

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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Parish Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	10 Sep	No Mass
Tuesday	11 Sep	Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm Mass: 5.30pm
Wednesday	12 Sep	The Holy Name of Mary Mass: 7am
Thursday	13 Sep	St John Chrysostom Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available) Mass: 5.30pm
Friday	14 Sep	Exaltation of the Cross Mass: 9.30am
Saturday	15 Sep	Our Lady of Sorrows Mass: 12noon (see Retreat Timetable below) Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm
Sunday	16 Sep	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Masses: 7am, 9am No Polish Mass during September

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR B

9 SEPTEMBER 2018

READINGS: Isaiah 35:4-7; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

The prophet Isaiah encourages the people, announcing that God is coming to save His people (**FIRST READING**).

The prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus who heals the impaired (**GOSPEL**).

According to St James, class distinctions have no place among Christians (**SECOND READING**).



ANNUAL LEGION OF MARY RETREAT

Saturday 15 September — Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

Parishioners most welcome to attend

Programme:

9.30am	Morning tea
10am	Legion Prayers & Rosary
	Talk 1: Our Lady in the Fathers of the Church
11am-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Reconciliation available)
12noon	Holy Mass
12.45pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Talk 2
2.30pm	Benediction



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Recently Deceased

Christopher PAULL

Anniversaries

Tyron and Romeo TEJADA

Gary SAMWAYS

Richard ROCHE

Bruce WALSH

Michael VAN DER LINDEN

ROSTERS — NEXT WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 15 Sept	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, S Walsh	
	Lawns	Fernandez Family, M Walsh	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 15 Sept 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	R Baxendale	Volunteer
Sun 16 Sept 7am Mass	A Michielin	D Ferrer	Walsh Family
Sun 16 Sept 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	A Kelly	P Cundy
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, A McQueen, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	C Hailstone, L Galea		

PARISH ACTIVITIES



- Catholic Women's League:** 2nd Thursday of the month - 10.30am in St Joseph's room
New members always welcome!
Please contact: Barbara - 4271 1584
- St Vincent de Paul Conference:** Every Tue 7.30pm in St Joseph's room
- Parish Pastoral Council:** 2nd Monday of alternate months
7.30pm in 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 9am Mass will **NOT** be held in September *

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The next monthly meeting of the CWL will be held on
Thursday 13 September 2018 - 10.30am in St Joseph's Room



Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa and chat at 10.30am prior to the meeting. Come along and see what the CWL do in our parish. We look forward to seeing you.

USED STAMPS FOR PERU MISSIONS



Did you know that your used stamps can help the poor of Peru?! The Sisters of St Joseph are carrying out much needed charity and educational work amongst Peru's poor and youth — and our used postage stamps are sold to raise funds for this work.

Thank you to all those who continue to collect used stamps and put them in the box at the side door of the church. This year we have already collected and sent over 1.5kg of used stamps, which is quite a lot — so **Thank You!** Please continue to collect them at home and/or work, and maybe ask your family and friends to save their used stamps too. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

Gospel Reflection

The gift of hearing is a precious gift,
but it is only with the heart
that we can hear rightly.

The cry of a needy person may reach our ears,
but unless it reaches our heart
we will not feel the person's pain,
and it is unlikely that we will respond.

And the gift of speech is a precious gift.
But again, it is only with the heart
that we can speak rightly.

For our words to ring true,
they must come from the heart.
If they come only from the lips,
they will have a hollow sound
and will have little effect.

They will be like a wind
that ruffles the surface of the water
but leaves the depths untouched.
But words that come from the heart,
enter the heart.



VINNIES DROUGHT APPEAL

A bucket collection will be held after each Mass this weekend for the St Vincent de Paul NSW Drought Appeal. The Vinnies Drought Appeal will help drought affected individuals and communities across NSW in three ways:

- ◆ Provide immediate relief through food assistance and other household bill payments;
- ◆ Fund the delivery of water and animal feed by partner organisations; and
- ◆ Organise social events for rural communities to come together and find support.

For those parishioners wishing to donate by credit card or requiring a receipt, envelopes are provided.





***"Keep up your courage ...
we do not live here forever."***

St Mary of the Cross — 1877

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

**TO SUPPORT THE RETIREMENT AND HEALTH OF
CLERGY: *Caring for those who have cared for us.***

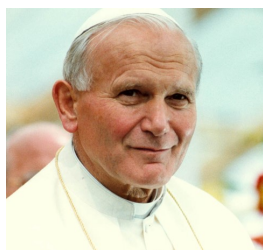
It is the responsibility of our Diocese - through the provision of accommodation, transport assistance and health care - to support and care for the retirement and health of our diocesan clergy. In our Diocese, this support is partly funded by the Bishop's Annual Appeal, which will be held in our parish next weekend.

Donations can also be made online via the Diocese of Wollongong's website at: www.dow.org.au



**Catholic Diocese of
Wollongong**
Bearers of Christ's Love

Ever since "I celebrated my first Mass, my eyes have gazed in recollection upon the host and the chalice, where time and space in some way 'merge' and the drama of Golgotha is represented in a living way, thus revealing its mysterious 'contemporaneity'. Each day my faith has been able to recognise in the consecrated Bread and Wine the Divine Wayfarer who joined the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and opened their eyes to the light and their hearts to new hope."



Pope John Paul II

A VOCATION VIEW

Thank God our struggles of faith can be ultimately overcome through prayer, perseverance and love. 'Do what the word tells you.' Be doers of the word.

Please contact the

Vocations Team

at

priesthood@dow.org.au



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM — AIRS SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2018 —

This week on The Journey, our Gospel reading is from Mark and reflected on by Fr Graham Schmitzer; Trish McCarthy share with us "The Wisdom of Tears" in her Milk and Honey God spot; Bruce Downes, the Catholic Guy, shares with us "Faith that Marvelled Jesus"; and what is sure to put a smile on your face is Fr Dave Callaghan with the question "Where's Wally?". As music is the soul of our show, it is also where faith, hope, love and life come together.



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BE AWAKE - NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

19-21 October 2018 - Stanwell Tops Conference Centre

MenALIVE and the Young Men of God Movement (YMG) have united to host a life changing event for the men of this nation. The time has come to bring together over 30 years of powerful ministry experience and capability led by the most passionate and dedicated leadership team ever assembled in men's ministry.

Be inspired, be transformed. This will be an extraordinary event THAT IS DEFINITELY NOT TO BE MISSED!

Registration now open <https://dow.sh/BeAwake2018>



SIX FULL-DAY GUIDED RETREAT

Saturday 24 November – Saturday 1 December 2018

Hartzer Park - 25 Eridge Park Road Bowral

Theme: "Turning to God"

Presenter: Fr Aloysius Rego OCD

Cost: \$650

The Retreat begins with the evening meal at 6pm on Sat 24 Nov and concludes after breakfast on Sat 1 Dec

RSVP by 10 November 2018

Phone 48613223 or email hartzprk@bigpond.net.au

My dear people,

Some people think that the Catholic Church is preoccupied with nothing but contraception, abortion and death. Even most Catholics are unaware of the existence and extraordinary breadth of Catholic social teaching, to be found in Papal letters and Encyclicals. It is said to be Catholicism's best-kept secret.

How's this from an Encyclical written by Pope Pius XI in 1931 in the wake of the 1929 financial crash? The Pope addressed the "irresistible power" grabbed by the directors of invested funds, slamming their hold over credit which was enabling them to "supply the life-blood to the entire economic body and grasping, as it were, in their hands the very soul of the economy, so that no-one dare breathe against their will". In a plea for better regulation, the Pope declared: "Free competition, and especially economic domination, must be kept within definite and proper bounds, and must be brought under effective control of the public authority." In the wake of the Royal Commission into the Banking and Superannuation Industries, these words could have been written in 2018!

For centuries, Popes and Councils of bishops have issued letters and documents that have added to the Church's tradition of teaching, analysing, and reflecting on the challenges of the day, whether it be peace, capitalism and socialism, international trade or ecology. This is because of the Gospel Commandment to love God and love neighbour. The imperative to love one's neighbour has no boundaries and no limits. The boundaries are not generational - our neighbours include future generations, and it is our responsibility to ensure they have a planet to live on.

Some say that religion and politics shouldn't mix. It's a rather generalised statement, as if the people voting and the politicians voted-in are 'tabula rasa', that is, empty slates with no history and no custom. When I go to the voting booth I am a citizen with a definite history. As a baptised Catholic, I have as much right as any other citizen — who may have no religion or has chosen 'politics' as their religion — to express my view. And because I have a religious view I should not be treated as 'below par'.

I was most disillusioned when in a former parish I wrote to my local Member expressing my views, and that of my people (in a signed petition) on same-sex marriage, to be given a reply that, no matter how many people opposed her, she would vote according to her own belief. So much for representative government! Catholics should be very careful who they vote for! They may be giving a sitting Member, or a newly-elected Member, unlimited rights to oppose the law of God.

So, as I said, some say that religion and politics don't mix. But Catholic social teaching is inherently political (small 'p') because the Church is concerned about the way the world is, and should be. The Church's social teaching (based on the Gospel) is about the fundamental dignity of the human person, a concern for the poor, the rights of workers, the priority of people over capital, the promotion of peace, and the active stewardship of the resources of the Earth. The active Catholic should be concerned

about the pain and sorrow of our time, especially the need and poverty of so many in the face of the greed, yet emptiness, of others.



Mgr Graham Schmitzer

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Parish Priest