A Brief History of the Parish of Aranda

1 August 1968 Parish established.

22 Nov 1969 First Social event held at O’Donnell Centre Braddon.

From 1969 Weekday Masses were celebrated at the Presbytery 45 Bandjalong Cres, Aranda.

By 1970: 4 Masses were celebrated at Macquarie Primary School, 7am, 8.30am, 10am & 6.00pm.

26 April 1970 Fr Lloyd Reynolds welcomed as PP.

1970 Second term school classes commenced in new building.

Sep 1970 School hall and chapel completed.

13 Sep 1970 First Mass celebrated in the school hall.

11 Oct 1970 Archbishop Cahill blessed & opened the school. Also blessed and opened the convent which was able to house seven sisters.

1971 School had 420 pupils some from Page Parish.

1973 Parish council decides a Parish Church should be built.

June 1975 A Poll was asked “Do We want a Church?’ three to one result in favour.

Feb 1978 Housie commenced to fund church building.

July 1978 Planned giving program commenced.

Oct 1979 First plans of church displayed.

April 1981 Tender to build the church accepted. $325,805.00

1981: The Sisters leave parish – convent becomes presbytery.

June 1982: Official Consecration of Church.

Sep 1983: Fr Reynolds death.

1984 Fr Bateman arrives.

1987 Family Group movement starts in Aranda

1992 Fr Brian Maher arrives

1994 Church foyer extended

2000 Presbytery driveway bricked

2006 March - Building commenced on St Vincent Villas.

2007 Fr Frank Fuchs arrives

2012 (May) Fr Paul Yoo arrives as Korean Chaplain.

2014 Fr Michael Mullen Parish Administrator.

2016 Fr Thomas Jin arrives as Korean Chaplain.

2018 Parish becomes St Matthew’s & St Vincent de Paul Parish South Belconnen with Fr Simon Falk as Parish Priest. Seminarian Alex Osborne in residence at Page Presbytery.