

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 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 20 May *No Mass*

Tuesday 21 May Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
Mass: 5.30pm

Wednesday 22 May **St Rita**
Mass: 7am

Thursday 23 May Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm
(Reconciliation Available)
Mass: 5.30pm (*Vigil Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians*)

Friday 24 May **Our Lady Help of Christians**
Patroness of Australia
Mass: 9.30am

Saturday 25 May **St Bede the Venerable**
Mass: 7.30am
Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm
Vigil Mass: 6pm

Sunday 26 May **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Masses: 7am, 9am (*No Polish Mass*)

*** Fr Jerzy is away until 18 July 2019 ***

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

— YEAR C —

19 MAY 2019

READINGS: Acts 14:21-27; Apoc 21:1-5; John 13:31-35

Paul concludes his first missionary journey. He and Barnabas retrace their steps, encouraging the communities they had founded, and preparing them for the persecutions, which would inevitably come (**FIRST READING**).

The Book of the Apocalypse describes the Church as God's Bride. He has joined Himself to her forever (**SECOND READING**).

At the Last Supper, Jesus gives the apostles a 'new commandment' – the commandment of love. It is new in that it sets a new standard: "as I have loved you" (**GOSPEL**).



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Menette VILLANEUEVA
Sr Merylin BROWNE RSJ
John the Baptist Cong Mingh NGUYEN
(*brother of Fr Peter Tien*)



Anniversaries

Fr Joe GILLIS
Thomas STANIFORTH
Gabriela ARNAZ
Lucy GREPO
Vina ABANG

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

May	Church Washing	Jackie Allen	
Sat 25 May	Church Cleaning	J Allen, J Haywood, A Gollop, S Chavez	
	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, R Murphy	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 25 May	G Attard	V Cleary	V Cleary
Sun 26 May 7am Mass	M Walsh	C Walsh	Volunteer
Sun 26 May 9am Mass	R Klaus, C Carolan	M Rodwell	P Cundy, F Fernandez
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
Children's Liturgy	K Calvert, M Matos		

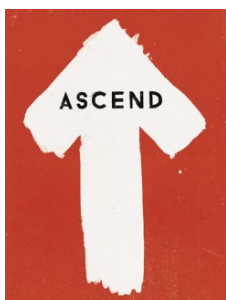
PARISH ACTIVITIES



- 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

ASCEND CATHOLIC YOUTH



We are looking forward to seeing you all after the 6pm Mass on **Saturday 25 May 2019**
For more info, please contact ascendcatholicyouth@gmail.com

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE WINNERS

The winners of the Mother's Day Raffle were:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1st Prize | Joe Browne |
| 2nd Prize | V Parnis |
| 3rd Prize | Helen Murphy |

Thank you to all who purchased tickets and/or donated money towards Fr Graham's Golden Jubilee in August.

Gospel Reflection

It is easy to love at a distance,
but not so easy to love at close quarters.

It is easier to give a few dollars
to relieve famine in Africa,
than to relieve the loneliness of
someone living next door.

It is easy to love people
who are far away,
but not always easy to love those
who are close at hand.

Yet, these are the people
Christ asks us to love.

We must begin by loving
the people near us.

That is where our love must start.

But, of course, it doesn't have
to end there.

And it shouldn't.



PALMS AUSTRALIA

Help Palms Achieve a World Free of Poverty

Share your skills with a community organisation in Asia or the Pacific to contribute to sustainable solutions to poverty.

Our community partners have requested teachers, nurses, tradies and more to work alongside a local counterpart in 2020.

We welcome all those who envision volunteering their skills overseas in the next few years to join our next training course, starting in Sydney on **Saturday 6 July 2019**.

For more details please visit

www.palms.org.au

or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333



Palms Australia
Reach Beyond



“We know that God delights in being manifested through the weakness of others.”

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1871)

PILGRIMAGE WALK FOR LIFE

Friday 24 May — Saturday 25 May 2019

A walk to raise PRAYERS for Australia for all life issues. You are warmly welcome to join us on either day or both days.

BENEFITS: Mass. Prayer. Hymns. Exercise. Spectacular scenery. Joyful fellowship. Blessings in abundance.

Friday: 9.30am Mass at Kiama Catholic Church, walk to Gerringong Catholic Church for Benediction at 3pm. Shuttlebus back to Kiama church or sleep overnight.

Saturday: 8am Mass Gerringong Catholic Church, walk to Shoalhaven Heads for lunch at 1pm. Shuttlebus back to Gerringong or walk to Culburra Church for 6pm Mass.

BYO lunch and water.

Friday: Dinner at a local restaurant.

Saturday: Cereal breakfast provided on Saturday.

For further information:

Sue Hill on 0435 336 195 or

Gabriella De Battista on (02) 4261 2500



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 19 MAY 2019 –

This week on the Journey, our Gospel is John 13:31-35 and we are reminded to “love one another”. Mother Hilda from the Abbey encourages us to “Trust”; Fr Dave Callaghan encouraged us to “Become What we Behold”; and Peter Gilmore, in his Living the Gospel God spot, reminds us that there are “Greater Things than I”. Our music as always is uplifting, vibrant and truly inspiring.



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

HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 18-30)

You are invited to Holy Hour in 2019 at St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral in Wollongong.

Each night will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, praise and worship (various styles), Reconciliation, Liturgy of the Word, short teachings, silence and benediction. This will be followed by fellowship and a meal.

When and where?

**Wednesday evenings 6.30pm–7.30pm
(followed by a meal)**

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL, WOLLONGONG:

10 July / 14 August / 9 October

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 or call us on 0418 783 956.**



My Dear People,

Friday 24 May this week marks the Solemn Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians under which title Australia is dedicated. The title has a long history, but the event which shines out most clearly took place on 7 October 1571. One of the greatest sea battles ever fought took place at Lepanto off the Greek coast in the Ionian Sea. Answering the call of Pope St Pius V, a small Christian fleet led by Don Juan of Austria successfully crushed the overpowering forces of Islam which threatened to engulf all of Catholic Europe. The victory was attributed to Our Lady Help of Christians through the recitation of the Rosary. In thanksgiving, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was instituted on 7 October.

The second great victory attributed to the intercession of Our Lady Help of Christians was in 1683 when the Turks attacked Vienna. It was Pope Innocent XI who recommended the Christian cause to Our Lady Help of Christians, and asked all Christendom to recite the Rosary. The battle for Vienna started on Our Lady's Birthday, 8 September, and in three days time on the Feast of Her Holy Name, 30,000 Christians had crushed the Turkish army of 200,000.

Untaught by the bitter lessons of those who had gone before him, Napoleon in turn was to burn his fingers on Mary's mantle. For five years he held Pope Pius VII prisoner, first at Savona and then at Fontainebleau, while the Church continually made intercession through the Rosary. When the Holy Father re-entered Rome on 24 May 1814, his first official act was to set aside that day in Rome as the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians.

One of the greatest advocates of this title of Our Lady was St John Bosco. Against all odds he built at Turin a magnificent Basilica in her honour in obedience to a vision he had in 1844. (The usual image we know of Our Lady Help of Christians is from that Basilica). It was in that same year that the first Provincial Synod of Bishops in Australia decreed Mary, Help of Christians to be Principal Patroness of this new country. It was a devotion brought here by Australia's pioneer priest, Fr John Therry.

Years ago a priest called Bossence dabbled successfully on the stock exchange and left three-quarters of a million pounds (an enormous amount then) for the building of a National Shrine in Canberra. Archbishop Cahill had plans drawn up. They were rejected as being unworthy of Canberra. The Government Architect redrew the plans — they were published in *The Catholic Weekly* — an octagonal church, so that you would see the same façade from wherever you were looking across the lake (where the present Archbishop's House is situated). A lantern tower would be seen for miles around.

In time, the cost increased, the Archbishop handed over the responsibility to the Bishops' Conference, who then finally gave the responsibility back to the Archbishop of Canberra. I told Bishop Murray that I would willingly go around Australia begging for money. He said I had more faith in the sheep than the shepherds did. I still think that this title of Our Lady will have little significance to Australians until there is a visible symbol — a national shrine.

Thursday evening's Mass will be a Vigil Mass for the Feast.



Mgr Graham Schmitzer

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Parish Priest