

# PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

[www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/](https://www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/)



**Parish Priest:** Fr Duane Fernandez  
Email: [Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au](mailto:Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au)  
Mobile: 0414 626 357

**Polish Chaplain:** Fr Jerzy Slowinski  
Email: [slowinski54@gmail.com](mailto:slowinski54@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 0410 225 975

**Parish Assistant:** Sr Kerry Gardiner  
Email: [Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au](mailto:Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au)  
Mobile: 0421 463 871

**Parish Pastoral Council President:** Mark Walsh  
Email: [Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com](mailto:Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com)  
Mobile: 0407 604 498

**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/Thu)  
Mrs Melissa Bridges (Wed/Fri)

**Parish Office:** Email: [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)  
Website: [www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)  
Phone: 4271 1068  
Fax: 4271 1298

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 27 JUNE 2021

**Parish Vision—We are a diverse community united by our love for Jesus and for one another, constantly seeking to grow in this love especially through the Eucharist. We welcome everyone and help each other to discover their unique gifts, joyfully working together as one to bring the overflowing love of Jesus to all people.**

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 28 June <i>St Irenaeus</i>	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 29 June <i>Sts Peter and Paul, apostles</i>	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 30 June	Mass: 9.30am	Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 1 July	Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Friday 2 July	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Saturday 3 July <i>St Thomas, apostle</i>	Rosary: 7.10am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 4 July	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

Maleea McFadden Olga Hough

#### Anniversaries

Pilar Villanueva, Fr Peter Little (RSJ), Jack Grant  
Warren Yates, Marie Dawson, Launa Wall  
John Nissen, Fr Georg Ratzinger, Ron Daniels  
Andre Van der Linden, Fr Doug Rhiensburger  
Jason Mou, Nelson Meez, Jacob Smith

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

[unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au) / 4271 1068

Monday: 8:30am-3pm (Magda)  
Tuesday: Closed  
Wednesday: 8:30am-1:30pm (Melissa)  
Thursday: 8:30am-3pm (Magda)  
Friday: 8:30am-1:30pm (Melissa)

# Messages from Fr Duane

Once again, the 4 square metre rule challenge places significant obstacles for our parish community. I thank the Parish Pastoral Councils of both Immaculate Conception and St Therese parishes (ICAST) who, while still driving the Parish Renewal program for both parishes, were also generous enough to come together at very short notice for a Zoom meeting to discuss the best response to the new restrictions. The details of the ICAST Pastoral Council meeting outcomes are contained in the bulletin notices and were emailed to all on our mailing list on Thursday.

I cannot emphasize enough the need for us to co-operate patiently and charitably with one another during this time, especially with our wonderful monitors who have a very difficult job at this time. As our parishes have done ever since Covid began, let's respond to these challenges by giving more of ourselves to God and each other. And if it does eventuate, in spite of our best efforts, that anyone is not able to enter the church doors due to the legal capacity limit, we are very sorry for the inconvenience and are extremely grateful for your understanding and patience at this time.

## ANNUAL LEAVE

I understand that it is a complicated time for me to go on annual leave with the new Covid challenges. However it is not easy to organize supply priests for 2 parishes for successive weeks, and it is now three years since my last real annual leave (since 2 years ago my leave was interrupted by taking on Unanderra parish, and I took no annual leave last year). As such, as many have advised me to do, I am proceeding with my leave as planned. It is much easier to do so knowing that there are so many capable, trustworthy and dedicated leaders in both parishes.

I thank Fr Paul Gurr and Fr Peter Gardiner for celebrating our weekend Masses for this next 4 weekends, Fr Jerzy for celebrating the weekday Masses in both parishes, and Fr George, hospital chaplain, for agreeing to respond to any sick calls in my absence. Note: there is only one change to the weekday timetable at St Therese during this coming 4 weeks: no Eucharistic adoration or Reconciliation on Wednesdays. Fr Jerzy will hear confessions at St Therese from 9:30am to 10:30am as normal, until I return on Saturday 24th July. Unanderra timetable remains unchanged.

For all pastoral needs, your first contact in my absence will be **Sister Kerry Gardiner – 0421 463 871; [kerry.gardiner@sosj.org.au](mailto:kerry.gardiner@sosj.org.au)**. Thanks to Sister Kerry who is already a pastoral leader in so many ways in our parish, and also to all the other parishioners who are stepping up to take on more work in my absence. Be assured of my prayers during my leave, and I look forward to seeing you all again, hopefully refreshed and more effective in serving you!

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL – DECISION REGARDING 7 GRACE ST UNANDERRA

Until recently this property had been rented to an elderly parishioner. This parishioner has moved, and the Parish Finance Council (PFC) has discerned the best course of action moving forward. After carefully assessing all possibilities, it was unanimously agreed to sell the property as soon as possible. The main reasons for this decision are as follows:

The annual Parish audit report observed challenges regarding the ongoing sustainability of the parish finances on several occasions, based on the relatively low cash reserves, and has recommended consideration of the sale of the property. This is even more pertinent given financial uncertainty relating to Covid

MMJ (the property managers) have estimated that \$100,000 is required to make the property fit for rental. The Parish finances have other significant demands, especially in relation to significant maintenance costs for the church, as well as of the presbytery and 3 Grace St (Sister Kerry's residence) – repairs which are not currently funded through recurring cash-flow

The PFC recommend selling 'as is' to limit the Parish's exposure to funding repair works that may not be realized in terms of an increase in the sale price

Note - the point relating to loan repayments in last week's notices created some confusion. The present loan repayments do not relate to 7 Grace St, but other work on the church in recent times. Nevertheless sale of this property will save thousands of dollars in interest on these loan repayments in coming years, in addition to the decisive reasons mentioned above. If anyone has any further questions, comments or feedback, please contact Henry Fernandez, secretary of the Parish Finance Council on [henryffernandez@outlook.com](mailto:henryffernandez@outlook.com) and once again I thank the Parish Finance Council for their dedication and commitment in ensuring faithful stewardship of the Parish sources

**Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest**

## ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

	<b>Church Washing</b>	Fiona Fernandez
<b>Sun 4 July</b>	<b>Counting</b>	M Murphy(FH), C Stratton, M Winner
<b>Sat 3 July</b>	<b>Church Cleaning</b>	J Allen, J Haywood, L Salway
	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Lawns — Sat 3 July</b>
<b>Sat 3 July 6pm Mass</b>	D Ferrer	No Lawn mowing this week
<b>Sun 4 July 8am Mass</b>	A Browne	

## ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:  
please contact



**Fr Duane Fernandez - 0414 626 357**  
**[duane.fernandez@dow.org.au](mailto:duane.fernandez@dow.org.au)**  
**Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871**  
**[Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au](mailto:Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au)**

## NEXT ADULT EDUCATION EVENING – 1 JULY 2021

Come along & enjoy watching a video each Thursday evening for 10 weeks, presented by Bishop Robert Barron on aspects of Catholicism, starting at 7pm sharp in the St Joseph's room. At the beginning of each evening a light meal will be provided followed by a video to watch and ending with discussion on the video.

**Registration is essential.**

**This week's topic: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church**

For further information contact Mark on 0407 604 498 or Josephine on 0425 236 214.

## REFLECTIONS FROM SR KERRY – PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

Through the example of Joseph may we grow in courage and determination to help the stranger, the poor and needy, the suffering and the dying. Amen.



## VOCATION NEWS



Many people need a healing touch. Open your heart to the possibility that God may choose you to be a healing touch as a priest, sister, or brother. (Mark 5:21-43) If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr

Duane Fernandez at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

## ST MARY'S SENIOR ENROLMENTS

Thinking about a change of high school for Years 11 & 12? St Mary's is now enrolling for Senior College in 2022. Come to the **Subject Selection Information Evening on 20 July 2021** from 6pm in the SGN Hall, 15 Harbour St, Wollongong and talk to staff and students about the many courses we offer. You could also apply for a St Mary's Senior Academic Scholarship.

Application forms available online at [www.stmarys.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stmarys.nsw.edu.au)

## THE CHOSEN - A TV SERIES ABOUT JESUS

The Chosen is a new 'free to view', television program that creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality and is receiving acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen> to watch

## ST THERESE LIVE STREAMED MASS

The 5pm St Therese Mass will **not** be live streamed during the coming weeks as some volunteers are no longer available, and we are looking to simplify our technology during this time. We thank the wonderful volunteers from the live stream Team for their dedication since Covid began.

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 27 JUNE 2021 –

On the Journey this week: Fr John Paul Escarlan (Parramatta diocese) says Jairus' daughter's story is especially comforting during the COVID pandemic, as Jesus strongly invites us – do not be afraid, only have faith. Mother Hilda says we find God in our isolation, rejection, failures, & our pain. Listen at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au)



## WALKING GROUP

Our next walk will be on **Friday 2 July**. We will gather at the shops on Derribong Drive Cordeaux Heights at 9.30am. There is plenty of parking. We will walk up Cordeaux Road to Mount Kembla. After the walk, everyone is invited to enjoy morning tea together at the Cordeaux Cafe. If you are unable to join us for the walk, you may like to join us for morning tea around 11.00am.

**Everyone is welcome to join us. Hope to see you there.**



## SILVER CIRCLE

Results for 21 June 2021

1st Prize: S Brown

2nd Prize: A Sharwood

## SAVE OUR GRAVES ONLINE PETITION

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has recently launched a **Save Our Graves online petition** to put pressure on the NSW Government to reverse its decision to exclude faith and charitable groups from the management of cemeteries in NSW that operate on Crown land.

The government's decision is a serious attack on religious freedom and raises significant questions as to the appropriateness of handing over the management of cemeteries to a bureaucracy that has no experience in providing comfort to grieving families or the management of burial grounds.

An online petition page has been established at [www.saveourgraves.com.au](http://www.saveourgraves.com.au) and you are encouraged to sign this petition and circulate it to family and friends in NSW.

## 2021 SIGNIFICANT MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS

If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50 or 60 years of marriage this year and would like an invitation to the Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow on Sunday, **8 August 2021 at 2pm**, please contact Helen Bennett 4222 2403 or email [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) at the Office of the Bishop by Friday 2 July and an invitation will be sent to you.

## 27 JUNE 2021 — THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

### First Reading — Wisdom 1:13-15,2:23-24

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.  
To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them,  
in them no fatal poison can be found,  
and Hades holds no power on earth; for virtue is undying.  
Yet God did make man imperishable, he made him in the image of his own nature;  
it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world, as those who are his partners will discover.

### Responsorial Psalm — I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. R.
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name.  
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.  
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. R.
3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help.  
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing:  
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. R.

### Second Reading — 2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the Gospel. Alleluia!

### Gospel — Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.