

Parish and Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Unanderra

48 Princes Highway Post Office Box 14 Unanderra NSW 2526

Parish Priest

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Parish School

Saint Pius X School
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School Principal

Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary

Mrs Agnes Jerald



Parish Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9:30am—4:00pm

Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298

Email: unanderra@dow.org.au

Parish website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	Nov 6	<u>NO MASS</u>
Tuesday	Nov 7	Adoration: 4:30pm-5:30pm Mass: 5:30pm
Wednesday	Nov 8	Mass: 7:00am
Thursday	Nov 9	Adoration: 4:30pm-5:30pm DEDICATION OF ST JOHN LATERAN (Reconciliation available) Mass: 5:30pm
Friday	Nov 10	Mass: 9:30am St LEO the GREAT
Saturday	Nov 11	Mass: 7:30am St MARTIN OF TOURS Reconciliation 5:00-5:30pm Vigil Mass: 6:00pm
Sunday	Nov 12	32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Masses: 7:00am, 9:00am 10:45am (Polish Mass)

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

5 November 2017

READINGS: Malachi 1:14 - 2:2, 8-10; 1 Thess 2:7-9, 13;
Mt 23:1-12.

The prophet Malachi berates the priests of his day for failing to live up to their calling. The FIRST READING introduces us to the GOSPEL: Jesus launches an attack on the Scribes and Pharisees - but His message is for today, too.



St Paul reminds the Thessalonians of his love for them, and how hard he worked to bring them the Good News (SECOND READING).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased: Maria Pia and Guiseppe ZANATTO, Bill MICALLEF, Elizabeth Mc AULEY,
Sr Sheila RYAN sgs

Anniversaries: Gerardo De MICHIEL, Alison BAXENDALE, Annie ROBINSON,
Madeline HEFFERNAN, Josie NEWMAN, Teresa LEGGETT

Pray for the sick and those unable to get to Mass



Rosters of next weekend

Sat 11 th	Church Cleaning	M Lloyd, J Allen, J Haywood, S Walsh	
	Lawns	J Lonard, H & J Yates, F Timpano	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Vigil 6pm	P Jones	A Kelly	D Gelfius
Sun 12 th 7am	G Attard	A Browne	S Brown, A Browne
9am	L Haywood	C Walsh	V Cleary, M Mohr-Peters
Counters	T & L Barnes, J Carolan		
Children's Liturgy	C Hailstone, L Galea		

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women's League: 2nd Thursday of the month, 10.30am

St Joseph's room. New members welcome.

Contact: Barbara 42711584 or Margaret 42715804

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: Tues, 7.30pm St. Joseph's room

Parish Pastoral Council: 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm

St Joseph's room

Nursing Home Masses

Hillside Nursing Home: 1st Tuesday of the month, 2pm

Figtree Nursing Home: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10:45am

Villa Maria Nursing Home: 3rd Tuesday of the month, 9:30am

Refreshments after the 9am Mass on 1st weekend of the month.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Parishioners are invited to attend **Rev Victor Vincent's**

Ordination on Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30pm at

St Francis Xavier's Cathedral.

Refreshments to follow.

ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL

Many thanks to those who gave the appeal on

Mission Sunday for the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart in

Vietnam. The appeal raised \$2064.80.

Gospel Reflection

A peacock's feathers are very colourful;
they are worn more for show than for warmth.

The Pharisees wore their virtue for show;
they wanted to be seen and praised by others.
They were more concerned with appearing good
than with really being good.

Today there is great emphasis on appearances.
The image is more important than the reality.

We may deceive others
but we cannot deceive God.

But then it would be foolish even to try.

We don't have to put on an outward show,
or pretend to be what we are not.

All we have to do is try to be true
to what we are - God's sons and daughters.
Lord, help us to shun all falsity and pretence,
Then our deeds will flow from what we are,
as naturally as good fruit from a good tree.

NOVEMBER MASSES

- * Saturday, November 18, 11am **Lakeside Memorial Park**
- * Saturday, November 24, 10am **West Dapto Catholic Cemetery** (In case of rain, the Mass will be celebrated at St John's, 24 Jerramatta Street, Dapto.)

Catholic Women's League

The monthly meeting will be held on **Thursday, 9 November at 10.30am** in St Joseph's Room.

Join us for morning tea at 10.30 followed by the meeting.

CHURCH MINISTRIES FOR 2018

Have you considered being involved in one of the various ministries of your parish? Over the next few weeks you will have the opportunity to volunteer for 2018.

Please give careful consideration to participating in one or more of the following ministries -

Acolytes, Lectors, Children's Liturgy, Welcomers, Church Cleaners, Counters, Church Lawns and Gardens, Church Washing, Ministers of Holy Communion to Aged Care, Choir, Altar Servers, Catechists and Sacramental Team Leaders.

New Volunteers will have the opportunity to work with those who have experience.

Your assistance will be appreciated.



"God will not fail you no matter how much you may be tried."

St. Mary of the Cross 1874

VOCATION – MANY PATHS, ONE AMAZING GOD

Loving God, grant me a discerning heart to hear your call in my life, and grant me the courage to surrender my life to you every day. Amen.

To help with your reflection, contact Fr Duane Fernandez on 0414 626 357 or priesthood@dow.org.au

ASSISTED SUICIDE DEBATE

Proposed legislation to legalise assisted suicide and euthanasia will be debated in the NSW Parliament on November 16. An independent open letter has been prepared by concerned health professionals. Signatures are needed immediately.

Access: www.healthprofessionalssayno.info

Come and learn about the **CARMELITE CHARISM** at a Carmelite Prayer meeting which will be held on **Saturday, 18 November 2017 10am-12pm** at **The Cottage, 12 Farmborough Rd, Unanderra**
RSVP 4271 3140
All are welcome!

POSITION VACANT

CARITAS DIOCESAN DIRECTOR

A part-time position (15 hours a week) is available for commencement as soon as possible for Caritas Australia. The position is based in Wollongong and the successful applicant should be passionate in promoting social justice across the Wollongong Diocese.

Applications close on Monday 20 November.

For information on how to apply for this Role, a Position Description and for further details see the diocesan website: http://dow.sh/jobs_caritas_diocesandirector

PEER SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Wollongong Women's - Peer Support Group

Thursday 16 November 2017, 2pm-4pm, Flourish Australia, 3 Station Street, Wollongong. Share your stories and challenges; Find new hobbies & interests; Discuss goals and opportunities; Find ways to prepare for and manage the NDIS; Learn about your rights; Listen to guest speakers. Anyone with a disability is welcome. To register your interest, contact Sharon Holz on 0448 964 296 or sharon.holz@pdcnsw.org.au

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM—AIRS 5 Nov 2017

This week on the Journey, Fr Mike Delaney reflects on the Gospel of Matthew. Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy reminds us about Having Faith in God's Will, Sam Clear speaks to us softly about Forgiveness, and Sr Hilda graces us with her sage words of Wisdom from the Abbey. Coupled with amazing music and you have a show about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

In baptism, each one of us is called to share in the ministry of Jesus Christ – to bring good news to the poor and let the oppressed go free (Luke 4:18). We are asked to serve people in need – in our workplace, church or social groups, whether known or unknown to us, on the streets or in the broader community. In solidarity, we must challenge views that condemn them. We work for an economy that prevents exclusion. <http://dow.sh/socialjustice2017>

MISSION TO FIGHT POVERTY

Catholic communities all over the world are looking for teachers, health and community development workers, administrators and others to **mentor workers in their fields of expertise**. See more than **40 volunteer positions** at www.palms.org.au/projects/.

The positions would suit anybody with the appropriate qualifications. Healthy retired people find it a most gratifying and stimulating mission. Australian donors cover your costs and outstanding support is provided through the church's single biggest global volunteer mission agency.

Want to hear more from returned volunteers?

Information Session:

Time: Wednesday November 29th, 5:45 - 7:00 pm

Place: Save the Children office,

Suite 302 (Level 3), 418a Elizabeth St,

Surry Hills

Entrance to the building is on Devonshire St.



PEER SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Wollongong Essential Employment – Peer Support

Group. Wednesday 22 November 2017, 10:30am-12:30pm, 304 Crown Street, Wollongong. Come along to hear from our guest speaker Elicia Ford from the National Disability Coordination Officer Program who will be joining us to discuss Disability and Employment. Anyone with a disability is welcome. To register your interest, contact Sharon Holz on 0448 964 296 or sharon.holz@pdcnsw.org.au

My dear people,

NOVEMBER is the month when our thoughts are, in a special manner, directed to the reality of an existence beyond this present one. We are reminded of that eternal blessedness which we call 'Heaven', for which God has destined all humankind. However, we also remember that, when this earthly part of the journey is completed, we may not yet be worthy of that ultimate prize. There exists that state of being purified which we call 'Purgatory'. At the moment of death, not only shall we see God as He really is, we shall also see ourselves as we really are. For some, this will be very painful.



The Month of November reminds us of a wonderful truth of our Faith—what we name in the Creed as **the Communion of Saints**: the union of the Church on earth, the Church in Heaven, and the Church in Purgatory. Between those who are in Purgatory and ourselves there is no unsurmountable barrier. The fact of our dear ones' departure neither separates them from our love nor deprives them of our aid. At Requiem Masses the priest prays during the Eucharistic Prayer: "Remember (our dead). In baptism they died with Christ, may they also share his resurrection". We ask God to be mindful of our dead—not that He has forgotten them. Rather, we are reminding ourselves that **our** remembering them at the Sacrifice of the Mass can be the means of their entrance into Heaven.

So many of our dear ones suffered greatly during their lives, having been invited by Christ to share the heavy load of the Cross. Hope is the virtue which enables the Christian to face any difficulty or fear, and even death's dark gateway, confident in the power of God's love. This hope assures us that their passing—and ours when the times comes—is not just a merciful end to pain. We are certain that our death is the dawning of our eternal day, the awakening to everlasting joy.

We, the living, pray not only for those whom we ourselves have personally known, or who have shared our Catholic Faith, but also for those countless millions who have been created in God's love. So many did not even hear of God or His incarnate Son. For these, too, Christ our Saviour lived and died and rose from the dead. We can easily appreciate how our material charity here on earth can help those we have never seen in other parts of the world. We must be equally confident that we can in prayer come to the spiritual aid of all those who have died.

Praying for the dead challenges our faith, our hope, and our love: our **faith** in a God who is love, and who sent His Son that we might have life to the full; our **hope** in the power of Christ's death and resurrection—a power strong enough to save us; and a **love** that transcends the grave and conquers death itself.

We pray for our dead obviously because we believe human death is not the end. In faith we know that we have already begun to live the life that the Saints now fully enjoy and the dead aspire to. This unites us—the one Communion of Saints—and it allows us to influence each other. We need the prayers of the Saints in heaven; the souls in Purgatory need our prayers. It is good to remember that the souls in Purgatory are good friends to have—while they can no longer pray for themselves, they can and do pray for us. Once in Heaven they will certainly remember us who have helped them get there.

By our prayers for the dead, especially by offering the Sacrifice of the Mass, we are fulfilling the great command of Christ to love one another as He has loved us. This command of charity extends not only to those we know on earth, but also to those who have already left the earth.

Fr Graham Schmitzer

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Parish Priest