

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

22 & 23 August 21st 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 (4thSun)	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 (Anointing 1st Thurs odd months)
Fri	9:30am Page (Anointing 1st Friday even months)
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

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

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Caesarea Philippi is in the far north of Israel at the base of Israel's highest mountain, Mt Hermon.

At the foot of the mountain there is a large cave from which issues the Jordan River. The mountain, the cave and the river have provided a sacred site for many people. The Greek god worshipped here in the centuries before Jesus was Pan, the god of nature and fertility. The large mouth of the cave was seen as an entrance to Hades, the underworld realm of the dead. Standing before this cave, looking up at the rocky cliffs it is very clear that Jesus draws on the physical setting of this place in his words to Peter.

In this remote setting, away from the more populous villages Jesus asks the critical question of his disciples, 'Who do you say I am?' These disciples have been with him now for some time, witnessing his deeds and hearing his words. The question probes their perception and their faith. Have they grasped Jesus' identity? Simon Peter's reply indicates his growing awareness and elicits from Jesus words of commendation.

Jesus gives Simon the title 'Peter', from the Greek word 'rock' - petros. Perhaps looking at the rocky cliff-face with its dark cavern he speaks to the gates of the underworld and promises that the community founded on Peter the Rock will stand firm against the powers of death. Like the faithful steward with the house keys, Peter is given authority within the community.

What answer would you give to Jesus' question?

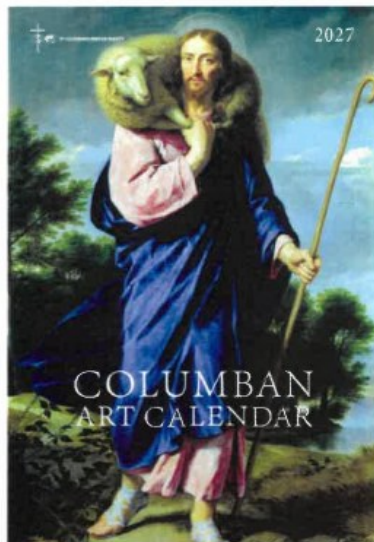
Who is Jesus to you?

Sr Mary Coloe PBVM, "Sundays Under the Southern Cross' 2005 p.56

PARISH NEWS

MONSIGNOR JOHN IS TAKING LEAVE FOR HEALTH REASONS. Please keep him in your prayers. Jacinta will be in the Parish Office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Fr Andrew will be assisted by a weekend 'Supply Priest'

105TH EDITION



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2027

Order now! Parish office: belconnensouth@cg.org.au or 6254 1827

Orders close: Monday 21 September 2026

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We welcome students and their families as they continue their journey to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion in September



Parish Library News

The following items are now available for loan at the parish library - **St Matthew's** branch

- Varden, Erik: *The shattering of loneliness: on Christian remembrance* 2018 [Spirituality]
- Leonard, Richard: *What does it all mean? : a guide to being more faithful, hopeful and loving* 2017 [Christian Life]
- Talafous, Don: *Musings: a Benedictine on Christian life* 2019 [Christian life]
- Grogan, Brian: *Finding God in a leaf: the mysticism of Laudato si'* 2018 [Ecotheology]

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

The Sacrament of Anointing will be celebrated during at the 9.30 Mass on the first Thursday in September, 3rd September and on the first Thursday of the odd month thereafter.

MEN'S GROUP, Thursday 27 AUGUST 2026 6:15 PM

Parish Centre, Aranda.

RSVP to paul.pearson@bigpond.com (0412 685 582) by COB Tuesday 25 August 26.

SEASON OF CREATION: The 12 noon, Saturday, 3 October Mass will be a celebration of the 'Mass for the Care of Creation', prepared by the Vatican's Dicastery for Integral Human Development. This will be part of the ecumenical Season of Creation, 1 September - 4 October, inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si'.

MOWING AT ST MATTHEW'S

Volunteers sought to join a small group of men and women. Contact John Duck 0403895256 for details

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: 6 September and 20 September

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 6 pm Mass at St Matthew's. 29 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

Christina Rowe, Janet Blair, Gertrude Fletcher, Colombia earthquake victims, Maria and Theresa (anon), Jan Chesworth, Sophie Hennessey, Ed Skrzypczak, Rudi Grcman.

ANNIVERSARIES

Thomas Pearson, Eileen Pearson, Douglas Dowler

THE SICK

Monsignor John, 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

	22 & 23 August 2026			29 & 30 August 2026		
	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Peter Rodda Michael White	Mary Morris Janet Moyle	Lisa Harris Lourdes O'Keeffe	Lea Bewick Mary Williams	Paul Coghlan Mary Morris	Michael Allam Conor Bradley
Senior Server	Robyn Grubmueller	Greg Pocock	Jenny Murphy Sacristan	Paul Scholtens	Dennis Morris Sacristan	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Catharina Koopman Dorothy Lalor	Victoria Aik-Ikpeama Anthony	Jane Burroughs Robin Taylor	Geraldine Lillingston Colleen Meadley	Carmel Brady Tsitsi Demberere Joan Murphy	Mina Chiu Helen Digan
Linen/Altar		Pauline Cunneen			Pauline Cunneen	
Cleaning Group	Bernard W, Catherine G, Patrick T					Stephen G, Grace L, Sanojee G, Anna M

ARCHDIOCESAN NOTICES

FAITH AND LIGHT Saturday 5 September, 2-4pm at Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Curtin.

Come and See afternoon for Faith & Light, a Christian community for people with intellectual disability, their family and friends, where we share the joy of the gospel, prayer, friendship and afternoon tea. For further details contact Anne on 0415 175 802.

August Veritas Lecture - Supporting the participation of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): An occupational therapy perspective 26 August, 05:30 pm

To register: www.acu.edu.au/about

HOMEcoming SILENT RETREAT 28th -30th August

Weekend retreat or a 5 day retreat option: w/e: www.trybooking.com/DIDBK or extended: www.trybooking.com/DIDBU

CURSILLO 60th ANNIVERSARY REUNION Sat 24 – Sun 25 Oct, St Christopher's Parish Centre, Forest

Please register before 16 Oct. Contact acgcursillo@gmail.com More info and registration <https://tinyurl.com/cg60reunion>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES -Australia-Pacific - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

Volunteers to start January 2027 working in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close October 31st, 2026. Enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.

DARAMALAN CLASS OF '86 REUNION Saturday 31 October 2026

RSVP 17 October 2026 Web address. <https://events.humanitix.com/daramalan-college-class-of-1986-reunion>

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading [Isaiah 22:19-23](#)

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father

to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;

he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

(L.) I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.

Before the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**

(R.) I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;

you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**

(L.) The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,

discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Romans 11:33-36](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;

the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

Gospel [Matthew 16:13-20](#)

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

May you, our ministers, tasked with taking the great gift Christ has given us to the sick and housebound members of our community, be blessed as you celebrate his loving presence with them.