

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 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
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
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THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 7 JULY 2024

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 8 July	Mass: 7am	
Tues 9 July <i>St Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, and companions, martyrs</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 6:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 10 July	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 11 July <i>St Benedict, abbot</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 6:30pm	No Mass today
Fri 12 July	Mass: 7am	No Mass today
Sat 13 July <i>St Henry</i>	No Reconciliation today Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am Mass: 5pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am No Reconciliation today
Sun 14 July	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Joyce Campbell, Keith Copeland

Prayers for the sick

Michael Murphy (Figtree), Peter Lathourakis, Antoinette Sakr, Kerrie Maidment, Josephine Moran, Julie Murphy

Anniversaries

Concesa Mamanglu, Arthur Williams,

Fr Carl Ashton, Ruby Stubbs,

Marcel Fernandez.



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

My leave begins this week – and I officially return to work on 14th August. I hope that this will be a refreshing time, enabling me to return with more energy and clarity of mind to serve you better as your priest. Contact details during my leave are in the main section of the bulletin. In the absence of Thursday and Friday Masses at West Wollongong, note Unanderra’s times of 5:30pm Thursday or 7am Friday; the Cathedral Mass times of 7am Thursday, or 7am and 12:10pm Friday; and many other local Mass times you can find through the Diocesan website or office. Sunday Mass times will remain the same, with gratitude to the priests (and Bishop) who will celebrate these Masses. **Next weekend:** Bishop Brian will celebrate the 6pm Vigil and 8am Sunday Mass at Unanderra; and at West Wollongong, Fr Bill Goldman will celebrate 10am Mass and Fr Leo Duck 5pm Mass.

This Sunday we celebrate “**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday**” in the Church throughout Australia, as we mark the beginning of NAIDOC Week. We recently marked “Reconciliation Week” which focuses on continued healing of past wounds and reconciliation and unity for the future of our nation. NAIDOC Week takes on a more celebratory tone as we acknowledge the God-given gifts of our First Nations people. The Church at our best always celebrates the unique and beautiful ways God is working in every culture. I have heard from many First Nations people who have embraced the Catholic faith and recognize deep connections between their culture and their faith. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSIACC) is entrusted by the Australian Bishops to continue nurturing these connections and have named the theme for this year’s celebration “Keep the Fire Burning – Strong in Faith”. It is timely for us to remember the powerful words of Pope St John Paul 2 to First Nations people in Alice Springs (and I encourage you to read his whole address, especially this week) – “*the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others*” (John Paul 2, 1986).

Parish Safeguarding Team

During this past year, a child safeguarding team has been created across the parishes of Unanderra and West Wollongong, composed mainly of ministry leaders in child-facing roles (altar serving and children’s liturgy). This team has met a number of times in consultation with the Diocesan Office of Professional Standards and Safeguarding to develop policies and procedures, which are being finalized and will be enacted upon my return from leave. At this point we are looking for volunteers to assist in simply being present at Masses (according to a roster, based on your own availability), for simple safeguarding tasks which you will be fully informed of. Those who already have experience working with children and a Working With Children Check would be especially suitable, but anyone interested can also make contact to find out more information. The first step is to contact the parish office and let us know that you are open to helping in this vital work for our parishes, and once we know how many potential volunteers we have, we will be in touch with you soon about next steps.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

Recently I gathered with family and friends to celebrate Peter’s 40th Anniversary of his Ordination. It was a lovely gathering. I was seated with two elderly women who indicated they weren’t of the Catholic faith but had come to know Peter through his outreach works. Pam told the story of how Peter had visited her in hospital and gave her a blessing. This really touched her. It reminded me of a homily I once heard Peter give. He concluded the homily with the words:

‘People say it’s the little things in life that are important. I say, it’s the little things in life that are everything.’ How receptive is your heart?

Sr Kerry Gardiner



ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

July	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 6 July	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 6 July	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 6 July	D. Ferrer		
8am 7 July	A Browne	M Matos	School holidays
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

July	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 13 July	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 13 July	Lawns	Fernandez, Milan, Broeckmann and A Oliphant	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 13 July	D Nugent	B Farraway	
8am 14 July	P Gunning	J Sharwood	School holidays
Counters	A Gunning, M Caudero, C Garrett		

PARISH NEWS

Fr Duane's annual leave

Fr Duane is on annual leave, returning 14th August. During this time, the parish office is the main contact, and for emergencies you can contact:

Sr Kerry Gardiner (Unanderra) on 0421 463871, or Helen James (West Wollongong) on 0417 218960 who will also be able to work together to locate priests as needed. All Sunday Masses will remain as scheduled with visiting priests. Fr Jerzy will celebrate weekday Masses and Reconciliation across the two parishes, but during this time there will be no Thursday or Friday Mass at West Wollongong, and **no 11am Reconciliation on Saturdays** at Unanderra.

Catholic Women's league - 11 July

The monthly meeting of the CWL will be held on Thursday 11th July at 10.00am in St Joseph's Room. Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa and chat before the meeting.

STIC young adults

Young adults (18-35) are warmly welcome to get involved with the great events being hosted by STIC Young Adults right here in the parishes of St Therese and Immaculate Conception.

First Thursday: Guest speaker series (7pm @ St Therese)

Last Thursday: Prayer and Pub (5:30 Mass @ Immaculate Conception + dinner at Collegians Figtree)

Every other Thursday: Faith studies and fellowship (7pm @ St Therese)

For further details, follow "STIC Young Adults" on Instagram and Facebook.



Living Faith books - available now at the side door

The new Living Faith books for July to December 2024 are available now.

Cost is now \$6.

Please leave money in the small drawer.

Alpha - 7pm Wed 24 July

You are most welcome to come and experience Alpha for yourself, whatever your age (18+) or stage of faith. Please register as soon as possible and **no later than Wednesday 17 July** to enable sufficient time for catering and logistics for the first Alpha night. Use this QR code to register or



go to <http://dow.sh/alphaww>.

Silver Circle results - week 4

1st H Murphy
2nd CWL No, 38

Christian Meditation: Inquiries: Please text Monica 0412 056 877



Is on break for school holidays and **resumes Monday 22 July**, meeting weekly at the St Therese Parish Centre. The group looks forward to welcoming parishioners, friends and those of all faiths and none who may be interested to come along.

Parish Finances - week ending 30 June 2024

\$664	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$595	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$120	Tap Point donations	
\$315	Planned giving envelopes	
\$529	Direct debits (weekly average from June).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

FOSTER CARE - CAN YOU HELP?

Over 350 children and young people in NSW are seeking foster care. Close to 100 of the 350 are living in our diocese alone. CatholicCare Wollongong is doing all it can to meet this need – but more volunteers are desperately needed. Bishop Brian is asking all parishioners throughout Wollongong Diocese to seriously consider whether you might be able to help in some way. A fact sheet is available on the resource table this weekend. For more information you can contact **0418 783956** or email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 7 JULY 2024

On the Journey this week: Fr Brian Steele MGL says that unless we see God in Jesus, he cannot work the miracle of taking us to himself. Mother Hilda says God's always in the cycle of our life. Fr Tony Percy on accepting what God's given us, including our weaknesses, Trish McCarthy revealing loveliness, and Pete Gilmore searching for passion and purpose. Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

"God works through the prophets to make known His message of salvation. Has He called you to be a prophet in our day and age? (Ez. 2:2-5)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au



INSTITUTED MINISTRIES FORMATION

SATURDAY 6 AND 13 JULY

Sr Monica Barlow will run formation sessions for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of becoming an Instituted Lector or Acolyte. These ministries are open to both men and women. The sessions will be held at the Xavier Centre Conference Room from **10.30am - 12.30pm on Saturday mornings 6th and 13th July.**

Attendance at the second session on 13th July is dependent on having attended the first session. It is not a repeat of the first session. To register for these formation sessions click <https://dow.sh/imf24>

GROWING GOOD MEN FATHER AND TEENAGE SON WEEKEND

25 - 27 OCTOBER 2024

CATARACT ACTIVITY CENTRE, APPIN

Spots are limited to just 25 fathers with their sons aged between 12 and 17 years. This is a unique opportunity for dads and their sons to embark on a quest of discovery with Robert Falzon and the team from menALIVE.

Register online: <https://dow.sh/ggm24>

IGNITE CONFERENCE 2024 RISE UP!

SYDNEY 26 - 29 SEPTEMBER

A conference for everyone, from leaders to first-time believers. This is the Church gathered and alive on mission. This is God's people united with one heart.

Ignite Conference is a gathering of Catholics for four days of real-world formation, renewal of faith, great people and powerful worship. Join with young people from our Diocese and over 2000 high schoolers, young adults, leaders, teachers, priests and religious taking part in a life changing encounter with God and His Church.

For more information, go to igniteconference.com.au and contact Arnie Hurdoyal at 0431 611 128 or

Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au to be part of our Diocesan Group attending this amazing event

SYDNEY I STAND CAMP

WED 17 JULY - FRI 19 JULY

CARMEL HOUSE, VARROVILLE

iSTAND Events are for students in year 9 -12 (age 14-18 yrs) and are a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow young people in a welcoming environment while learning more about yourself, others and God. This iSTAND Weekend will include activities such as games, group activities, prayer, reflection, testimonies and talks.

COST: \$160 inclusive of all food and activities

Registration: <https://form.jotform.com/240807884793875>

7 JULY - THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

First Reading - Ezekiel 2:2-5

The people are rebellious; they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

Responsorial Psalm - Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens;
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lords. R.
2. Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy. R.
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
We are filled with contempt.
Indeed all too full is our soul
with the scorn of the rich,
with the proud man's disdain R.

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

I will glory in my infirmities so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me: he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel - Mark 6:1-6

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.