problematic with very few elderly parishioners attending. A suggestion is that a later time, say 9:30am would be better patronised. If you have any thoughts, please contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

**SUNDAY COMMUNION FOR RESIDENTS IN ARCARE:** Would you be interested in being part of a roster to take Holy Communion to grateful Catholic residents recently arrived in 'Arcare', just down from St. Vincent's. If so, contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

### 13 & 14 September

### 20 & 21 September

	6pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
<b>Reader</b>	Lynne Foster Geraldine Lillingston	Christina Rowe Janet Moyle	Jenny Murphy Lourdes O'Keefe	Mary Patton Michael White	Paul Coghlan Christina Rowe	Ann Cleary Gerard Hogan
<b>Senior Server</b>	Damien Sloane	Kevin McInerney Sacristan	Bernie Leger	Damien Sloane	Damien Power	Jenny Murphy
<b>EMHC</b>	Margaret Toye	Jan Woods	Robin Taylor	Mary Williams	Jo Duck Cathy Power	Jane Burroughs Annette Charge
<b>Linen/Altar</b>		Yvonne McAdoo	Ladies of the Korean Community		Yvonne McAdoo	Amanda Kabaila Rachelle Stannard

**Hearing Aid Loop** is installed in both Mass centres, St Matthew's **only** middle 2 sections turn your hearing aid to the T switch

**Entrance Antiphon**

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection,  
through whom we are saved and delivered.

**First Reading** [Numbers 21:4-9](#)

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

**(R.)** Give heed, my people, to my teaching;  
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable  
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **(R.)**

**(L.)** When he slew them then they would seek him,  
return and seek him in earnest.

They would remember that God was their rock,  
God the Most High their redeemer. **(R.)**

**(R.)** But the words they spoke were mere flattery;  
they lied to him with their lips.

For their hearts were not truly with him;  
they were not faithful to his covenant. **(R.)**

**(L.)** Yet he who is full of compassion  
forgave their sin and spared them.

So often he held back his anger  
when he might have stirred up his rage. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** [Philippians 2:6-11](#)

The state of Jesus was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,

he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.

But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,  
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** [John 3:13-17](#)

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven  
except the one who came down from heaven,  
the Son of Man who is in heaven;  
and the Son of Man must be lifted up  
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,  
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world  
not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.'

**Communion Antiphon**

When I am lifted up from the earth,  
I will draw everyone to myself, says the  
Lord.

**Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion**

Take this holy sacrament to our sisters and brothers who  
are sick. Assure them that their heavenly Father never  
ceases to gaze upon them with love.