

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

28-29 March Palm Sunday (A)

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 Aranda
Sunday	8:30am Page
	10:00am Aranda
Samoa (4thSun)	12:00pm Page
Korean	3:00pm Aranda

Weekday Masses

Mon	5:00 pm Oils Mass, Cathedral
Tue	5:30pm Aranda (Adoration 4:45pm)
Wed	7:00 am Page
Thu	No 9:30 am Mass Holy Thursday
Fri	No 9:30am Mass Good Friday
Sat	No 12:00 pm Mass Easter Saturday

Confessions

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am Page and 5:00pm-5:30pm Aranda

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

REJECTED BUT LIFE-GIVING

Passion or Palm Sunday begins with the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the traditional blessing of palms. It also begins our celebration of Holy Week-Easter, the high-point of the Church's year. **The Son of Man enters Jerusalem on a donkey, symbolising his intent to serve to the point of death (Matt 20:28).** Today's Mass Readings continue this commitment to service. Our First Reading (Isa 50:4-7) is the third of the Isaiah Servant Songs. It provides the background to the unforeseen suffering of the Messiah. The Second Reading (Phil 2:6-11) reflects the understanding of the early Christian community of the human and divine status of Jesus. **His passion is but the ultimate manifestation of the divine love that saw God become one with us in our need; Christmas is completed in Easter. Our Gospel is the Passion account of Matthew.** Matthew's Gospel emphasises that in Jesus the hopes of the people of the Old Covenant (or Old Testament) are fulfilled. **In that tradition the taking of innocent blood was considered a monstrous crime.** Matthew's Passion identifies those guilty of this crime against Jesus: **Judas**, who he goes off and hangs himself, **Pilate** who falsely claimed to be "innocent of this man's blood" and **the people**: "His blood be upon us and upon our children" (27:25). *No verse in scripture has caused more suffering than this one" (Brendan Byrne).* **We all relate to our time and place. Matthew wrote after the Romans had destroyed the Jerusalem Temple in 70AD. He saw this as a consequence of the then leaders and their children being responsible for the shedding of the innocent blood of Jesus.** "Their children' refers strictly to the coming generation – the generation that would be in its mature years at the time when Jerusalem fell to the Romans. There is absolutely no suggestion that the responsibility should somehow continue or that it should adhere to the Jewish people as a whole. This needs to be made expressly clear" (ibid). However, while an innocent victim, Jesus makes clear that he goes to his death in absolute freedom, as foretold in the scriptures (27:50-54). **Reflecting on our time and place, Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ notes that Palm Sunday resonates with the experience of refugees.** "Like Jesus in his entry into Jerusalem unarmed refugees also seek hospitality in centres of power. Like him, too, they are perceived as a threat, are driven off, imprisoned, maligned and left resourceless. They make us ask what a human being is worth when stripped of power and connections. Palm Sunday and the vindication of Jesus at Easter answer that question. Each human being is worth living and dying for." **Where am I called to lift up, affirm or reach out to those who like Jesus are innocent victims of my actions or those of others?**

Fr John

REGIONAL SECOND RITE (Belconnen Parishes)

6 pm Tuesday 31 March at St Vincent's, Aranda.



Project Compassion boxes/envelopes can be returned during Holy Week or at any Easter Mass

Parish Financial Report for February 2026

	Actual	Planned	Variance	
	2 mth to	2 mth to	against	
	28/02/2026	28/02/2026	Plan	
	\$	\$	\$	
Direct Giving	38,414	30,664	7,750	over budget
(Planned Giving and 2nd collection for administration of the Parish)				
Parish Income & Expenditure Statement				
Income *	41,397	37,617	3,780	over budget
Expenditure	19,607	25,310	5,703	under budget
Surplus/(Deficit)	21,789	12,307	9,482	

* Income = Direct Giving and other income

Your ongoing financial support of the Parish and Clergy is required and greatly appreciated. Contact the Parish Office on belconnensouth@cg.org.au for details on how to contribute to the Clergy (first collection) and Parish (Planned Giving and second collection).

LIBRARY NEWS: Thanks to a donation by a parishioner, these books are now in the St Vincent's Branch of the Parish Library.

- Women: Jesus' disciples remembered Taylor, Joanna, Bond, Helen

Women - Religious life

- The hidden gospel: decoding the message of the Aramaic Jesus Douglas-Klotz, Neil

Scripture

- Meditations on the parables of Jesus Keating, Thomas

Scripture

Also available: Fr Michael Fallon's erudite commentaries on various books in the Bible

Please add the loan to the loan book in the St Vincents parish library with your name, mobile number the title of the book and its accession number eg V506



Archdiocesan Notices

2025 FINANCIAL REPORT to the Parish

A limited number of copies are available in the church foyers. For an email copy contact the Parish Office: belconnensouth@cg.org.au

PALM SUNDAY RALLY IN SUPPORT OF REFUGEES 29 March 1:00pm Civic Square

The theme, 'Refugees and Migrants Welcome Here'. Join Vinnies to support Australia's 53-year-old commitment to an immigration program, which does not discriminate on the basis of race.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT DINNER Thursday 9 April 6pm.

Archbishop's house: For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. RSVP Vocations Director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

ANZAC DAY MASS 7:45 am

St Christopher's Cathedral, Forest, ACT. Parishioners are requested to be at the Cathedral by 7.45am for 8.00am Mass.

ST CLARE'S COLLEGE -Enrolling for 2027: Discover St Clare's and see her thrive.

Visit the website for information and registration. stcc.act.edu.au

MERICI COLLEGE ENROLLING NOW

Visit www.merici.college for all dates and information for our Open Day and enrolment events.

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.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM will be celebrated at St Matthew's Church, Page

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

(Stations of the Cross | 1:00 am, Aranda)
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

St Matthew's Church, Page 8:30am
St Vincent's Church, Aranda. 10:00am
Korean Mass St Vincent's 3:00pm

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ante "Tony" Markezic, Giuseppina Blasi, Fr Dermot Clinton, Judy James, Michael "John" Kain, Denis De Marco, Ray Minius, Alex Mahl, Keiron Hart.

ANNIVERSARIES

Carmela Russoniello, Moya Lahiff, Rosemary Crowley, Margaret Wilkinson, Sean Reiher, John Bryan, Percy Knight.

THE SICK

Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, Sophy Jacob, Ruth Duffy, Shirley Dellamarta, Matt Chuncky, Lucas Parker, Brian Fitzgerald, Fr Michael Mullen, Pauline Zerbo, Luke Buckmaster, John Muscat, Paul Collins, Margaret Wilson, Daryl Brohman, Kathryn Anderson, Anna Blackwell, Trevor Blake, John Collard, Angela Collier, Gemma Collier, Anne Darmody, Leon Darmody, Denis Dellamarta, Mary East, Richard East, Ken Evenden, Joachim Exell, 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, Sam Ross, Pat Stakelum, Anthony Stewart, Cate Sweeney, Jennifer Webster, Angela Williams.

For those who are not able to attend Mass: would you like Holy Communion to be brought to you at home? Please contact the Parish Office 6254 1827 or belconnensouth@cg.org.au.

PREPARATION OF CANDLES

Parishioners are asked to support a working bee for the preparation of candles for the Easter Vigil will be in Marian Hall following 9.30 Mass on Friday 27 March. We would love to see you there!

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

The Franciscans also support medical centres, schools and suffering communities. With the horrific hostilities presently smothering the Holy Land and the Middle East, the need for support has never been greater. Please consider giving generously this Good Friday.

	28 & 29 March 2026			4 & 5 April 2026		
	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Page	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Conor Bradley Peter Davies	Paul Coghlan Mary Morris	Gerard Hogan Bernadette Leger	EASTER	Janet Moyle Christina Rowe	Margaret O'Connor Lourdes O'Keeffe
Senior Server	Robyn Grubmueller	Damien Power	Jenny Murphy	VIGIL	Greg Pocock Sacristan	Paul Scholtens
EMHC	Mary Williams	John Duck Catherine Power	Michael Allam Robin Taylor		Carmel Brady Joan Murphy	Michael Allam Jane Burroughs
Linen/Altar		Yvonne McAdoo			Mary Morris	
Cleaning Group	Jenny M, Marie C, Robyn G, Peter K, Catharina K	Caroline Weller, John Duck, Edward Mimar				

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 Palm Sunday (A)

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

Matthew 21: 1-11

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover,
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him;
in their hands they carried palm branches
and with a loud voice cried out:

* Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads;

grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?

He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

* Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

First Reading [Isaiah 50:4-7](#)

The Lord has given me

a disciple's tongue.

So that I may know how to reply to the wearied

he provides me with speech.

Each morning he wakes me to hear,

to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,

neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,

my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;

I did not cover my face

against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,

so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint;

I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

(R.) All who see me deride me.

They curl their lips, they toss their heads.

'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;

let him release him if this is his friend.' **(R.)**

(R.) Many dogs have surrounded me,

a band of the wicked beset me.

They tear holes in my hands and my feet.

I can count every one of my bones. **(R.)**

(R.) They divide my clothing among them.

They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not leave me alone,

my strength, make haste to help me! **(R.)**

(R.) I will tell of your name to my brethren

and praise you where they are assembled.

'You who fear the Lord give him praise;

all sons of Jacob, give him glory.

Revere him, Israel's sons.' **(R.)**

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

His state was divine,

yet Christ Jesus 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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death

dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high

and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel [Matthew 26:14 – 27:66](#)

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

Take the life-giving gift of Christ's body and blood to those who cannot be with us, that they might know his presence and our solidarity in their brokenness and pain, as together we acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.