

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au

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TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 15 OCT 2023

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 16 Oct <i>St Hedwig, religious</i> <i>St Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	Mass: 7am	
Tues 17 Oct <i>St Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 18 Oct <i>St Luke, evangelist</i>	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 19 Oct <i>Sts John de Brebeuf and Issac Jogues, priests and companions</i> <i>St Paul of the Cross</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 20 Oct	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 21 Oct	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am
Sun 22 Oct	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

William Blattman, Florence McNamara,
 Michael Blewitt, Margaret Gray, PM Baby

Prayers for the sick

Jan Luke, Peter Lathourakis,
 John Sweeney, Kerrie Maidment

Anniversaries

Pilar Villanueva, Manuel Mamanglu,
 Maisie Dredge, Helen Milway,
 Shirley Steele, Tommy McNally



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 Fr Duane

There is an urgent need for more Foster Carers in our region, with many children having to be removed from abusive situations, and having no stable, caring environment to turn to. A number of them are being housed in hotels and caravan parks in our area with a roster of staff. This is a heartbreaking situation, and we can do something about it. CatholicCare Wollongong is providing information and support for anyone who might be interested in either permanent, temporary or respite foster care. If you have any interest in potentially helping in this way, please don't hesitate to contact CatholicCare on 0418 783 956, flyers available at the church also, and we are blessed to have Lisa from CatholicCare with us at our Sunday morning Mass and morning tea this weekend.

There is only one more week for our 17 – 35 year olds to register for the Diocesan event in the Macarthur – **“Called by Name”**. There are already about 30 registered, and carpooling is being organized from the Wollongong region – if anyone needs transport let me know and I can connect you. The event is Saturday 28th October, but registration closes on 21st October so don't miss out!

The Rosary Novena concludes this weekend following the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. Note a change to the timetable, with the Sunday Rosary now moved to straight after the 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 14th October. We will continue with a Rosary after each 6pm Vigil Mass for 21st and 28th of October, being the month of the Rosary, in our church dedicated to Our Lady. We recall the words of St John Paul 2 in 2002, even more relevant today: “One cannot recite the Rosary without feeling caught up in a clear commitment to advancing peace, especially in the land of Jesus, still so sorely afflicted and so close to the heart of every Christian.”

The tragic events in the Middle East have been heartbreaking for us to watch, and impossible to fully imagine. Let us pray sincerely for a swift and peaceful resolution to the conflict. May Jesus who travelled those lands and suffered and died to bring us peace grant his comfort, strength and peace to those who are suffering, anxious and grieving, and eternal rest to those who have died.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

A dust storm in the outback can be very frightening. You see this thick heavy cloud of brown/grey moving towards you. You know the dust infiltrates everything so all openings are closed, windows are shut and you just wait. The dust storm is blinding.

A road sign will warn you to stop during a dust storm, turn on your lights and wait.

In the storms of life do I allow God to slowly reveal His plans for me

What do I do? Do I wait or try to move through it despite the dangers?

Sr Kerry Gardiner



ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

October	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 14 Oct	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, R Tassone	
Sat 14 Oct	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, J Lonard, J	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 14 Oct	M Rodwell	S Marsala	
8am 15 Oct	A Kelly	F Carolan/ A Amone	Sandra Michielin, Luke Jansons
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

October	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 21 Oct	Church Cleaning	J Haywood, L Salway, M Hurley, T Vaafusuaga	
Sat 21 Oct	Lawns	<i>No lawn mowing this week</i>	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 21 Oct	N O'Donoghue		
8am 22 Oct	C Walsh	A Kelly / M Graham	Kirra Calvert, Maria Matos
Counters	M Murphy(FH), C Stratton, M Winner.		

PARISH NEWS

Our Lady of the Rosary Novena

Come and join us during October as we say a Rosary novena in honour of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Rosary mystery of the day will be said either before or after the daily Mass as detailed below.

Day	Date	Mass	RosaryTime	Note
Sat	14th	7:30am	7am	Before Mass
Sat	14th	6pm	7pm	After the Vigil Mass

Vinnies Winter Appeal - thank you

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all parishioners who supported our Winter Bucket Appeal.

A total of \$2,136 has been raised to date.

Donations can still be made using the poor box in the church or by placing an envelope addressed to St Vincent de Paul Unanderra Conference on the Mass collection plate.

All monies raised are used to support the poor of our Parish. The Unanderra Conference receives more than ten requests for food, rent assistance or help with electricity every week. Your support is much appreciated and the society supports you in prayer.

Morning Tea - Sunday 15 October

Morning tea will be served in the St Joseph's room after 8am Sunday this week. We look forward to seeing you there.

November Masses

As we prepare for November as the month of praying for all souls, please email the parish office with any names of the deceased that you would like to be included in the parish book of remembrance, with the subject "November Masses".

Spirituality of Aging - Thurs 19 October

Good Samaritan Sister, Yvonne Parker, will present a morning input on the Spirituality of Aging for women and men around retirement age and later, at St Joseph's Meeting Room Unanderra, **Thursday 19 October, 9.30am-1pm**.

This session will be repeated at the St Therese Parish Centre, West Wollongong, the following Wed 25 October, 9.30am-1pm.

Topics include the Journey of Letting Go, Prayer in later life, and Living in deeper trust and hope as we move towards the later part of our life's journey. These inputs can also be helpful for those who are caring for elderly people.

Please write your name on the list at the church side door or phone Sr Yvonne 0409 125 622.

Eucharistic Adoration (first Friday of each month)

The next Friday night Eucharistic Adoration is **Friday 3 November, 7pm until 10pm**.

Parish Finances - week ending 8 October 2023

\$738	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$378	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$200	Tap Point - Parish donations	
\$592	Planned giving envelopes	
\$490	Direct debits (weekly average from Sept).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Carmelite meeting

The next meeting of the Lay Carmelites will be on Saturday 4th November at 10am for 10.30am in St Joseph's room.

Call Ann on 0427 235 955 for details. Everyone is welcome.

Recycling bins - \$95 raised during Sept

Together, we have raised \$95 through our combined recycling efforts. Your donations of 10c recyclable bottles, cans and plastics are welcome.

All proceeds go to the Parish.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 15 OCT 2023

On the Journey this week: Fr Chima Ofor says this Gospel parable wakes us up to the many pains and contradictions in and around us and reminds us that there's much more to God's Kingdom into which we are invited. Mother Hilda on what we can learn from St Therese of Lisieux. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Mark Raue on Mission Sunday, and Pete Gilmore's peace plan. Listen at jcr.org.au



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Faithful are encouraged to pray for the Synodal Process underway from **4 – 29 October in Rome**, specifically that the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen

SOCIAL JUSTICE POINTS

We could quote a poet from Milan, Giampiero Neri, also recently deceased, who stated: "It is said of some people that, when they enter a room, they fill up the whole room. I should imagine that when they leave, they leave a great void. Instead, I am inclined to think that those who leave a great void are the humble, quiet people who fill up only the space they need, who make themselves loved".

Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Members of the "Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice" Foundation, Clementine Hall, Monday, 5 June 2023

MOROCCO EARTHQUAKE

Caritas Australia has launched an appeal for the victims of the earthquake in Morocco. Over 2,000 people have been confirmed dead. Thousands of people have been injured, over 1,000 critically. Search and rescue efforts are ongoing, with many people still trapped under rubble.

The time to act is now. Caritas agencies are on the ground as they assess the scale of the damage and critical needs. Your donation today can help communities affected by the earthquake. Please give generously at www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergencyappeals/morocco-earthquake/

CALLED BY NAME: MACARTHUR YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING

Campbelltown Catholic Club, Saturday 28 Oct 6:45pm - 9pm

We extend to you this personal invitation to engage with fellow young adults from 17–35 years old, guided by a panel who will openly share the stories and learnings from their own journeys, with an opportunity for Q&A throughout the discussion.

This event is the beginning of a regional initiative connecting young adults in the Macarthur, though young adults from all throughout the Diocese are most welcome.

Register now: dow.sh/cbn23 Registrations close 21 October

15 OCTOBER - TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

First Reading - Isaiah 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;

the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm - I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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. Then 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 - Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 22: 1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'