

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

8 & 9 August 19th 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

GATHERED TO SEE AND HEAR ANEW

The St Vincent de Paul Society has urged the Australian Government to recognise housing as a fundamental human right and to make it a national priority. This call is founded in the dignity and rights of every individual. Again, recognising the dignity and rights of every individual, Dr Xavier Symons director of the Plunkett Centre at Australian Catholic University, and colleagues, the authors of a recent article in the journal *'Supportive Care in Cancer'* claimed that the need for human flourishing **"encompassing emotional, psychological, and social well-being – remains achievable even toward the end of life."** However, Dr Symons said *"the discussion ends up focusing on euthanasia as a right ... What doesn't get discussed is other things we might do to help people who are suffering at the end of life. ... Patients want to find meaning in their anxiety and suffering, but too often doctors are absorbed in the nitty-gritty of clinical work to help them."* **The needs of people are many and varied.** In our First Reading **Elijah** is escaping persecution and has come to Mt Horeb/Mt Simai in need of refuge and consolation. It was here that Moses received the Ten Commandments and encountered God in thunder, lightning and earthquake. **Elijah on the other hand encounters the 'voice' of God in silence.** **"The Judaeo-Christian mystical tradition has its foundation here"** (Brendan Byrne). The early Church was also in need. Facing persecution and with some falling away, the Gospel addresses their need for reassurance. They are exhorted to trust, to hang in. **Yet, like us, many of them would identify with Peter whose trust in God was found wanting.** *"In biblical thought wind and water out of control are stock images of chaos and destruction"* (ibid). Jesus reveals his divinity in exercising power over the sea. **It is in him that we are to place our trust.** Graced with awareness of God's call in stillness or being moved to deeds arising from communal discernment nurtures meaning and purpose for our life 'in Christ'. Reassured and challenged within, we reach out to those in need, be it in response to dramatic and immediate need or perhaps for accompaniment over the long haul. **Living so encourages others on the path of discipleship. True, but like Peter, we will not always maintain that focused trust.** **"Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief."** And so the community gathers once more to hear the Lord's call to 'Come'. Nourished by Word and Sacrament, we adjust our focus and hearing as we discern anew our response to personal and communal needs 'in Christ'.

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

PARISH NEWS

AFTER MASS

- Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Matthew's, **8 August**
- Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's, **16 August, Parish Family Mass**

9:30AM MASS, ST MATTHEW'S, FRIDAY, 14 AUGUST will see school children and grandparents gather for the annual **GRANDPARENTS DAY** Mass. Come along to celebrate the gift of grandparents and the elderly who give so much in nurturing the young.

ORDINATION AND MASS OF THANKSGIVING: Following his ordination as a Jesuit Priest this Saturday, 8 August, at St Mary's Church, North Sydney, **Father Matthew Pinson SJ** will, in recognition of and thanksgiving for his vocation being in part nurtured at St Matthew's, celebrate next Saturday's 12 noon, 15 August Mass, The Feast of the Assumption, at St Matthew's. We pray God's blessings on Matthew's ministry and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. Thank you to all who contributed to the appeal for the support of our seminarians at Good Shepherd Seminary, Homebush. A total of \$2185 was contributed by parishioners

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING: You are invited to join Martin Fisk from St John's Ambulance for a 'show and tell' session about defibrillators, 7:00pm, Monday, 17 August, Orana Centre. A defibrillator will be placed at each church.

DEACON DON GOMEZ invites all faithful to gather on the occasion of his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate by Archbishop Christopher at St Christopher's Cathedral, 5:00pm, Wednesday, 19 August. We pray for Don and his family and his diaconal ministry in the archdiocese.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH CLEANING

We are calling for volunteers at St Matthew's.

Please contact the Parish Office; belconnensouth@cg.org.au or 6254 1827 (after 3 August)

PARISH LIBRARY NEWS

2026 issues of the journal, *The tablet: the international Catholic weekly*, have been added to the folders at St Matthews and are available for loan.

The following item is now available for loan at **both** branches of the parish library:

Leo IV, Pope: *Magnifica Humanitas: the grandeur of humanity* 2026 [Encyclicals and Exhortations]

Reminder – Please fill in the borrowing sheet and return items as soon as you have finished (preferably within a month) so others can use them

YOUNGER PARISHIONERS

1st and 3rd **Sundays** Children's Liturgy of the Word continues during the **10:00am St Vincent's Mass**, but not in school holidays. Next: **16 August (Parish Family Mass)**

2nd Sunday of the month after 8:30am Mass for Primary School parishioners in the Marian Hall, Page, 9 August.

4th Sunday of the month Children's Liturgy of the Word during the **8:30am Mass at St Matthew's. 23 August**

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria, Theresa, Jan Chesworth, Sophie Hennessey, Ed Skrzypczak, Rudi Grcman, Steve Keir, Ellen Hughes, Bob O'Keefe, Fr Troy Bobbin.

ANNIVERSARIES

Sr Mary Angeles, Brian Fitzgerald , Glenn Mowbray

THE SICK

Brian Myers, Leone O'Brien, Shirley Platt, Rodrigo Perez, Patricia Walker, Sharon Chisholm, Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, Sophy Jacob, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Kathryn Anderson, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Mary 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.

ROSTERS

	8 & 9 August 2026			15 & 16 August 2026		
	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Gabrielle Jarvis Geraldine Lillingston	Paul Coghlan Christina Rowe	Gerard Hogan Anne McCarthy	Colleen Meadley Mary Patton	John Duck Yvonne McAdoo	Jenny Murphy Margaret O'Connor
Senior Server	Robin Grubmueller	Damien Power	Jenny Murphy Sacristan	Paul Scholtens	John Woods	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Michael White Mary Williams	Shaun Cheah Catherine Power	Mina Chiu Helen Digan	Lea Bewick Lynne Foster	Anita Clifford Jan Woods	Lourdes O'Keeffe Rachelle Stannard
Linen/Altar		Pauline Cunneen			Pauline Cunneen	
Cleaning Group	Jennie D, Mark K, Edward M					Jenny M, Marie C, Robyn G, Peter K, Catharina K

ARCHDIOCESAN NOTICES

ST CARLO ACUTIS RELIC AT CHRISTOPHER'S CATHEDRAL 10 - 12 AUGUST 2026

Monday 10 August - Relic Arrives at Cathedral 12:15 pm Mass

1 - 5:30 pm Relic available for Public Viewing + Exhibition in Haydon Hall

Tuesday 11 August and Wednesday 12 August

Relic Veneration and Public viewing continues until Wednesday 12 August 12:15 pm Final Mass, Relic Leaves

13 August | ALIVE: BBQ + Praise Night for Young Adults| 06:00 pm ACU Signadou Chapel, 223 Antill Street, Watson
Contact Ethan on 0413 545 808. ALIVE is an event run by ACU Campus Ministry and the Disciple of Jesus Covenant Community.

SOUTHSIDE HYMN FESTIVAL 16 August 2:00 – 4:30 pm

All choirs & musicians from South Canberra, Weston Creek, Woden, Tuggeranong, Braidwood, Cooma, Queanbeyan area are invited to play and sing at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Curtin ACT. FREE admission and afternoon tea. Organised by the Knights of the Southern Cross. Registrations close: 6.00pm 26 June 2026. E-mail Bob Perkins at perkins.family@aapt.net.au

STAND FOR LIFE @ Federal Parliament, CBR 17 August 11:30 am

Please join us and stand peacefully with our Christian sisters and brothers for the 4th annual campaign to speak up for the rights of pre-born babies and support Federal pro-life parliamentarians who are trying to progress pro-life legislation. We need thousands to attend!

More info <https://www.acl.org.au/babybooties/>

THE ARCHDIOCESAN 2026 ASSEMBLY FESTIVAL-"GET UP! LISTEN! GO!" 22 August 9:00 am – 4:00pm

There will be a hub for this Assembly in the Tumut Mission at Tumut's McAuley College Hall. Please see poster in foyer

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

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading [1 Kings 19:9.11-13](#)

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

(L.) I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

(R.) Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

(L.) The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Romans 9:1-5](#)

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help

my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 14:22-33](#)

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

As you bring the Eucharist to those in our community who are sick and housebound, remind them that God is ever merciful and life-giving, loving humanity and all created things.