

# 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/)



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**Polish Chaplain:** Fr Jerzy Slowinski  
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**Parish Assistant:** Sr Kerry Gardiner  
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**Parish Pastoral Council President:** Mark Walsh  
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**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)  
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## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) – 20 MARCH 2022

**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
Mon 21 March	Mass: 7am	
Tues 22 March	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 23 March	Mass: 9:30am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thur 24 March	Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration: 4:30pm Rosary: 5:15pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45 am
Fri 25 March <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	Mass: 7am Stations of the Cross: 7pm	Mass: 9:30am Stations of the Cross: 5pm
Sat 26 March	Rosary: 7:10am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm—5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:40am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 27 March	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

Carmela Buonomo, Angelo Bresolin  
Noel Hayes

#### Anniversaries

Michele Hall, Wally Serelak  
Mother Angelica



### 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 Fr Duane*

I remember when I was a parishioner in my own home parishes, I would think “ministries” were something that other people did. People who were holier than me, more committed than me, more worthy than me. The Parish Pastoral Council and I want to make sure that no one thinks this way in our Parish! We want to emphasize to every single parishioner that the opportunity to share our gifts for ministry is for everyone without exception! This is OUR parish; OUR family of faith; and every single person is equally important. This is why we have waited until the Covid restrictions eased to conclude the ministry renewal process, with the forms at the church now that numbers are growing again, as well as this Google Form for those on our emailing list still unable to come to church:

<https://forms.gle/gsnJy3XiJejwNsE6>

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our current ministers, and all who have already expressed interest in joining new ministries. I also know that not every parishioner is in a place to share their gifts in these way at this time for various reasons. I want to make abundantly clear that those who are serving in ministries are *not* more valuable or more important members of the parish family – each and every parishioner is equally valued and important. The gift of your presence at our Masses is a wonderful gift that you are sharing, and to those who are not in a place to come to Mass at this time, your interest and prayers for our parish are a wonderful gift uniting us with you in a constant, Spiritual Communion.

During the coming week we will be collating the responses received, working out the areas of interest among our parishioners, and organizing induction and formation for new and existing ministers. Even though this will mean an end to “this round” of expressions of interest, please feel free to express your interest in any ministry at any time into the future by simply contacting our parish office. Let’s continue to pray for our parish during this time of renewal!

**Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest**

## *Message from Sr Kerry*

Very recently I was at St Pius School for prayer with St Pius students. We had our own space and the children adapted very quickly to the quieter pace and sacredness of the moment.

We reflected on the Gospel and where Jesus was for me in the scene. When it came time to draw or write our prayer, I assured the students the prayer was between themselves and Jesus. I acknowledged they may not want to take their prayer home or leave it at school. I offered to take any prayers the children wanted to give me for me to take home and shred. I did assure them I would not be reading the prayers.

At the end of the class, I produced a bag and asked the students to put up their hand if they wanted me to take the prayers home for shredding. Most hands went up.

The students taught me a wonderful lesson that day; they taught me what trust meant for them. If I had said I would not read them, they believed me. They trusted me. I can assure you their trust and belief were not betrayed.

Today we say in the responsorial psalm ‘The Lord is kind and merciful.’ Do I mean these words, or do I just utter the words?



**Sr Kerry Gardiner**

### ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 26 Mar	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 26 Mar	Lawns	Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, R Murphy, Lonard	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
Sat 26 Mar 6pm Mass	V Cleary	Volunteer needed	No children’s liturgy
Sun 27 Mar 8am Mass	P Gunning	Helen Murphy	Volunteer needed
Counters	A Gunning, M Caudero, C Garrett		

### 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**

## BISHOP BRIAN'S FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL

Whilst the worst of the rain is hopefully gone, the damage it caused will be felt for a long time to come. Last week we had towns and friends in our diocese cut off by flood water; this week some of our communities remain cut off by landslides and damaged roads. *In a heartfelt [video](#) message to his flock, Greg Homering OCD, Bishop of Lismore, said it had been "a very tragic few days". To those who had "lost everything" in these floods, Bishop Greg said that everyone across the diocese was suffering with them. "This has all happened at a time when we were hoping that 2022 would be a year of hope, a good year," he said.*



As a diocese, I would like to provide practical support for the people of Lismore. I also want to provide pastoral and practical support for the people in our own diocese who have been and will continue to be impacted by these floods. I invite you to join me in prayer for these people, and to donate to my **Flood Relief Appeal** <https://www.dow.org.au/giving/>, so that with your support, we can meet this goal. +BM .

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On the Fridays of Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place at:

**7pm at Immaculate Conception**

**5pm at St Therese West Wollongong.**



## PART TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – PARISH SECRETARY – SHELLHARBOUR

Shellharbour parish is seeking the services of a part time secretary for **2.5 days – 13 hours per week** Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

The position requires skills in administration and maintaining a database. The parish secretary needs to be a committed and practicing Catholic, embracing the teachings and ethos of the Catholic Church in their daily life.

If interested, please make contact via email to request an application pack for this position to

**[frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au](mailto:frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au)**

Applications close 5pm Monday 21 March 2022

## VOCATION NEWS

Moses heard God's call from a burning bush. What is your passion, your burning bush?

Take time to know what God is sending you to do and be. (Exodus: 3:18, 13-15)

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)**



## CONSECRATED LIFE WEEKEND

The MGL Sisters are hosting a Consecrated Life Weekend for young women on the **26 – 27 March 2022.**

Where and how is God calling you to respond to His love? Have you taken time to listen? Here's your opportunity to come and hear the voice of Jesus, ask questions and experience prayer, talks, sisterhood and times of sharing to help you discern your vocation. Email:

**[mglisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mglisters.sydney@gmail.com)** to register your interest.

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 20 MARCH 2022

On the Journey this week: Fr Antony Jukes says the Gospel is a reminder that events around us are an opportunity to question what is truly important in life. Mother Hilda says the gardener of our soul, God himself, will enable us to bear much fruit. There's Lenten connections from Darren McDowell and Ken Bryant. Listen at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au)



## LIVE LOCAL

Everyone LIVE LOCAL Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong (CYMW) is excited to announce that LIVE Local is coming to Wollongong for the first time!

**LIVE Local is a Regional Youth Group** run by the NET Team and other young people who are excellent at engaging with youth at whatever stage of faith. Starting on the **4th of March LIVE Local will run every Friday night in the school term from 7 - 9pm, at St Therese West Wollongong school hall.** This youth group is open to young people aged 13 -17 who want to make new friends and grow in their faith. Come along for snacks, games, formation, prayer, and music.

For more information, please contact our Deanery Youth Group Coordinator, Luke Vail at **[luke.vail@dow.org.au](mailto:luke.vail@dow.org.au)**

For more details on youth groups, visit <https://www.dow.org.au/cymw/>

## LOST PROPERTY

All lost property found within the church is stored in the Confessional on the northern side of the church. You are welcome to check the container for items you may have left behind.



## MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND 22 – 24 APRIL 2022

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! This is a wonderful opportunity in the year of the family.

Come and join us on **22 – 24 April** at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.

Book online at **[www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)** or contact Christine & Terry Mahony at: **[nswbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wwme.org.au)**

## LIGHT TO THE NATIONS (LTTN) EASTER YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

LTTN is a bi-annual Easter Youth Pilgrimage for young people (16+) and the young at heart. From Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday young people camp under the open skies and join in celebrating the Easter liturgies, led by the Missionaries of God's love. Young people encounter Jesus vibrantly, through prayer, worship, drama, music, and personal sharing.

**LTTN 2022 will be held at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville.** In the year of Amoris Laetitia, families are especially encouraged to consider joining with hundreds of others for this amazing experience. DoW Youth Ministry team members will eagerly be looking to connect with young people from around the Diocese. For more information, and registration details, or simply for a day booking head to **<https://ltnn.dojcommunity.com/>**

## 20 MARCH 2022 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

**First Reading** — Exodus 3:1-8,13-15 *This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

**Responsorial Psalm** — **The Lord is kind and merciful.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. R.
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion R.
3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. R.
4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. R.

**Second Reading** — 1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12 *All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit*

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel** — Luke 13: 1-9

*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'