

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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School Principal: Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary: Mrs Sue Briscoe

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9am—3.30pm
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Parish Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 18 Feb *No Mass*

Tuesday 19 Feb Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
Mass: 5.30pm

Wednesday 20 Feb Mass: 7am

Thursday 21 Feb **St Peter Damian**
Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
(Reconciliation Available)
Mass: 5.30pm

Friday 22 Feb **The Chair of St Peter**
(Bishop Brian's 1st Anniversary)
Mass: 9.30am

Saturday 23 Feb **St Polycarp**
Mass: 7.30am
Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm
Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday 23 Feb **7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**
Masses: 7am, 9am, 10.45am (Polish Mass)

***NB:** *Ash Wednesday is around the corner.
Please return your palms and olive branches.*

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C 17 FEBRUARY 2019

READINGS: Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12,16-20; Lk 6:17,20-26

Today and next Sunday we read from St Luke's 'Sermon on the Plain' which parallels St Matthew's 'Sermon on the Mount'.

The **FIRST READING** contrasts two types of people — those who trust in the world and those who trust in God. This prepares us for the **GOSPEL** where Jesus turns the social order upside down. It is the poor, the 'little ones' who are blessed because they have no one to trust in but God. In whom do I trust?



The **SECOND READING** continues from last Sunday. St Paul stresses Jesus' bodily resurrection, the promise of our own.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Eric ROBINSON



Anniversaries

Michele ABBATANTUONO

Vern MANNIX

Charlotte BRZEZINSKI

Rodolfo RAMPOLDI

Michael COMENSOLI

Norma McCORVEY

Fr Hugh DOWDELL

Helen WARBURTON

Francesco & Rosa MASI

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

February	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 23 Feb	Church Cleaning	P & A Browne, W & S Brown	
	Lawns	Winner Family, P Briscoe, A Gollop	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 23 Feb	G Attard	V Cleary	V Cleary
Sun 24 Feb 7am Mass	M Walsh	P Gunning	Volunteer
Sun 24 Feb 9am Mass	R Klaus, C Carolan	A Kelly	P Cundy, F Fernandez
Counters	A Gunning, M Cauduro, C Garrett		
Children's Liturgy	K Hertsch, S Walsh		



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 on 1st weekend of the month

LENTEN PROGRAMME

The Lenten Program is now available for \$5.00.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1 March 2019

This year the women of Slovenia have prepared the service. The service will be held at Immaculate Conception Church at **10.30am**.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

We will also be joined by members of other churches in our region.

Following the service, morning tea will be served in St Joseph's Room.



Gospel Reflection

*Blessed are the clean of heart;
they will see God.*

*Blessed are the humble of heart;
they will find rest for their souls.*

*Blessed are the warm-hearted;
they will radiate goodness.*

*Blessed are those who work with the heart;
they will find the strength to persevere.*

*And blessed are those who set
their hearts on the Kingdom of God;
everything else will be given to them.*

Come join our Youth Group!

ASCEND

Want to join in faith, with friends and have fun as well?

Last Saturday of the month 7 pm - 8.30 pm

At St Joseph's Room, back of the Unanderra Catholic Church

Especially for students between Year 6 and Year 10

See you on **Saturday 23 February 2019**

An initiative of the Immaculate Conception Parish

CATECHISTS, SACRAMENTAL LEADERS, CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS, AND PRIMARY & SECONDARY TEACHERS OF THE PARISH

*****CHANGE OF DATE*****

Our Commitment Ceremony will take place on **Sunday 3 March 2019 at the 9am Mass.**

Please mark this date in your calendar.

Reserved seating will be provided:

Teachers — left side of the Church.

Catechists, Sacramental and Children's Liturgy Leaders — right side of the Church.





“Have patience with yourselves when you see that you have failed, and patience with others when they seem to have done so.”

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop 1874

ST JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL ALBION PARK

Now Enrolling for Year 7, 2020 and Year 7, 2021

St Joseph's Catholic High School is a Catholic Coeducational High School located in Albion Park for students in Year 7 to Year 12. We invite parents and prospective students in Year 5 and Year 6 to join us for our **Open Day on Saturday 9 March 2019 10am—2pm.**

Our Open Day is designed so that primary school students can see our school in action. Students are able to engage in a range of hands-on activities across all key learning areas, while meeting our teachers and students. It is also a good time to walk around our school grounds and view our building works and many other recently completed upgrades.

On **Tuesday 12 March 2019** we are holding **Twilight Tours (5.30pm-6.30pm)** and an **Information Session (7pm-8pm).**

The Twilight Tours are a guided tour of the school grounds and facilities for parents and students who were unable to make it to our Open Day. The Information Session provides parents with a greater understanding of the philosophy of St Joseph's and our school values. The School Leadership Team will provide parents with knowledge about what your child can expect when they join our school community, including class structures, academic and pastoral support, extra-curricular activities and other opportunities offered to our students.

Please feel free to join us for an event which is suitable to you and your family. No registration required. **For all enrolment enquiries, please contact the school office on 4230 8500.**

We look forward to welcoming you into our school community.



EDMUND RICE COLLEGE

NOW ENROLLING FOR YEAR 7, 2020 and 2021

Applications for enrolment are now being taken and must be returned to the College no later than **Friday 12 April 2019.**

An **open afternoon** will be held at the College on **Tuesday 5 March 2019 4pm-6pm**, followed by a parent information meeting in the Edmund Rice Centre commencing at 6.30pm.

Guided tours of the College, hosted by senior students, will be available on Open Day at 4pm, 4.30pm, 5pm and 5.30pm. Come and see the wide range of activities and facilities provided by the College. *All welcome!*

To book a tour or obtain an enrolment application package, please contact the College Office on 4228 4344 or visit the website www.edmundricecollege.nsw.edu.au



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM

– AIRS SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2019 –

Welcome back to another wonderful year of the Journey Catholic Radio. This week on The Journey, our Gospel is Luke: 17,20-26. We are grateful to hear the sage words from Sr Hilda again with her Wisdom from the Abbey; Marilyn Rodrigues, The Peaceful Parent, reminds us to Pray, Hope and Don't Worry; and our very own Trish McCarthy inspires us with her reflection on the Sea Cliff Bridge Run. Again we are blessed to have such talented Christian music artists to contribute to our show.



Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au

where you can listen any time and subscribe to weekly shows via email

A VOCATION VIEW

GOD IS CALLING — God desires our happiness, and calls some of us to serve as priests. For those called, it is a fulfilling way of life. Maybe it is for you? Start the conversation.



**Please contact the
Vocations Team at
priesthood@dow.org.au**

PLENARY COUNCIL LISTENING SESSIONS FEEDBACK

A second meeting was held with Bishop Brian on 7/2/19 at the Xavier Centre regarding local Listening Session feedbacks. Several school animators also took part and the overall responses were positive and enlightening. There was a great sense of hope shared by the animators. Hope in the faith of youth and their love for the Church.

Australian Bishops will then form an agenda based on the common themes which have been presented at the Listening Sessions and feedback submitted on line. Once the main themes have been decided, further Listening Sessions will continue to be held.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



My dear people,

Do you seek happiness? You might well think that is a stupid question. But, think again. 'Happiness' does not exist as a 'thing' any more than 'prayer' exists as a 'thing'. There is no such thing as prayer — there are only people who pray. There is no such thing as happiness — there are only people who are happy. Happiness is really a by-product of something else. St Luke uses the Greek word *makarios* (happy or blessed) — enduring happiness comes from one's standing before God. Like His Mother in her Magnificat, Jesus turns the social order of the world upside-down. Those truly blessed by God are those the world usually looks down on — the poor, the hungry, the dispossessed, the reviled because of creed or colour.

We are reading today St Luke's parallel to St Matthew's account of the Beatitudes (Blessings). St Matthew sees Jesus as the new Moses, and has Jesus preaching from a mountain. Matthew tends to spiritualise the concepts (the poor in spirit, those who hunger for righteousness — perhaps to include all of us who are not actually hungry or downtrodden). Luke is much more basic — he presents Jesus teaching, rather, down on the plain where the people actually live. Jesus is addressing those who really are hungry and thirsty, and who are marginalised. Why are they happy or blessed? Because they are free to acknowledge their reliance on God. The unfortunate, says Luke, are the corresponding rich, well-fed, laughing and 'respectable'. God cannot come into their lives because they have no room for Him. "There was no room at the inn" for the infant Christ — interesting that it is St Luke who says this (2:7). Obviously, we are meant to read much more into this. The Beatitudes of Jesus require us to change our way of thinking because they reverse the values by which many of us live. "How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God" - that is, God is on your side.

Did this have any real meaning for the poor who were listening? Not really. The statement as such was not really going to help them. (Mind you, the fact that Jesus Himself was truly poor made the message 'real'). The 'crunch' is that we are reading a 'Gospel' — a proclamation and a making present of Jesus Himself, the Risen One.

Jesus' statement is an invitation to the listener (then and now) who wishes to be on the side of God. 'Happiness' will come to those who give rather than keep. Jesus is really saying "If you want to be on the side of God you had better be on the side of the poor." Read this way, if everyone who said they believed in God actually did something for the poor then, yes, the Kingdom of God has already come.

The famous Archbishop Hélder Câmara once said: "Saints may be found in slums, but we cannot retain slums in order to make them the breeding ground of Saints."



Mgr Graham Schmitzer
Parish Priest

ERIC GENUIS IS NEXT WEEK!

Eric Genuis Concert

Immaculate Conception Church Unanderra
Wednesday 27 February 2019 — 7pm

Eric has been described as a music tour de force. He isn't afraid to reach out and go to those on the edges of society who desperately need hope and purpose and has performed in over 45 prisons.

It's not just prisoners who are inspired by the beauty of Eric's music. Jim Caviezel, the Hollywood actor who portrayed Jesus in Mel Gibson's 2004 film *The Passion Of The Christ*, said "What a pleasure to listen to not only a world-class pianist and composer, but an artist whose music translates beyond its genre to lift the audience to believe and hope in the power of the human spirit."

Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession;
\$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18).

Ticket sales are available online at:

www.ericgenuistour.com

or from **Sue Briscoe** at the **Parish Office** (cash only)

