

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

20 & 21 June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Msgr John Woods- PP, Fr Andrew Yang-Korean Chaplain, 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

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 Page and 5:00pm-5:30pm Page

Baptisms

11:30am 2nd and 4th Sundays

Weddings

By appointment

TO SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE

You have to admire Jeremiah, the 7th century BC prophet. He allowed himself to be 'seduced' by God and despite much opposition persisted in chastising his contemporaries for their infidelity and in seeing Babylon as God's instrument for their purging. Most would have relented but not Jeremiah (**First Reading**). His life has some semblance to that of Australian author Elizabeth Jolley AO. "The idea of the 'outsider' or 'misfit' dominated her narratives, and themes that recurred in her writing were often to do with the ephemeral nature of happiness, love and friendship between women, unrequited longing, loneliness, alienation, separation, marginalisation, and the inescapably complicated relationships found in the family setting ('Remarkable'. 2018, p. 156). Despite many knockbacks, Elizabeth Jolly AO persevered and was later acknowledged and celebrated nationally and internationally. So too Jeremiah was vindicated. Again, with the Football World Cup and the State of Origin series upon us one could be forgiven for suggesting that Jeremiah succeeded as the rank outsider. Jeremiah's commitment prefigured the adage that **'Christianity is comforting but not comfortable'**. Jesus spoke of and made present the Father's love without fear or favour. He countered the sin or division of the children of Adam with the offer of new life in him (**Second Reading**). Pope Leo has affirmed the possibility of a new humanity in calling for an end to war and for AI to serve not dictate the common good. His comments affirm the dignity of all and resonate with people of good will attentive to the voice of God in their conscience. **However, some would seek to undermine that voice in the name of unfettered independence. Power and control not collaboration and community is their mantra. The outcome of the former is biblically addressed in the confusion arising in the construction of the Tower of Babel (Gen 11:1-9). A breakdown of our mutual interdependence is the antithesis of human flourishing.** Pushed too far and the consequences can be dire. As one commentator put it: "We do not often meet with real persecution, though it may yet happen. The martyrs of communist Russia or Vietnam lived many years of peaceful Christianity before unexpectedly facing martyrdom. The monk martyrs of Algeria did not reckon on martyrdom when they went to Algeria. The only preparation for martyrdom can be fidelity and prayer" (Henry Wansbrough). Today's Gospel makes clear that a passion for life in the midst of indifference, misunderstandings and rejection, as was the case with Jeremiah and with Jesus to the point of death, is our mission, and an invitation for others to 'come and see' (Jn 1:39). **The comment of St Francis de Sales (1567-1622), renowned for his then novel call for all the baptised to witness in the circumstances of their daily life, is apt: "A spoonful of honey attracts more flies than a barrelful of vinegar".**

Fr John

PARISH OFFICE (MON, TUE & THU)

Orana Centre, 7 Bindel Place, Aranda
PO Box 4266 Hawker ACT 2614
02 6254 1827

belconnensouth@cg.org.au

Website – cg.org.au/belconnensouth

Facebook – www.facebook.com/southbelconnen?

Twitter – https://twitter.com/Bleconnen_P

PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page
Fr John 0418 208 129

SAVE THE DATE – St Vincent's School Trivia & Games Night! Friday, 7 August 2026, 7:00pm.

Mark your calendars and gather your friends for a fun-filled evening at the **St Vincent's School Trivia and Games Night!** It promises to be a wonderful night of laughter, friendly competition, and community spirit for all to enjoy.

More details to come soon — stay tuned!

PARISH YOUTH MINISTERS: I am pleased to announce that **GRACE HAWKE** and **NELSON STANNARD** have been appointed Parish Youth Ministers under the auspices of the Archdiocesan Youth Ministry programme. They will work on a part-time paid basis. Grace is a recent arrival to the parish and is in teacher training at UC. Nelson graduated as a Civil Engineer last year and his family are well known in the parish. Their appointment follows the call from our Parish Assembly late last year for more engagement with younger parishioners. Nelson and Grace will be hosting a gathering for **Years 7-12 High School students, 7:00pm, Saturday, 20 June, Marian Hall, Page (following the 6:00pm Vigil Mass)** and for **Years 3-6 Primary School students, 9:30am, Sunday, 12 July, Marian Hall, Page (following the 8:30am Mass)**. Spread the word. Please pray for the endeavours of Nelson and Grace.

Fr John

Archdiocesan Notices

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Did You Know? One in Seven Christians Worldwide Experiences Persecution

An estimated one in seven Christians worldwide experiences persecution or discrimination because of their faith.

In countries including Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Pakistan and China, Christians can face imprisonment, violence, or pressure to abandon their faith simply because they follow Christ.

Yet despite persecution, countless Christians continue to gather for Mass and practise their faith with remarkable courage - even when doing so may place their freedom or lives at risk.

These Christians are not strangers to us. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we are called to stand with them in prayer and solidarity.

Through Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), discover their stories and be inspired by the courage of Mathieu and Pauline, catechists from Burkina Faso who were kidnapped for their faith.

Read their remarkable story by scanning the QR code, or visit aidtochurch.org/bulletin



CENACLE Institute for Synodal Evangelisation second Formation Forum, "Who is God?" 25 June 2026 5 pm

This Forum offers an opportunity to reflect on the identity and nature of God as we explore the Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Through interviews and personal stories, the evening will explore what it means to move beyond simply knowing about God to discovering and developing a relationship with Him.

Place: Veritas Building, Australian Catholic University. Online offering is available for those outside Canberra.

Free. Registration required: bit.ly/formation-forum-god

Livestream link will be provided upon registration. For more information, please email: institute@cg.org.au.

LIVING IN THE DIVINE WILL RETREAT Friday 5pm 3 July - Sunday 5 July

St Clement's Conference Centre Galong NSW. Lead by Frs Emil Milat and Marco Killingsworth. The talks focus on how various saints and mystics draw us to live in the Holiness of God. Contact Fr Emil: emil.milat@cg.org.au

INSTAGRACE 17-19 July

A three-day Catholic residential program organised by Jesus Youth Canberra for teenagers aged 13 to 17. It helps young people grow in self-understanding and develop a personal relationship with Jesus through talks, music, and life testimonies.

Venue: Outward Bound Australia, Naas Road, Tharwa, ACT

Date & Time: Friday, 17 July 2026 (9:00 am) to Sunday, 19 July 2026 (4:00 pm)

Registration Fee: \$290

Registration Closes: 12 July 2026. Register via the [link](#) or contact Jerin Niju on 0469 738 253.

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.

The Manager for the Archdiocese's Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding, Maria Hicks, can be contacted at ipss@cg.org.au.

Parish News

WHO ME? YES YOU! We are in need of folk to step up as **Readers, to serve as Altar servers or Senior Servers, to take on the practical role of Sacristans, to assist with Children's Liturgy and to be a member of the Parish Liturgy Committee which meets bi-monthly.** Pray whether God might be calling you to step forward to your good and the good of the faith community. More info from the Parish Office, Mary from the Liturgy Committee (morrisdm@me.com) or Fr John.

HELP is needed at St Vincent's with the following :

- Communion in the Home
- Sacristy Laundry

Please contact Jenny for details if you feel you could help jennymurphys@icloud.com or 0437 034 148

MEN'S GROUP – Thursday 25 JUNE 6:15 pm

Parish Centre, Aranda.

RSVP paul.pearson@bigpond.com (0412 685 582) by **COB Tuesday 23 JUNE 26.**

AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea after 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of the month St Matthew's.
- Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Matthew's. (13 June)
- Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's. (21 June)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 21 June

During 10 am Mass at St Vincent's, Aranda.



Prayer Requests

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr Brian Egan, Sr Ursula Drennan RSM , Katie Babic, Tarian Dixon, Emily Robinson,

Elizabeth Basevi, Anne Walsh, Neale Daniher.

ANNIVERSARIES

Ken Hill, Bernard Finnerty, Andrew Francis Dennis

THE SICK

Rudi Grcman, Patricia Walker, Sharon Chisholm, Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, Sophy Jacob, Shirley Delamarta, Matt Chunky, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Kathryn Anderson, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Mary East, Richard East, Ken Evenden, Tony Fuller, Fr Chris Gardiner OFM, Ivan Guevara, Denise Hampson, Pat Hannon, Madellon Harvey, Margaret Keen, Charlie King, Bob Longland, John Malycha, Pamela Myatt, Barry Joseph O'Leary, Oscar Perez, Francis Power.

PARISH FINANCES: As we move to the end of the financial year, I thank parishioners contributing to the support of our parish and the clergy of the archdiocese. The contributions of one and all are very much appreciated. If you would like to become a regular contributor via EFT, please see the forms in the foyer or contact the Parish Office. Alternatively, on entering the church you can make cash contributions in the First Collection bowl (for the support of the clergy) or Second Collection bowl (for the support of the parish) at the rear of the church.

CONFIRMATION 24 June 6pm St Matthew's

We welcome and congratulate all the students who will be Confirmed this week.

We thank all parents/carers, teachers and staff who have supported these students during their time of preparation

20 & 21 June 2026

27 & 28 June 2026

	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Colleen Meadley Michael White	Paul Coghlan Yvonne McAdoo	Conor Bradley Adora Calub	Lea Bewick Mary Williams	Mary Morris Janet Moyle	Gerard Hogan Bernadette Leger
Senior Server	Robyn Grubmueller	Greg Pocock	Bernadette Leger	Robyn Grubmueller	Kevin McNerney Sacristan	Jenny Murphy Sacristan
EMHC	Dorothy Lalor Geraldine Lillingston	Shaun Cheah Joan Murphy	Lourdes O'Keefe Rachelle Stannard	Colleen Meadley Margaret Sloane	Carmel Brady Anita Clifford	Jane Burroughs Robin Taylor
Linen/Altar		Ann Tierney			Ann Tierney	
Cleaning Group	Helen C, Eddie W, John & Millie McK Gillian L		Stephen G, Grace L, Sanojee G, Anna M			

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

The Lord is the strength of his people,
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,
and govern them for ever.

First Reading [Jeremiah 20:10-13](#)

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

(L.) It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. **(R.)**
(R.) This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**

(L.) The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Romans 5:12-15](#)

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 10:26-33](#)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

Take this holy sacrament to our brothers and sisters. May they know freedom from fear and the joy of the Lord this day, through Christ our Lord.