

St Matthew & St Vincent de Paul Parish

South Belconnen

Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

14-15 March 4th Sunday of Lent (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

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 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](https://twitter.com/BleconnenP)

PRESBYTERY

12 Chewings Street, Page
Fr John 0418 208 129

I am the Light of the world

Light is the great symbol of Easter. The very word we use, Easter speaks of light for it comes from the old Germanic word Oestros, the goddess of dawn. What is remarkable in the story of the blind man is that he has been blind since birth. He was born in darkness and has never known light. The miracle is not simply a restoration of sight but an act of creation. Once he gains his physical sight the man begins on a journey of gaining spiritual insight, while his opponent's journey into blindness. The blind man gradually comes to know the identity of his healer. At first, he calls him, 'The man Jesus'. Later he says, 'He is a prophet', and finally he comes to know Jesus true identity and worships him. He has completed the journey and come to faith. Meanwhile, his opponents are travelling in the opposite direction as they refuse to admit that Jesus could be a man of God and call him a sinner.

The recent months seem particularly dark with death, destruction, drought, war, and a world crisis with refugees—and our own involvement in these events as the darkness touched our own shores—remember the Tampa! (2001) This gospel episode holds up the possibility of two journeys—towards the light or towards the darkness. The light of Easter invites us forward, but we must first pass through the shadow of the cross. As we make the journey of the blind man, we pray this ancient Christian hymn:

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;

Naught be all else, save that Thou art.

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,

Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Sr Mary Coloe PBVM, 'Sundays Under the Southern Cross' 2005 p.16

AFTER MASS

- Morning Tea after 8:30 am Mass 1st Sunday of the month St Matthew's. (1st March)
- Cheese and bikkies after the 6pm Vigil 2nd Saturday of the month St. Vincent's. (7th March)
- **Morning Tea after 10am Mass 3rd Sunday of the month St Vincent's. (15 March)**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

15 March

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

19 April, 3 May and 17 May



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**

Project Compassion How it helps.....

\$1,000 can go to training medical staff in Gaza in clinical skills, emergency response and trauma care



Archdiocesan Notices

CANBERRA CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT 29 March 5:00pm

As part of the UPSTAGEING CANBERRA festival, Canberra Choral Society presents 'Our Stories'.

Ticket bookings: <https://events.humanitix.com/ccs-our-stories>

PALM SUNDAY RALL 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

LOOKING FOR FLEXIBLE WORK—AND A CHANCE TO SUPPORT PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS?

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia is seeking a Diocesan Outreach Assistant to give short presentations at weekend Masses across the Archdiocese of Canberra. This part-time role involves sharing stories of the suffering Church and helping build prayerful support within parish communities. If you are comfortable speaking in front of others and have a heart for this mission, we would love to hear from you.

For details: www.aidtochurch.org/work

POSITION VACANT—PARISH OFFICER NAROOMA—COBARGO PARISHES

This is a **permanent part time position of 10 hours per week** and will be based in the Parish Office, Narooma. Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email Leanne Boyd, Parish Support Manager leanne.boyd@cg.org.au Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr George Azhakath, Parish Priest george.azhakath@cg.org.au by CoB Friday **20 March 2026**.

PARISH OFFICER –GUNNING PARISH

This is a permanent part time position of 4 hours per week and will be based in the Parish Office, Gunning. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email the Parish Office gunning@cg.org.au Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr Peter My, Parish Priest peter.my@cg.org.au by CoB Friday 27 March 2026.

PARISH OFFICER-WEST WYALONG MISSION

People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Officer for St Mary's Parish West Wyalong, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Lake Cargelligo, and St Joseph's Parish Ungarie. This is a permanent part time position of 8 hours per week and will be based in the Parish Office, West Wyalong. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email Leanne Boyd, Parish Support Manager leanne.boyd@cg.org.au Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr Hilary Rotich, Parish Priest hilary.rotich@cg.org.au by CoB Friday 27 March 2026

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.

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.

REGIONAL SECOND RITE (Belconnen Parishes)
6 pm Tuesday 31 March at St Vincent's Aranda.

Deacon Joe's Farewell 15 March

Please join Deacon Joe at the Orana centre, Aranda, after the 10am Mass on Sunday 15 March to reminisce and thank him for over 20 years' service in the Parish.

Could parishioners please bring a plate (e.g. cake, slice or biscuits) to share. Please ensure that all ingredients are clearly labelled and label your plate if you want it returned.

Tea/coffee and a sausage sandwich will be available.

A card will be available at both Churches over coming weeks, so you can leave a message to Deacon Joe.

A cash retiring collection for Deacon Joe is being held on the week-ends leading up to the farewell.

If you have any suggestions or questions please contact Bernard Williams

bernardwilliams@bigpond.com

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Michael "John" Kain, Denis De Marco, Ray Minius, Alex Mahl, Keiron Hart.

ANNIVERSARIES

Rosemary Crowley, Margaret Wilkinson, Sean Reiher, John Bryan, Percy Knight.

THE SICK

Maureen Dalzell, Ivor Thomas, Tim Lindley, So-phy Jacob, Ruth Duffy, Shirley Dellamarta, Matt Chunky, 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.

Working Bee St Vincent's Saturday 21 March 8:30 – 12:00

Tidy up of the grounds and some maintenance matters

Morning tea provided

If you can spare some time, please come and give a hand

More info – meadleycb@outlook.com or 0406378351

MEN'S GROUP – Thursday 26 March 2026 6:15 pm

The Parish Centre, Aranda.

RSVP to paul.pearson@bigpond.com or 0412 685 582 by **COB Tue 24 MAR 26.**



The Funeral for **Michael "John" Kain**, will be on Wednesday 18 March 2026 at St Matthew's Church, Page at 12:30 pm

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Commitment Masses: 21 & 22 March, 2026

	14 & 15 March 2026			21 & 22 March 2026		
	6pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda	6 pm Aranda	8:30 am Page	10 am Aranda
Reader	Mary Patton Michael White	Helen Casey Paul Coghlan	Gerard Hogan Elizabeth Hannan	Peter Rodda Mary Williams	John Duck Yvonne McAdoo	Lisa Harris Graham Williams
Senior Server	David Ross	John Woods	Jenny Murphy	Damien Sloane	Dennis Morris (Sacristan)	Bernadette Leger
EMHC	Geraldine Lillingston	Mary Morris Jan Woods	Annette Charge Helen Digan	Michael White	Jo Duck Mary Morris	Lourdes O'Keeffe
Linen/Altar		Yvonne McAdoo	Amanda Kabaila Rachelle Stannard		Yvonne McAdoo	Robin Taylor
Cleaning Group	Louise M, Jerry C, Peter D, Geoff S	Jennie D, Mark K Andrew S				

LITURGY OF THE WORD 4th Sunday of Lent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading [1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13](#)

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

(L.) He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

(R.) You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

(L.) Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading [Ephesians 5:8-14](#)

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord;
be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in
complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover

what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel [John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38](#) (Shorter form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

May the gift of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring our sick and housebound brothers and sisters consolation and hope.