

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au

www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/



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Parish Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon/Thu)
Mrs Melissa Bridges (Wed/Fri)

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 18 JULY 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.

ALL MASSES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Reflections with Fr Thornhill

Last Sunday we heard Mark's account of the Twelve sent out to share in the Saviour's mission. Today we have the aftermath described in vivid detail. As they rejoin Jesus, they are full of stories as they share the experience of their missionary journeys. We glimpse the openness and hospitality of the band Jesus gathered around him – 'there were so many people coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat'. Jesus suggests they cross the water to a 'lonely place' where they can 'rest for a while'. Now he will teach them how to find the interior strength that comes from reflection and contemplation. The scene Mark describes, as Jesus and his disciples arrive at their destination, is a memorable one. The crowd has heard of their coming and awaits them. Hungry for what Jesus has to give them, they 'were like sheep without a shepherd'. So he changed his plans and 'set himself to teach them at some length'.

During the Easter season we were reminded that the Risen One is 'the good shepherd'. On Good Shepherd Sunday, however, our image was the familiar iconic figure, bringing back the lost sheep on his shoulders. Today we have a down-to-earth image. People weighed down by life's daily problems are looking to Jesus to renew the vision of hope he has given them in the past. He changes his plans and responds to their need. He has another important lesson for the Twelve – the love for struggling humanity that he shares with his Father. He knows no limit or holding back. He wants his disciples to be one with him in this love if they are to be companions in his mission.

The prophet Jeremiah gives expression to old Israel's faith and hope, as it looks forward to the 'virtuous Branch' of the house of David - the messiah who would bring fulfilment to all Israel's immense hopes. Jeremiah saw the Babylonians bring ruin to Jerusalem, because the 'shepherds' who should have cared for the people were deaf to his message. Now, he declares, God's people must look forward to the promised messiah, the 'true and wise king' who – as his name indicates – will express the Lord's own 'integrity' as he cares for them.

In our reading from the letter to the Ephesians, the teaching of Paul again makes a dramatic shift to the time of fulfilment. What the prophet looked forward to, what Jesus promised as he gave hope to the people and instructed his disciples, has been realised in the Paschal Mystery. God's final achievement, through the power of the Saviour's resurrection, has many aspects. This passage celebrates the Paschal Mystery as bringing the peace and reconciliation in which the apparently insurmountable barriers that divide the human family are overcome: 'by the blood of Christ' those who were estranged and hostile to one another have been brought together. Paul's teaching is profound. The Saviour 'in his own person has destroyed the hostility'. In his Paschal Mystery he has identified with struggling humanity that we may be taken into a sharing in his resurrection triumph. God's project, so long frustrated, has now been gloriously successful, in the 'New Man', the 'Last Adam' (1 Cor 15:45). Through the Risen Lord, our disrupted human family has 'in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father'.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Elizabeth Timar, Kathleen Lake
Bill McKechnie, Marcel Fernandez

Anniversaries

Helen Smolenaars, Mary Louise Stubbs,
Magret Amelia Weldon
Molly Mary Swift

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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)

Message from Sr Kerry

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Immaculate Conception Parish Unanderra,

I hope you aren't like me, but I suspect many of you may be! I opened up the readings for the liturgy this weekend. I came to the Responsorial Psalm and I dismissed it. It isn't that I don't like the psalm. Actually, I love this psalm. My difficulty is, familiarity breeds contempt. I found I just skipped over that. Fortunately, I realised what I had done and I went back to sit with the psalm.

Again, I hope you aren't like me, but I again suspect many of you may be! Have you ever been angry with God? I certainly have and it isn't a nice cosy warm feeling.

I recalled the last time I was feeling very angry with God. God was getting the blame for everything and anything! I decided I needed to sit with God and sort this out. I told God what I thought and felt. I told God of my mixed emotions. I told God I didn't like how I was feeling. I even asked what it was all about. It wasn't a nice space to be in. Recalling that feeling and the things that lead me to feel angry with God took me back to the psalm The Lord is my Shepherd.

I needed comforting so I googled the psalm. I came upon the attached clip. It certainly shook me out of the anger. As I watched and prayed the clip the word TRUST stood out for me. I decided it was okay to be angry with God, but I needed to take it further and to trust that God did have it all in hand.

How is life for you at the moment? Do you need reassurance? Comfort? That extra little push? If so, may I suggest you too sit with the clip and allow God to speak to you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN4tPkXOMG0>

As we journey this week remember that we can be a shepherd to those around us. We too need shepherding and at other times to be the shepherd. You have all you need. Just trust!

With you in prayer and always with my blessings,

Sr Kerry Gardiner

LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Links to live-streamed and recorded Masses are as follows:

Mass for you at home: <https://massforyou.com.au/>



There is a livestream Mass from St Francis Xavier Cathedral. This is 10:30am Sunday and 12:10pm Tuesday to Friday and is available afterwards. This can be found on: <https://livestream.lumenchristi.org.au/>

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

	Church Washing	
Sun	Counting	
Sat	Church Cleaning	
	Lectors	Lawns —
Sat 6pm Mass		No Lawn mowing this week
Sun 8am Mass		

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:
please contact



Fr Duane Fernandez - 0414 626 357

duane.fernandez@dow.org.au

Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871

Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au

NEXT ADULT EDUCATION EVENING – DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

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.

Next topic: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church

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

POSITION VACANT

**Executive Assistant – Welcoming and Information |
Catholic Diocese of Wollongong**

Suitably experienced and qualified persons are encouraged to apply for the role of Executive Assistant – Welcoming and Information in the Diocese of Wollongong. For more information and a detailed role description, please go to www.dow.org.au/jobs

Any enquiries please contact Helen Bennett

0407 438 434 or email recruitment@dow.org.au

VOCATION NEWS



So many people with needs, so little time. If you make time for prayer, God will help you with the rest. (Mark 6:30-34). If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au

ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: Today, Aid to the Church in Need continues to ensure that spiritual aid and pastoral care reaches areas of need. ACN ensures that tyranny of distance or harsh terrain does not stand in the way of the spiritual life of the Catholic people. Every year we will finance some 400 cars, 200 motorcycles, 300 bicycles and a couple of boats. Visit www.aidtochurch.org/transport.

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 18 JULY 2021 –

On the Journey this week: Fr Christopher del Rosario (Parramatta Diocese) says that Jesus, as the good shepherd, is concerned not just for his flock but also for those who do his work. Mother Hilda has a Cardinal Basil Hume story. Francine Pirola explains the difference between forgiveness & reconciliation. Fr Dave Callaghan says most people seem to have a fantasy image of what heaven will be like and he reminds us that God is heaven. Listen at jcr.org.au



SENIOR'S LUNCH - POSTPONED UNTIL AUGUST

West Wollongong Parish have organised a lunch for Seniors which will be held at the Figtree Sports Club. Catholic Care have been invited to attend and to give a presentation on Aged Care Services within the area. There will be an opportunity over lunch to ask any questions you may have.

Bookings are essential—new date to be advised.

Contact **Barry Duggan 0411 236 616**

Email: barryjohnduggan@gmail.com or

John Driscoll 0419 405 681

Email: jedriscoll188@gmail.com

SILVER CIRCLE

Results for 12 July 2021

1st Prize: J Lonard

2nd Prize: J Luke

GO DEEPER IN FAITH! FREE 6-WEEK COURSE IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Online Delivery via Zoom

This course is designed for any Catholic who is looking to discover more about their Catholic Faith will now be run online using Zoom.

The course will be delivered over six consecutive Mondays OR Fridays, we will explore the following six topics with six great guest speakers:

- Morality: Life in the Spirit (Mr Seth Harsh)
- Church: Mission of the Holy Spirit (Sr Susanna Edmunds OP)
- Christ: Heart of Catechesis (Fr Bernard Gordon VG)
- Creation: Work of the Trinity (Sr Bernadette Toohey MGL)
- Reconciliation: Forgiveness of Sins, Healing (Sr Katherine Stone MGL)
- Communion: Eucharist - Source & Summit (Mr Seth Harsh)

Now opened it up to all interested people. There are two opportunities to attend:

Mondays: Commencing Monday 19 July 9:30am-1:30pm
(Dates: July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23)

Fridays: Commencing Friday 23 July 9:30am-1:30pm
(Dates: July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 20, 27)

If you would like to attend please register by clicking [here](#)
If you have already registered, you will receive a link in your email shortly.

18 JULY 2021 — SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

First Reading — Jeremiah 23:1-6

Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land.

In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence.

And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. R.
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. R.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. R.
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. R.

Second Reading — Ephesians 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel — Mark 6:30-34

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.