

# 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 Secretary:** Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/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

## TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 17 OCT 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.**

### *Message from Fr Duane*

There is plenty for you to read this week! Firstly please find attached a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Brian on the Diocesan Response to the Pope's call to a 7 year *Laudato Si'* "action platform". Echoing his predecessors, Pope Francis is reminding the Church of the urgency to care for creation. It is only right after all that we, who know God as our loving Creator and Creator of all things, be leaders in responding to the environmental crises before us. We will be hearing more and planning more as parishes throughout this 7 year journey.

The Office of the Bishop has published the Covid-19 "Roadmap for the Diocese of Wollongong", entitled "The Church is the People of God" (attached). Note, while strongly encouraging all parishioners to get vaccinated (in consultation with your GP), the decision has been made that the churches of our Diocese will wait until all are able to worship – meaning "Stage 2" (80% vaccination). The reasons for this decision include the principle that worship of God should exclude no one (while maintaining appropriate safety for all), as well as the practical impossibility of expecting volunteer monitors to police a "vaccinated only" rule. As such we wait an extra two weeks, when the experts have deemed it safe for places of worship to open for all (with the 4 square metre rule and other safety measures in place). The Parish Pastoral Councils of Immaculate Conception and St Therese (ICAST) will meet together (via Zoom) on Tuesday 19th October to finalize details for our two parishes and we will be in touch with everyone in our liturgical ministry rosters after that meeting.

Finally, the Immaculate Conception Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has been meeting via Zoom during lockdown, and has begun a new initiative of publishing an update on PPC plans after each meeting – the first of which was shared in last week's bulletin. Stay tuned for more details next weekend on our "reopening" plans, and I very much look forward to seeing you all again in our churches soon!

**Fr Duane Fernandez—Parish Priest**

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

Vita Barbagallo, Margaret Harris  
Noel Smith, Evelyn Ryan

#### Anniversaries

Lawrence Moloney, Maisie Dredge  
Helen Milway, Shirley Steele,  
Tommy McNally, Judith Salway



### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Monday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 8:30am-3pm

# Message from Sr Kerry

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Immaculate Conception Parish Unanderra,

Fr Greg Boyle SJ really captures my attention because of his amazing ministry. [I suggest you may like to google him.] Fr Greg is an American Jesuit priest who has spent more than thirty years of his priestly life working with gang members who wish to change their lifestyle. Reading his books brings tears to the eyes. Hearing the stories of those he works with is way beyond my comprehension in that I ask how on earth are these people still standing?

As I reflected on the Gospel for today, I thought of Fr Greg. I also thought of my friend, Sergio. Sergio is a former gang member who has lived a tragic life, but with Fr Greg's assistance, Sergio is the most amazing person now doing so much good for himself, his family and society.

In the gospel we have the words, 'Teacher, we want you to do whatever we ask of you.' I thought, how many of us are like that when we are at prayer? We think we know what we need, and we definitely know what we would like! I am challenged by Fr Greg when he says, 'How much greater is the God we have, than the one we think we have.'

My friend Sergio writes regularly. He once ended his email with 'Rest in God resting in you.'



For this week are we able to leave our agenda aside of I want this, and I want that? Are you able to imagine your God who is much greater than you could ever dream? Are you able to take Sergio's words and rest in that God resting in you? A challenge and we certainly need the ability to let go.....but let's try!

Always with my blessings and prayers,

**Sr Kerry Gardiner**

## LIVE STREAMED MASSES



Sunday 5pm Mass at West Wollongong with Fr Duane continues to be live-streamed every week:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ICASTImmaculateConceptionStThereseParishes>



**MASS  
FOR YOU**  
*at home*

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

## ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

	Church Washing	
Sun	Counting	
Sat	Church Cleaning	
	Lectors	Lawns — 23 October
Sat 6pm Mass		No 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**

## SYNOD OF BISHOPS



On **Sunday, October 17**, dioceses around the world will launch local preparations for the Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: **“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”**.

The Catholic Church in Australia will invite the People of God to make submissions via an online portal that will open on October 17. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at: <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> Prayer for the Synod can be found [here](#)

## VOCATION NEWS

Whoever wants to be great must serve others. Who are the ones you consider “great?” What can you do to carry on their legacy? (Mark 10:35-45) .

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)



## PLENARY COUNCIL – WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

With the conclusion of the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, the members approved a concluding statement sharing the fruits of the first assembly and looking forward to nine months of **“prayer, reflection, maturation and development”** leading up to the second assembly. Please find attached a media release and a copy of the [concluding statement](#).

The Journey podcast compiled a series of insightful interviews at the conclusion of each day of the assembly that can be accessed at [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenarypodcast/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenarypodcast/)

## PRAYER SEMINARS

Register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>. Please register before the day of the seminar, to ensure you receive your zoom link on time.

Next **Tuesday, 19 October**, Sr Magdalen Mather OSB will lead us on a Benedictine Path to Prayer, live from The Abbey. Come and explore the contemplative way of living prayer that is built on the belief **“that the divine presence is everywhere”** (Rule of St Benedict Ch. 19.1).

## ONLINE YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

CYMW are hosting an online Bible Study for all young adults **aged 17-35** throughout the Wollongong Diocese. Bring your bible and your favourite snack as we journey through scripture together... over zoom!

**Every Tuesday night. 7PM-8PM.**

Check out @cymdow on Instagram or Facebook for more information or email [youth@dow.org.au](mailto:youth@dow.org.au)

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 17 OCTOBER 2021 –

On the Journey this week: Fr Joseph Murphy says we’re called to be servant, going against the logic of the world and its ideals of bigger is better – reputation, possessions, money, ego. Mother Hilda has a personal story of misunderstanding, Michelle Vass calls us to walk in nature, to slow down, listen, stay awhile, go easy and be open and free, and Byron & Francine Pirola say genuine commitment pays dividends in spiritual growth, relational stability, personal integrity, and self-respect. Listen at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au)



## DID YOU KNOW?

Sr Kerry will be the outright winner for all prizes in the Melbourne Cup Sweep!

As yet, no other names for the sweep have been submitted. Unless your household joins in the fun Sr Kerry will swoop the pool. Sr Kerry would love to hear from you via email [Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au](mailto:Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au), text or phone **0421 463 871**. All you need to do is to indicate your parish and say you would like your household to be in the Melb Cup sweep. She looks forward to being swamped by an influx of names. Thank you.

Entries are **now open and close 3pm Friday 29th Oct.**



## SERVICE NSW—CHECK IN CARD

There is now a quicker and easier way, with Service NSW launching personalised check-in cards to replace scanning in with QR codes for those without smartphones.

The cards contain a unique QR code that holds a person's registered contact details. When they attend a venue, a staff member can scan the card to register their attendance and details, rather than having them fill out a form. The cards are available from [Service NSW online](#), or by calling 13 77 88.

## AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED



Aid to the  
Church in Need  
ACN AUSTRALIA

As we approach the month of Holy Souls, consider arranging Masses for your deceased loved ones and for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. For over fifty years, ACN has passed on the Mass offerings of the Catholic people, to poor priests, who have no other means of material support. In return, these priests offer Masses for the intentions of the donor. Each year, over 400,000 priests, ten per cent of the world's priests, are supported by 1.5 million Mass offerings. One hundred percent of every Mass offering is sent directly to the priest in need. To arrange your Masses visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/Masses](http://www.aidtochurch.org/Masses)

## 17 OCTOBER 2021 — TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

**First Reading** — Isaiah 53:10-11 *If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs and have long life.*

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.

If he offers his life in atonement,  
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life  
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over,  
he shall see the light and be content.

By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,  
taking their faults on himself.

**Responsorial Psalm** — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. R.
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. R.
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. R.

**Second Reading** — Hebrews 4: 14-16 *Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace*

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia Alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

**Gospel** — Mark 10:35-45 *The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all*

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'