

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



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Cnr Hargreaves & Cummins Streets
PO Box 358 Unanderra NSW 2526
Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

School Principal: Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary: Mrs Sue Briscoe

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9am—3.30pm
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Parish Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 25 Feb *No Mass*

Tuesday 26 Feb Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
Mass: 5.30pm

Wednesday 27 Feb Mass: 7am
Eric Genuis Concert: 7pm

Thursday 28 Feb Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
(Reconciliation Available)
Mass: 5.30pm

Friday 1 Mar First Friday
Mass: 9.30am
Ecumenical World
Day of Prayer: 10.30am

Saturday 2 Mar First Saturday
Mass: 7.30am
Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm
Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday 3 Mar **8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)**
Masses: 7am, 9am, 10.45am (*Polish Mass*)

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C 24 FEBRUARY 2019

READINGS: 1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23;
1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-3

Because of his great success on the battlefield, David was very popular with the people. As a result, King Saul saw him as a threat and sought to kill him.

The **FIRST READING** contains the moving story of how David had an opportunity to kill Saul but refused to do so since, Saul, had been anointed by God. This leads to the **GOSPEL**, Jesus stressing the duty of loving one's enemy and the obligations of fraternal charity.



In the **SECOND READING** Saint Paul draws parallels between Adam and Christ.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Andrew GILFOYLE



Anniversaries

Micky WALSH
Joseph DREDGE
David CROWE

Fr Tony DALY
Rose UYLIE
Sr Rita ZANPA

John Bernard ROBERTS

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 2 Mar	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
	Lawns	Fernandez Family, M Walsh	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 2 Mar	A Carlotto	A Kelly	D Gelfius
Sun 3 Mar 7am Mass	L Burns	C Walsh	S Brown
Sun 3 Mar 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	B Parrish	Davis Family
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
Children's Liturgy	K Calvert, M Matos		



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

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.



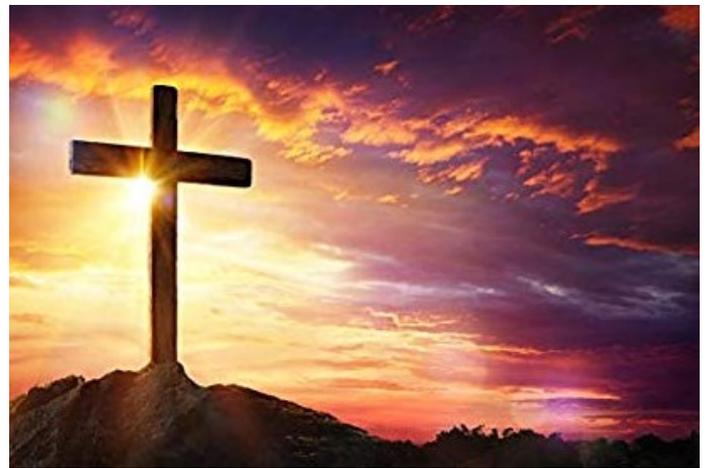
Gospel Reflection

There are those who give but only on condition that they receive something in return, and receive it immediately.

There are those who give on condition that they receive something in return later on and with a handsome profit.

And there are those who give without expecting anything in return now or ever — they scatter the seeds of the heart without looking for any harvest.

These are imitating the generosity of God, who bestows His love on good people and bad, and grants mercy to saints and sinners.



PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Want to find out what has been shared so far and the main topics discussed by fellow parishioners / staff / parents / students? Then join us on **Friday 1 March at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Room.** The summary of submissions received up to January 2019 will be disclosed, discussed and those interested may make their responses before Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019. Then at Pentecost, the Listening and Discernment stage will be announced and the national themes for discernment will be revealed. For more information, please contact **Vera Cleary (Animator) on 0415 926 132.**



LENTEN PROGRAMME

The Lenten Programme is now available for \$5.00.



“Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you in all your life.”

(from the last typewritten letter of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop 1909)

ROSEMEADOW CHURCH

Bishop Brian Mascord will consecrate the new Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Rosemeadow (Demetrius Road) on **Friday 8 March 2019 at 7.30pm**. The parish community and parish priest of Rosemeadow, Fr Christopher Sarkis, has extended a general invitation to all who would like to attend. An indication of your attendance would be greatly appreciated to help with catering following the Mass.

Please **RSVP** to parish office on **4628 1385** or rosemeadow@dow.org.au

HOLY SPIRIT COLLEGE - BELLAMBI

Holy Spirit College are now enrolling both Year 6 students for Year 7 2020, along with Year 5 students for Year 7 2021.

Year 4, 5 and 6 students and their families are invited to attend our Open Mornings or Information Evening. Come along and meet staff and students and see what our College has to offer. We look forward to meeting you.

Open Mornings:

9am—11am Wed 27 Feb and Thu 28 Feb (*No booking required*)

Twilight Tour: 5.30pm Thu 28 Feb

Information Evening: 7pm Thu 28 Feb

Applications for Year 7 2020 and Year 7 2021 close on **12 April 2019**

Interviews Term 1 and Term 2

(Offers made in June 2019)



ST MARY'S WOLLONGONG

St Mary's is now enrolling
Year 7 2020 and 2021
(Current Years 5 and 6)



**Open Day Tours & Information Evening
for Year 7 — 2020 and 2021
Thursday 7 March**

Register online for a tour now! All interested families welcome. Meet the Principal, see classes in action and talk to senior staff.

Tour sessions Thursday 7 March:

9.30am – 11am / 4.30pm – 6pm

Information Evening: 7pm – 8pm (no booking required)

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE TOURS

Call us on **4228 6011** or book online www.stmarys.nsw.edu.au

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM

— AIRS SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2019 —

This week on The Journey, our Gospel is Luke 6:27-38, where we are reminded to “Do unto others as you would have them do to you”. Trish McCarthy inspires us with her God Spot about “Using Your Words”; and Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy, talks to us about “Friends You Can Rely On”. Our music this week is uplifting and inspiring and a fabulous testament to our Christian Faith.



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

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

26 – 28 APRIL 2019

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville
Relationship enrichment for married couples.

Bookings online at www.wvme.org.au or

Adrian & Janet Sullivan on

0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com



HEALING AFTER ABORTION

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment. Rachel's Vineyard offers a confidential voicemail number on 0400 092 555 or email at info@rachelvineyard.org.au



The retreats for 2019 will be held at Varroville NSW on 5-7 April and 25-27 October.

Brochures can be found in the church or see the website at www.rachelvineyard.org.au

MEN OF THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG: RISE UP!

Do you have a plan in place that will take your life to the next level? Men around the world are stepping-up to the RISE 30-Day Challenge, a powerful video series that has changed the lives of thousands of men around the world. It's delivered right to your email and only takes about 5 minutes each morning. Would you like to join a group of men in the Diocese who from 15 March will band together to make this journey through Lent, focusing on issues that face men in their lives and spiritual journey? Contact Jude Hennessy at jude.hennessy@dow.org.au if you are interested and visit www.cardinalstudios.org/rise to have a look at the resources and the program. Will you join us? The investment of \$1/day in yourself and your family will be priceless.

My dear people,

The seasons of the Church year are linked to the Northern Hemisphere (where Christianity began) and its climate patterns. And so our English word LENT simply means springtime, coming from the old English "lengthen", since up north daytime lengthens during this time. The Northern Hemisphere turns towards the sun, the source of life, and winter turns into spring. In Hebrew the word for repentance is "to turn", like the turning of the earth to the sun.



"Even now, says the Lord, turn to me" (Joel 2:12). The word SIN means separation. We are called to turn from our separate selves, from our sin, to come together in community. Self-denial is the way we express our repentance. We turn away from sin and death. In the lengthening brightness (as it were) from Ash Wednesday until Holy Thursday afternoon, our holy Lent, we turn to God as our Source of Life.

Self-denial is 3-fold, advises chapter 6 of St Matthew's Gospel: we pray, we fast, we give alms or gifts to the needy. Self-denial is an exercise, a workout, a getting into shape. Through the Lenten exercise of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we spring clean our lives, sharpen our senses, put tomorrow in its place, and treasure the day at hand. In prayer, fasting, and works of mercy we pattern ourselves after Our Lord. He prayed, and taught us how to pray. He fasted, and we do likewise. He gave alms. And we are asked to give our very lives to each other.

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- The whole of Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others.
- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have turned 18 and until their 60th birthday. The law of abstinence binds those who have turned 14.
- Catholics are obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year, during the time between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

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Some Recommendations:

- Daily Mass or at least one extra Mass each week.
- Reading the Scriptures, especially the accounts of the Passion.
- The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.
- A more careful performance of the duties of our state in life.
- Participation in a Lenten Discussion Group (or use the Diocesan Reflection Book as a personal preparation for the following Sunday's Gospel).
- Project Compassion – an excellent means of turning the money saved by fasting into a gift for the poor. The boxes are returned at the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday evening; the envelopes are returned Sunday by Sunday – whichever system suits you best.

Mgr Graham Schmitzer
Parish Priest

ERIC GENUIS – THIS WEDNESDAY!

Eric Genuis Concert

Immaculate Conception Church Unanderra

Wednesday 27 February 2019 – 7pm

**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)

