

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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School Principal: Mrs Pauline Chrostowski

Parish Secretary: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

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TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) – 4 SEPT 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 5 Sept	Mass: 7am	
Tues 6 Sept	Mass: 5.30pm	Communion service
Wed 7 Sept	Mass: 9:30am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm 
Thurs 8 Sept <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Adoration: 4:30pm-5:15pm  Reconciliation: 4:30pm-5:15pm Rosary: 5:15pm  Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 9 Sept <i>St Peter Claver, priest</i>	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 10 Sept	Rosary: 7:10am  Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:40am  Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 11 Sept	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<u>Polish</u>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Bruce Walsh, Michael Vd Linden,
Dawn McHugh



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Some years back a woman I regularly visited died. This woman was agitated most of the time. When reading the death notice in the paper I noted that it said, 'died peacefully.' I found that most unusual and when speaking with the son I commented that it was lovely that his mum died peacefully. He responded, 'She didn't really. It just sounds better.'

Today in the gospel we hear about discipleship. We are all called to be disciples. No matter the circumstances of where life takes us each and every day, we are called to be disciples. It is not always easy but that is our calling, our vocation.

Like the gold bell tower at what was once the Crystal Palace Cathedral it can look impressive; we can be fooled. Those bells are neither gold nor do they ring. They are purely decorations.

Am I disciple who 'looks good' but is not genuine? Am I one who acts and speaks things only because they sound better? Have I the courage to be authentic? Life will not always be perfect, but it can always be my best.



Praying that all dads and father figures celebrate well the gift they are. May you continue to live into the mystery that God created in you.

Have you marked your diary for Lunch at Wests commencing at midday on Friday 9th Sept? I look forward to seeing you there and sharing time with each of you. Any enquiries please contact Sr Kerry.

Sr Kerry Gardiner

Reflections on the Mass - Music and Singing - Vital to our experience

Music is an integral part of our participation in liturgy and participation in the work of God. For music and song in the liturgy, as Pope St John Paul II said, is *"in a certain way, communion with the Trinity"*. Our hearts and minds are raised more easily to connection with God and one another. Through using our whole bodies as we sing, music and song give a deeper expression to our prayer. As St Augustine – *"he who sings prays twice"*.

Similarly, in singing together we again display our unity as the body of Christ. "One cannot find anything more religious and more joyful in sacred celebrations than a whole congregation expressing its faith and devotion in song" (Vatican II – Instruction on Music in the Liturgy). Therefore, the primary music minister in the liturgy is us, the assembly. The role of the choir is to lead us in fulfilling our vital and integral role in ensuring the liturgy is experienced as fully as possible. Your voice adds to the fullest experience of the liturgy.

The liturgy comprises a variety of different forms of music and song into which we're invited to participate. Some of these are:

- Acclamations: – such as the 'Alleluia' or 'Profession of Faith' or 'Great Amen'. These are joyful vocalisations of praise and worship.
- Hymns: Songs of praise which may include the Gloria, Hymn of Praise after Communion and the Recessional Hymn. Note that the hymn after communion is not a reflection song but rather a hymn of praise of God and his Eucharistic gift.
- Processional Song: A song accompanying these liturgical actions – Entrance, Offertory and Communion.
- Responsorial Psalm: This is our response to the Word of God we heard in the 1st Reading. The psalm, preferably sung, gives voice to our response.

I hope you have enjoyed these reflections over the past 8 weeks. My prayer is that through them you have come to a deeper appreciation of our celebration of the Eucharist and eagerness to participate fully, consciously and actively, uniting together as body of Christ.

Darren McDowell—seminarian

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Jackie Allen	
Sat 10 Sep	Church Cleaning	Volunteers Needed	
Sat 10 Sep	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
Sat 10 Sep 6pm Mass	D Nugent	B Faraway	
Sun 11 Sep 8am Mass	P Gunning	G Simmonite, H Murphy	Maria Matos, Anna Gunning
Counters	A Gunning, M Caudero, C Garrett		

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:
please contact

Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871

Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au

Fr Duane Fernandez is on leave until 10 Sept

PARISH NEWS

Fr Benjamin Gandy

Fr Ben will be giving First Blessings in the Sacred Heart Chapel (front left hand side of the Church, near the statue of the Sacred Heart) after Mass on Saturday night and distributing ordination cards.

Carmelite meeting—Saturday 3 Sept

The next Lay Carmelite meeting will be held in St Joseph's Room, behind the Unanderra Catholic Church on Saturday 3 September between **10am and 12noon**. The Carmelite charism is based on prayer, community and service, in allegiance to Jesus Christ. Meetings begin with Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) followed by Carmelite formation. We then plan to share a meal at a local restaurant. Come join us.

St Vincent de Paul - Winter Appeal thank you!

The members of St Vincent De Paul wish to thank our wonderful, generous Parish. Your contributions to our Winter Appeal came to **\$1,534.80**.

We are all joined through our prayer, giving and work in this Apostolic Mission to those less fortunate. Thank you.

Morning Tea—Sunday 4 Sept

Morning Tea will be served after 8am mass on Sunday 4 Sept. Everyone is welcome for a cuppa and a chat after Mass.

Catholic Women's League - Thursday 8 Sept

CWL ladies will hold their monthly meeting in St Joseph's Room on Thursday, 8th September at 10am. Everyone is welcome to join us for morning tea and a chat prior to the meeting at 10.30. We hope to see you there.

Lunch Gathering - Friday 9 Sept

Friday 9th Sept has been marked in for another lunch gathering at Wests. A great couple of hours is ensured. If you wish to attend join us at noon in the dining room where Sr Kerry will be holding a seat just for you.

Covid Guidelines

The Catholic Diocese of Wollongong continues to implement the following to ensure the wellbeing for all attending our churches. Communion is to be administered in the hand. Holy water fonts are to remain empty. You will be informed when these guidelines change from the present situation.



Youth Groups

Live Local

LIVE Local is a Regional Youth Group run by the CYMW and NET Team which runs every **Friday night during school term from 7 - 9pm**, at St Therese West Wollongong school hall.

Recycling bins

Your donations of 10c recyclable bottles, cans and plastics are most appreciated. Our bins are located in the church car park. All monies raised go to the Parish.



NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2022

To recognise the importance of National Child Protection Week we're holding a competition where entrants are asked to identify what makes them safe. Using your creativity tell us what makes you feel safe. You can draw, paint, write a poem or story or record a video. Submit your entry to competitions@catholiccare.dow.org.au Please ensure your name, age, contact number and email are included in your submission. For further information visit the events page on our website: <https://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/events-calendar/>

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

— AIRS SUNDAY 4 SEPT 2022

On the Journey this week: Fr Mark De Battista in the Gospel reflection explains why Jesus makes such a strong point on being a disciple and asks have I considered what it's going to cost me to really do this? Mother Hilda on using God's SAT NAV system for our life's journey. Plus, Fr Anthony Crook explores why belonging to a faith community is so good for our mental health and general well-being. Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

You have one precious life to give. How do you choose to offer it to God? Be willing to accept the challenges of discipleship. (Luke 14:25-33)

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the diocesan vocations

director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au



SUICIDE PREVENTION

On Saturday 10 September, we mark Suicide Prevention Day. The **Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass at St Brigid's, Gwynneville** will be offered by Bishop Brian Mascord for all families who have lost a loved one or who have taken their own life. We pray that those who have taken their own lives now rest in God's peace. We pray for all vulnerable people who need someone to ask them 'r u ok?'

For more information please contact the Lumen Christi Parish office on 4211 0500 or email lumenchristi@dow.org.au or visit our Facebook Page facebook.com/lccpwo11

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Cultural factors in the Church and in society often also play an important role in the violence and abuse suffered in families, households, communities, and workplaces. This behaviour is sinful. — *Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2022-23.*

The [Social Justice Statement](#), [Media Release](#), [FAQs](#) and related resources, including prayer and liturgy materials, are available [here](#)

CATECHIST RETREAT 2022

All SRE teachers and helpers are welcome to attend the Catechist retreat planned for **Monday, Sep 12 in Varroville** OR **Friday, Sep 16 in Gerringong**. Sr Magdalen Mather OSB will facilitate the retreats in both locations. Register for the retreat at dow.org.au/events or contact Cindy Oliver by emailing support@ccdwo11.com or calling **4640 8550**.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED VINNIES DISTRIBUTION CENTRE -NORTH WOLLONGONG

Vinnies is looking for volunteers to work in their **clothing and book sections**. The Distribution Centre is the main supply hub for the many Vinnies Stores in the Illawarra and Macarthur areas. The vacancies in the clothing area are for sorters, whilst the book section requires people with an interest and love of books. The vacancies in the Book section would ideally suit a retired Librarian, however, this is not a pre-requisite. A reasonable level of fitness is required as 80% of the work is performed whilst standing. Whilst the Distribution Centre hours are 8am to 3.30 pm Monday to Friday, **Volunteers can select the day/s and hours that they wish to work**. There is total flexibility in this area. Parking is available. If interested, please contact **Sarah Harris on 0473 100 110**



4 SEPTEMBER - TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

First Reading— Wisdom 9:13-18 *Who can comprehend the will of God.*

What man indeed can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;

for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;

who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.

Responsorial Psalm - In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge

1. You turn men back to dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. R.
2. You sweep men away like a dream, like the grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. R.
3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. R.
4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. R.

Second Reading — Philemon 9-10,12-17 *Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

Gospel — Luke 14: 25-33 *All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.*

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Celebrant for Sunday Mass:

This weekend's priests: Saturday 6pm (and Reconciliation from 5pm) Fr Benjamin Gandy; Sunday 8am Fr John Stork

Next weekend's priest: Fr Duane Fernandez