

# PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



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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

<b>Monday</b>	12 Aug	<b>St Jane Frances de Chantal</b> <u>Novena</u>	Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm Mass: 5.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	13 Aug	Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm <u>Novena</u>	Mass: 5.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	14 Aug	<b>St Maximilian Kolbe</b> Mass: 7am Vigil Mass of the Assumption: 7.30pm	
<b>Thursday</b>	15 Aug	<b>The Assumption</b> Mass: 9.30am <u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available) Mass: 5.30pm	
<b>Friday</b>	16 Aug	<b>St Stephen of Hungary</b> Mass: 9.30am	
<b>Saturday</b>	17 Aug	Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	
<b>Sunday</b>	18 Aug	<b>20th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Masses: 7am, 9am, 10.45am (Polish)	

## ASCEND CATHOLIC YOUTH

We're looking forward to seeing you all after the 6pm Mass on **Saturday 17 August 2019**

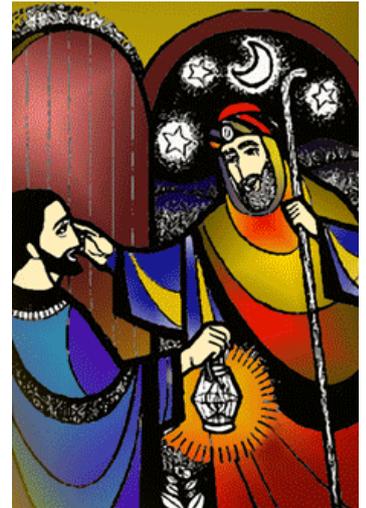


## 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C — 11 AUGUST 2019

**READINGS:** Wis 18:6-9; Heb 11:1-2,8-19; Luke 12:32-48

The FIRST READING comes from an extract recounting God's actions on behalf of Israel when He led them from Egypt. This fits in with the theme of the SECOND READING – faith in God's promises.

The GOSPEL's emphasis is on readiness for Jesus' return. The disciples are like bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom to return from the wedding feast. Since they do not know the exact hour, they must maintain a constant watchfulness and faithfulness.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### Anniversaries

Cardinal Edward CLANCY

Bonnie MILLER

Bernard GILLIS

Frank TOOHEY

Geoff GOODWIN

Geraldine DRIES



## ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

August	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 17 Aug	Church Cleaning	P & A Browne, W & S Brown	
	Lawns	Fernandez Family, M Walsh	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 17 Aug 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	M Gillis	B Farraway
Sun 18 Aug 7am Mass	A Michielin	M Walsh	L Harper
Sun 18 Aug 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	G De Battista	P De Battista
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
Children's Liturgy	L Galea, V Cleary		

## 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  
(except September due to it being Father's Day)

## CATECHISTS NEEDED

*Have you ever considered being a Catechist?*

We have over 150 Catholic children in the four state schools within our parish. The lessons are only 30 minutes each week, however the benefits to both Catechists and children are enormous.

Full support and training is provided to carry out this important apostolic work.

**For more details  
please contact  
Mary Carolan  
0423 385 448**



## Gospel Reflection

### Beatitudes of Life:

*Blessed are the faithful:  
they are like safe anchors  
in a world of broken moorings.*

*Blessed are the just:*

*they are to society  
what leaven is to bread.*

*Blessed are the generous:*

*they keep alive our faith  
in the essential goodness of people.*

*Blessed are the caring:*

*they shine like beacons in a world  
darkened by indifference.*

*Blessed are the genuine:*

*they glow like gems  
in a world of falseness.*

*Blessed are those who are  
not afraid of sacrifice:*

*on the day of the harvest  
they will sing for joy.*

*And blessed are those who  
refuse to look back:*

*they will be found worthy of  
the Kingdom of Heaven.*



## HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS (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.

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

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL, WOLLONGONG**  
**14 August and 9 October**



***“Bear in mind that we are only poor travellers, that our home is not here.”***

*St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1866)*

## LEADERSHIP FOR MISSION

### A Program for Young Catholic Women

A two-year graduate program for women aged 25-35 will be conducted again during 2020/2021. Over two years (four semesters) participants complete four units in theology through the Australian Catholic University, develop their sense of mission and participate in leadership and faith development activities.

The recruitment period runs through to 14 October 2019 and is looking at enrolling sixteen women from across Australia in the 2020/2021 program.

Information including application forms can be found at [www.leadership4mission.com.au](http://www.leadership4mission.com.au)

If more information is required, please contact Andrea Dean, via email at [director.opw@catholic.org.au](mailto:director.opw@catholic.org.au) or mobile 0487 388 873

## CATHFAMILY

CATHFAMILY brings you a selection of activities, prayer rituals, crafts and recipes for free from their website.

Don't miss CathKids: a weekly interactive experience with a two-minute animated reflection on the Sunday reading, questions to stimulate discussion, a simple activity and prayer. Families in the diocese are encouraged to utilise these resources at home to share faith with kids. Visit [cathfamily.org](http://cathfamily.org)



## LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT... AND SING!

The 2019 Australian Pastoral Musicians Conference, **1-3 October 2019**, Catholic

Leadership Centre, East Melbourne  
This conference is shaping up to be a great resource for parish and school musicians. Keynotes by Tony Alonso (GIA) and Diana MacAlintal (Liturgical Press and Team RCIA). There are more than forty breakout presentations. Full details are now available, and registration is now open. Early bird discounts available until 30 June. Visit [www.apmn.org.au](http://www.apmn.org.au)



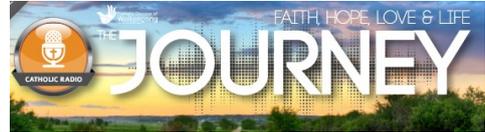
## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 2019 –

All your favourites will be on The Journey this week, together with some great Christian Music.

Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) to make sure you never miss a show, with it sent to you each week as a podcast via email – for free!

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



## 6-DAY RETREAT

**SIX FULL DAY GUIDED RETREAT SATURDAY  
23 NOVEMBER – SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2019**

HARTZER PARK, 25 ERIDGE PARK ROAD, BOWRAL  
Presenter: Fr Philip Malone MSC

Theme: Advent - A time of waiting and anticipation - a time to delight in the story of God, human and divine.

Fr Malone's refreshing approach to the season of waiting will help you explore and experience the rich truths we celebrate in faith during this time.

**Cost: \$650 per person (fully catered)**

The Retreat begins with the evening meal at 6pm on 23 November and concludes the morning of Saturday 30 November 2019.

**RSVP: 11 November 2019**

**Phone 4861 3223 or email [hartzprk@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hartzprk@bigpond.net.au)**

## WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN 2020?

### HOW ABOUT LIVING YOUR LIFE ON PURPOSE?

National Evangelisation Teams Australia (NET) do incredible work in Australia and around our Diocese, bringing other young people to an encounter with God's love. They are currently recruiting. If you are aged between 18-30 you are invited to save **Friday 11 October 2019** and join the NET team at the Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour Street Wollongong. Find out all about NET, why NETTERS are so happy, and why you should consider being part of their work in 2019. So, for a really good day, great company, interesting discussion, amazing worship, food for your belly, adoration and all the info you need on what NET is all about, then you should come to this Live Your Life On Purpose Retreat. You will leave with tools for discernment and enjoy a day well spent.

**Call the Wollongong NET Team on 0433 007 282 to book your spot or to have your questions answered.**

My Dear People,

Into this month falls the celebration of Our Lady's Assumption – one of the Church's great Feasts – a Solemnity preceded by a Vigil. Next year will mark 70 years since Venerable Pope Pius XII declared this an Article of Faith, a Dogma, which must be believed by those who profess their faith in Christ. At the time, 1950, the Orthodox showed great surprise – not that they did not believe in this, but that the Roman Church should suddenly highlight what Christians had believed from the earliest centuries.

Theologians from East and West had written about this doctrine which had been celebrated in Jerusalem from the fourth century. In Catholic England, King Alfred the Great had declared 15 August a national holiday (remembering that 'holiday' actually means 'holy day'). Long before 1950, 15 August was a Holy Day of Obligation, and we had meditated on this 'mystery' in praying the Rosary. In secular France, 15 August is still a public holiday (No one likes to lose a public holiday. What shall we do with the June long weekend when we become a Republic?).

It would seem that following the Second World War with its unprecedented wholesale destruction of human life, Pope Pius wished to highlight the beauty of the human body and its immortal destiny. The true meaning of Our Lady's Assumption bears this out.

In a homily he gave in 2010, Pope Benedict XVI pointed out that in this Feast we are not just admiring Mary. We are, in reality, reflecting on the eternal destiny of humankind. Benedict, a German, is a worthy successor of a fellow national, the late Fr Karl Rahner SJ who was one of the theological 'experts' at the Second Vatican Council. Like Rahner, Benedict was keen to delve into the 'meaning' of the Church's teachings – ie what do they say about human life itself? For if the Church is not helping us to understand our 'being', then it is actually saying nothing. And if the Church is wrong about its teaching on the Assumption (having made it a Dogma), then it is wrong on everything.

Long before the days of Vatican II, Pope Pius exercised a little collegiality. Before pronouncing the Definition, he wrote to all the Bishops of the world, asking them two questions: 1. Do your people believe in the mystery of Our Lady's Assumption; and 2. Do you agree that this should be solemnly defined?

There was unanimous agreement to the first question – and this is very important. If the universal Church was wrong on such a basic truth, then it would mean that Christ had deserted His Church. Only a few Bishops balked on the second question – not that they did not accept this teaching, only that they wondered whether it was necessary to proclaim a truth that everyone believed.

So what did Pope Pius actually say? Take this slowly – it is one long sentence: "The revered Mother of God, from all eternity joined in a hidden way with Jesus Christ in one and the same decree of predestination, immaculate in her conception, a most perfect virgin in her divine motherhood, the noble associate of the divine Redeemer who has won a complete triumph over sin and its consequences, finally obtained, as the supreme culmination of her privileges, that she should be preserved free from the corruption of the tomb and that, like her own Son, having overcome death, she might be taken up body and soul to the glory of Heaven where, as Queen, she sits in splendour at the right hand of her Son, the immortal King of the Ages." (Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*, 40, 1950).

In other words, our Faith proclaims that Mary, like Christ her Son, overcame death and is already triumphant in heavenly glory, in the totality of her being, "in body and soul". The Mother of God was so deeply integrated into Christ's mystery that at the end of her earthly life she already participated with her whole self in her Son's Resurrection. Faith is the key to Mary's greatness, as Elizabeth proclaimed. We are not to just admire Mary in her destiny. We are called to look at what God wants to do for us, too. We are to look at our final destiny. We exist because God loves us, because He conceived of us, because He called us to life. This means that not only a part of each of us will continue to exist, while other parts fall into ruin. On the contrary, it means that God knows and loves the whole of the human being – what we are. The whole of us, the whole of our life, is taken up by God and, purified in Him, receives eternity.

It is a truth which should fill us with joy. Nothing that is precious and dear to us in this world will be eliminated. "Why, every hair on your head is counted," said Jesus (Matthew 10:30). 15 August's Feast calls us to understand how precious in God's eyes is the whole of our life. We are a people who work to build a world open to God, a people full of joy because we can already glimpse the future.



*Mgr Graham Schmitzer*

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**Parish Priest**