

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48-50 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526

www.unanderraparish.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Duane Fernandez
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Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
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Mobile: 0421 463 871

Parish School: St Pius X Primary School
Cnr Hargreaves & Cummins Streets
(PO Box 358) Unanderra NSW 2526
Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

School Principal: Mrs Pauline Chrostowski

Parish Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon)
Mrs Sue Briscoe (Wed/Thu/Fri)

Parish Office: Mon: 8.30am–3pm (Magda)
Wed/Thu: 8.30am–1.30pm (Sue)
Fri: 9.30am–2.30pm (Sue)
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A

SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2020

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 2 March	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 3 March	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 4 March	Mass: 9.30am	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 5 March	Mass: 11am (<i>Polish</i>) Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Friday 6 March	Mass: 7am Stations of the Cross: 7pm	Mass: 9.30am Stations of the Cross: 5pm
Saturday 7 March	Rosary: 7.10am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 8 March 2nd Sunday of Lent	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Dereck CONROY
Antonia MARCIANO

Anniversaries

Michael WILLESEE John William BRAME
Scott DUNSTAN Rev Father McGOVERN
Robyn Ann PETITH



OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office
will be CLOSED on
Mon 2 March — it
will reopen at 8.30am
on Wed 4 March

Message from Fr Duane

The Diocesan "Rite of Election" takes place this Sunday 1 March 2020 at 2pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, 36 Harbour Street Wollongong. This is the annual welcome and celebration of the journey of many adults who have begun preparation to join our Catholic faith. This year we have six adults from West Wollongong and Unanderra Parishes who will take part. It would be wonderful to see many parishioners from both our parishes joining Bishop Brian, myself and others from the Diocese at this liturgy (not a Mass) to celebrate and support these members of our community, as they look forward to receiving their Sacraments with us at the Easter Vigil. Let's keep them in our prayers! Also, this weekend we welcome Vietnamese seminarian James Tran. He will be staying with us for 3 months, to experience the Australian Church and culture and continue to discern his vocation. Please contact the parish office if you would like to have him come over for a meal, or if you may be able to occasionally help with transport.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 7 Mar	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 7 Mar	Lawns		
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 7 Mar 6pm Mass	G Attard	L Milan	C Dean
Sun 8 Mar 8am Mass	M Walsh, L Burns	K Calvert	Z & A Calvert
Counters	A Gunning, M Cauduro, C Garrett		
Children's Liturgy	K Hertsch, C Hailstone		



PARISH MORNING TEA

Morning Tea will be served in St Joseph's Room after 8am Mass this Sunday 1 March 2020. Everyone is welcome. Come along and join us for a cuppa and a chat. (Hostesses: Fiona F, Fiona C & Vera)

LUNCH AT WESTS LAST WEEK

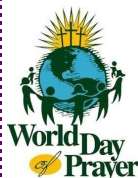
What a gathering! Thank you to all who gathered at Wests for lunch last week. Each person added to the beautiful mosaic of the group. It was wonderful to put names to faces and have the opportunity to converse in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. Thank you for being there.

Congratulations to **Helen Murphy** who has received her Commissioning Certificate from Bishop Brian Mascord. Helen is now recognised as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist and very generously gives of her time to minister to the frail in our nursing homes.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Every year, the service for the World Day of Prayer is held on the first Friday in March. This is an ecumenical service and all the churches in the district join together to pray. This year we are praying for the country of Zimbabwe.



The service will be held on **Friday 6 March 2020** at 10am at Keiraview Uniting Church 34 Fisher Street West Wollongong

Everyone is welcome to participate in the service and join us afterwards for refreshments.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is holding the first of a monthly gathering to be held in the St Joseph's room at the rear of the Immaculate Conception Church in Unanderra.

Date: Friday 13 March 2020

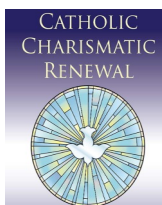
Time: 7.30pm to 9pm

Theme: "God's Healing Love"

An evening of Praise & Worship

A sharing on the Theme of "God's Healing Love"

Prayer Ministry **For more info: 0413 126 095**



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:

Mark Walsh (PPC President)

Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com

0407 604 498

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

Uniting Nursing Home FarmHts:

3rd Friday of the month - 9.30am

Refreshments after the 8am Mass on the first Sunday of each month in St Joseph's Meeting Room (Unanderra)

HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 17 AND OVER)

The first gathering for the year will be this **Wednesday 4 March 2020** at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral from **6.30pm to 8.30pm**, and then the first Wednesday of every month for 2020. Join Fr Duane for Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Scripture, teaching, music (various styles), and quiet time for reflection. The prayer time is followed by food and fellowship with other young adults.

IRON YOUTH GROUP

(Ages 14 to 18 years old)

If you are aged 14-18 years old or if you know someone in this age bracket, please invite them along to our Youth Group on

Fridays every fortnight. We meet at

St Therese West Wollongong School hall from **7pm-9pm**. Our next Iron Youth Group

is on **Friday 13 March** and please bring a gold coin donation for supper. Bring a

positive attitude as we have a lot of fun, plus it is one of the best places to make life long friends and grow closer to God. If you have any questions please email

ironyouthgroup1@gmail.com or call **Rachel on 0401 019 851**.



Youth Group



ASCEND CATHOLIC YOUTH

Come and join us... at 7pm after **6pm Mass on Saturday 7 March 2020** in St Joseph's room at Immaculate Conception Parish Unanderra (and the first Saturday of every month). New Members (**Years 6-9**) are always welcome! A gold coin donation to cover dinner would be much appreciated! For more info, please email **ascendcatholicyouth@gmail.com**

PARISH WORKING BEE

Saturday 14 March 2020 — from 8am

Come and have fun at the next Unanderra Parish Working Bee — everyone is invited! Come and have a fun morning while helping out at our parish. At the last Working Bee in November, everybody gardened and socialised, found new friends, and generally made our church grounds so much better.



The next Working Bee is scheduled for Saturday 14 March from 8am, for just a few hours, and this time we will spruce up the church courtyard, the gardens around our church, and Sister Kerry's garden. No skill is required, just turn up and join in with others in small groups. Someone will know what to do, but please wear sensible clothes, shoes and a hat. Bottles of water and gloves will be on hand so that we stay safe and hydrated.

If you have skills, we are painting a section of our church interior, which badly needs attention, and we are starting to address some of our leaking roof issues.

If you can't make it, but want to help, please donate towards the cost of roofing materials of about \$500. Simply place an envelope marked "Roof Repair" in the second collection, or send it to the office. **For further information, please contact Wayne Rodgers on 0402 026 310, or ask a member of the PFC.**

RELICS OF ST THERESE OF LISIEUX



The relics of St Therese and her parents — Sts Louis and Zelig Martin — are coming to our Parishes on the weekend of 21-22 March 2020. They arrive for veneration at Unanderra on Saturday 21 March at 4.30pm, and stay until 8.30pm (including the 6pm Mass). They will then go directly to West Wollongong — the only Parish dedicated to St Therese in the Wollongong Diocese — for an all-night prayer vigil. The 10am Mass on the Sunday will be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, and the relics will leave St Therese Church at midday.

ACIES CEREMONY

Acies Ceremony - Legion of Mary Immaculate Heart of Mary, Wollongong Curia
Sunday 22 March 2020 at 2pm



Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Unanderra Parish, Princes Highway, Unanderra
Celebrant: The Most Rev Bishop Brian Mascord DD
together with priests of the Diocese of Wollongong

A DAY WITH CENTERING PRAYER

Jamberoo Abbey

Saturday 7 March 2020 - 10am - 3.30pm
(Mass beforehand at 9am is optional)

\$30 (morning tea and tea/coffee provided — please BYO lunch). To consent to the presence and action of the indwelling God is the orientation of heart we cultivate in the practice of centering prayer. This practical retreat will explore the 'HOW' of centering prayer as well as introducing the 'WHAT'. It is for beginners as well as those who have practised for some time. Please see the flyer on the noticeboard near the church side door.



LENTEN PROGRAMMES

On sale — located on the middle pew of the church — \$5.00



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please collect your 2020 Planned Giving Envelopes that start today, Sunday 1 March — located near side door of the church.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME — AIRS SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2020 —

This week on the Journey we have Week 1 of Lent for you! The Gospel read by Bishop Brian; reflections by Fr Chris Sarkis and Sr Anastasia Reeves; Mother Hilda Scott with a terrific talk on Fasting; and you'll also hear from Torrien Lau from Men Alive ministry.

Tune in to **LIFE 101.9** or **98.5** or go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au to ensure 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 or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen any time and subscribe to weekly shows via email



PROJECT COMPASSION

Shirley, 36, is an indigenous Manide woman living in a remote province in the Philippines. Shirley was struggling to support her family and keep their children in school. She faced regular discrimination and disadvantage, limiting her family's access to food, education, employment and healthcare. With Caritas Australia's support, Shirley trained to become an indigenous health worker. She has learnt to supplement her income and is able to feed her family. The program has also empowered Shirley to send her children to school. Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help people like Shirley, and her children gain confidence and respect within their community.

Let's Go Further, Together — when we Go Further Together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Project Compassion boxes and/or envelopes (located near side door of church), or by visiting

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion
or phoning 1800 024 413



WHY WE'RE CATHOLIC

A Presentation by Trent Horn

Sunday 8 March 2020 — 6.30pm-8.30pm

Xavier Conference Centre, 38 Harbour Street Wollongong

Why are you Catholic? Trent Horn, international Catholic Speaker, shares his conversion story and explains how the grace of God guided him through the biblical and historical evidence and led him to faith in Jesus Christ and the Church he founded. Come along and engage with this powerful speaker from Catholic Answers. Join us for **Mass at 5pm** followed by a light supper at 6pm before the presentation at 6.30pm (See the poster on the noticeboard near side door of the church).

SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

20-22 March 2020

Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops

ANointed — You're invited ...

to draw aside and encounter a God who loves you beyond measure. Join women from around Australia and the Diocese of Wollongong for this inspiring conference.

(See poster on noticeboard or flyers near side door of the church)

To Book: www.trybooking.com/BFQZP



JOINT PARISHES SOCIAL GATHERING

It's on again ... the first joint gathering with parishioners from both Immaculate Conception and St Therese in November was such a great success, we're doing it again!

Friday 6 March 2020 at 6pm

Venue — Figgy Bowlo

All welcome — including the kids!

Please RSVP by 12noon Thur 5 March
to Sue Briscoe in the Parish Office:
unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068



SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2020 — FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

First Reading — Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 — *Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm — *Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

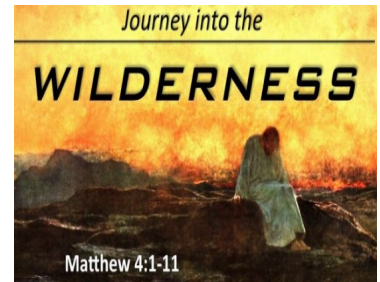
1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done.
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

R.

R.

R.

R.



Second Reading — St Paul to the Romans 5:12-19 — *Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation — Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel — Matthew 4:1-11 — *Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 12 noon (second and fourth Sunday of each month only)

Second Sunday of the Month — **West Wollongong**

Fourth Sunday of the Month — **Unanderra**

(Please see Fr Duane after Mass for a form — Minimum of one month's notice is required)

MARRIAGES / FUNERALS / ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By appointment only — please contact Fr Duane

(Minimum of six months' notice is required for weddings — No Sunday weddings)

PARISH SICK LIST

If you would like to include your loved ones' names on our Sick List —
please email the Parish office at unanderra@dow.org.au or telephone **4271 1068**