

## PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



**Parish Priest:** Mgr Graham Schmitzer

**Polish Chaplain:** Fr Jerzy Slowinski  
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**Parish Assistant & Catechist Co-ordinator:** Sister Joan Goodwin  
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**Parish School:** St Pius X School  
Cnr Hargreaves & Cummins Streets  
PO Box 358 Unanderra NSW 2526  
Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

**School Principal:** Mr Philip Moore

**Parish Secretaries:** Mrs Magda Pires (Mondays)  
Mrs Sue Briscoe (Thursdays / Fridays)

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday / Thursday / 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** 13 May **Our Lady of Fatima**  
Mass: 7am

**Tuesday** 14 May **St Matthias**  
Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm  
Mass: 5.30pm

**Wednesday** 15 May Mass: 7am

**Thursday** 16 May Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm  
(Reconciliation Available)  
Mass: 5.30pm

**Friday** 17 May Mass: 9.30am

**Saturday** 18 May Mass: 7.30am  
Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm  
Vigil Mass: 6pm

**Sunday** 19 May **Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
Masses: 7am, 9am (No Polish Mass)

*\* Fr Jerzy will be away from 14 May to 18 July \**

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR C 12 MAY 2019

**READINGS:** Acts 13:14,43-52; Apoc 7:9, 14-17; Jn 10:27-30

Paul and Barnabas preach the Gospel firstly to the Jews but they reject it. They then turn to the Gentiles who receive it with joy. Thus Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled that God's message would reach the ends of the earth (**FIRST READING**). We, too, may meet with mixed reactions when we use our gifts in the service of God.

St John sees in vision those who will come through times of persecution to share in Christ's glory in heaven (**SECOND READING**).

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, will not allow anyone to snatch from His care the sheep the Father has given Him (**GOSPEL**).



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Anniversaries

Franc HORVAT  
Luka JUKIC  
Ilmer SAUNDERS  
Maria TRANG  
Joseph HUNG

Ronald MONAGHAN  
Victor BROWN  
Peter DEN  
Peter CHUNG  
Anna MAIN

All deceased mothers and grandmothers of our parish and parishioners

## ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

May	Church Washing	Jackie Allen	
Sat 18 May	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, S Walsh	
	Lawns		
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 18 May	A Carlotto	A Kelly	B Faraway
Sun 19 May 7am Mass	A Michielin	M Walsh	L Harper
Sun 19 May 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	G De Battista	P De Battista
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

## WOLLONGONG HOSPITALS



If anyone would like a family member to be visited whilst an inpatient at either the public or private hospital, please telephone Fr George on 0475 815 506.

## MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

The Mother's Day raffle will be drawn by Mgr Graham this weekend — after the 9am Mass on Mother's Day 12 May 2019.  
*Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets!*



## A REFLECTION FOR MOTHER'S DAY

A mother is a constant source of blessing and protection.

She is our strength in weakness,  
our consolation in sorrow,  
and our hope in misery.

Everything in nature speaks of a mother.

The sun is the mother of the earth,  
nourishing it with light and heat.

It never leaves at night  
until it has put everything to sleep,  
to the songs of the birds and the brooks.

The earth, in its turn, is mother  
to the trees and flowers.

And the trees in their turn become  
mothers of their fruits and seeds.

And Mary is our spiritual mother.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us  
now and at the hour of our passing  
from this world to the Father.



"I consider myself one of the truly blessed mothers, being the instrument in God's hands of rearing all my children, and that under great difficulties for God's glory."



Flora MacKillop  
Mother of St Mary of the Cross  
3 January 1883

(from her letter to son Donald  
telling him of his sister Lexie's death)





***“The Cross appears lighter  
when carried with Jesus”***

*St Mary of the Cross MacKillop  
(1874)*

## THANK YOU

Many thanks for everyone's contribution to the 2019 appeal for the **Holy Places** on Good Friday — our parish raised nearly **\$2,500**.

Thank you also for everyone's generous contribution to the 2019 **Project Compassion** appeal — our parish raised nearly **\$5,000**.



## FOSTERING FUTURES

**EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO A FAMILY AND A PERMANENT HOME. EVERY SINGLE ONE.**

Right now children across our region are in need. If you would like to find out more about becoming a foster carer with CatholicCare Wollongong, please **email us on** [fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au) or call **0418 783 956**.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations and every blessing to

**John and Catherine CAROLAN**

who celebrated the Golden Jubilee  
of their Marriage on 3 May

*Thank you for your commitment to  
Catholic Marriage and your example of Christian living*



## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

**– AIRS SUNDAY 12 MAY 2019 –**

This week on the Journey, our Gospel is John 10:27-30. Mother Hilda from the Abbey encourages us to “Have a Nice Day”; Fr Dave Callaghan reminds us to “Become Like a Child”; and Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy, talks to us about “The Call to Forgive”. The music this week is woven through our program to create a peaceful flow of harmony that we know you enjoy.



**Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au)**  
where you can listen any time and subscribe to weekly shows via email

## MAX 19 INTO THE BREACH

A National Catholic Event for Men —  
“MAX 19 INTO THE BREACH” — SYDNEY

**19-21 July 2019**

menALIVE for Christ (MAX) is an annual gathering of men from across Australia and New Zealand who seek to be encouraged by one another in their faith journey as real men of God.

**For more details, please contact**

**Peter Carrigan 0404 496 405 or**

**Robert Falzon 0412 745 734 or**

**Email: [max19@menalive.org.au](mailto:max19@menalive.org.au)**

**To register visit: <https://cvent.me/Koql2>**

## MANY CULTURES MASS

**FIRST PREPARATION MEETING**

Our first meeting to prepare this year's Many Cultures One in Christ Mass will be on **Wed 29 May 2019 at 7.30pm**.

The meeting will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Meeting Room, 193 St Andrews Road Varroville.



Please indicate your attendance to **Helen Bennett** either via phone **4222 2403** or via email at [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) by **Monday 27 May 2019**.

## A VOCATION VIEW

This is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The world needs worthy leaders, Good Shepherds of the 21st Century, caring unselfishly for the needs of God's people. Please pray for Vocations. **Please contact the Vocations Team at [priesthood@dow.org.au](mailto:priesthood@dow.org.au)**

My Dear People,

This is Vocation Sunday, established by Pope St Paul VI after the Second Vatican Council. He chose this particular Sunday each year because of the Gospel of the Good Shepherd read on this day. He urged, as has every Pope since, the whole Church to pray, not only on this day but every day. Pray for what?

It may be misleading to say that we should pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. A vocation is a call — from God. To pray for ‘vocations’ may seem to suggest that God is not calling, and therefore we should ask Him to do better! No, the Church is Christ’s Church. He died to establish it. He instituted the Mass and the Sacraments to nourish it. The Church — us — is never absent from His mind and heart. Therefore, He must always be calling men and women to serve it! For some reason, or many reasons, His call is not being heard. Therefore, we have a role to play. The responsibility of preparing the ground for vocations belongs to the whole Church, said the Council.

- \* Firstly, we should all pray daily that many more will hear Christ’s call to be priests and religious.
- \* We should consider that God might wish to use each one of us as an instrument to bring God’s call to a potential priest or religious. We may know someone we think could have a vocation. That person may just need a little encouragement.
- \* Parents should speak about vocations to their children who are discerning their future in life — this goes for teachers in our schools, too. Always speak about religious vocations in the most positive terms in front of children.

When I was at the Eucharistic Congress in Lourdes in 1981, I heard the African Cardinal Gantin



representing Pope John Paul (he was still in hospital following the assassination attempt) say during the final Mass, which was an Ordination Mass: “The Church will get the vocations it deserves!”. You can take that several ways. But God can hardly answer prayers that are not forthcoming.

In his message for today, Pope Francis says: “Dear friends, it is not always easy to discern our vocation and to steer our life in the right direction. For this reason, there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church — priests, religious, pastoral workers and educators — to provide young people in particular with opportunities for listening and discernment. There is need for a youth ministry and a vocational promotion that can open the way to discovering God’s plan, above all through prayer, meditation, Eucharistic Adoration and spiritual accompaniment.”

Young people need a religious environment in which to grow. Happily, a Youth Group has been established in the parish. St Therese at West Wollongong also has a Group, and there is talk of perhaps the two joining forces.

Eucharistic Adoration, with focus on 18-30 year-olds, has been established in two centres in the Diocese: St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Wollongong and Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Rosemeadow. Adoration is from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, followed by a shared meal. The next evenings at the Cathedral are Wednesday nights, 10 July, 14 August and 9 October.

In the words of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Adoration is “the best time you will spend on earth”.

We have currently two students at Good Shepherd Seminary at Homebush: James Arblaster and Sinh Le. Pray for them.

***Mgr Graham Schmitzer***  
***Parish Priest***