

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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 Mobile: 0421 463 871

Parish Pastoral Council President: Mr Chris Lyon
 Mobile: 0403 296 837

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
 Phone: 4271 1068

THE TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 1 SEPT 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 2 Sep	Mass: 7am	
Tues 3 Sep <i>St Gregory the Great.</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 4 Sep	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 5 Sep	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 6 Sep	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am - 8am Extended Adoration: 7pm - 10pm	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 7 Sep	Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 11am Mass: 5pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 8 Sep	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Bob Lloyd, Clare O'Connor, Dominic Ferrante, Pasquale Martire, Nick Masi

Prayers for the sick

Michael Murphy (Figtree), Peter Lathourakis, Gloria Simmonite, Antoinette Sakr, Kerrie Maidment, Josephine Moran.

Anniversaries

Richard Roche, Bruce Walsh, Michael Van Linden, Queen Elizabeth II



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

This Sunday the Church throughout the world marks the **“World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation”** (1st September each year), which begins the observation of the **“Season of Creation”** among all mainstream Christian denominations. I have noticed that caring for creation can sometimes be one of those “political” topics. As always we as Christians can rise above those superficial divisions and unite around Christ and his Church’s teachings, regardless of our political leanings. Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and now Pope Francis, were united in teaching the moral obligation of all Christians to care for God’s creation. During this season, I encourage you to read Pope Benedict’s message for the World Day of Peace, January 1 2010, entitled *“If you want to cultivate peace, protect creation”* which remains as relevant as ever, and Pope Francis’s message for this year, *“Hope and Act with Creation”*, and may we all work together to care each other, especially the most vulnerable among us, and for our fragile earth.

Happy Fathers Day to all the fathers of our community. We give thanks to God this weekend for the beautiful way in God’s love is revealed through fatherhood. We pray also for those for whom Fathers Day brings any kind of grief. How blessed we are to know that our bonds of love remain with our deceased fathers, and we remember them in our prayers this weekend. May we also grow in our devotion to St Joseph, the earthly model of fatherhood, and I encourage you to read Pope Francis’s wonderful letter on St Joseph from 2020, *“With a Father’s Heart”*. On this note – it has occurred to me that there is a wealth of wisdom and beauty in many documents of the Church that are often not known to many Catholics. I hope to share more of these documents with you in links through this emailed bulletin moving forward – and if you are interested in reading them but have difficulty accessing them, please contact me or the parish office.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

As a child, like so many other children of my era, I had the necessities of life, but we certainly weren’t wealthy in the financial sense of the word.

While I was to be interstate my dad was to celebrate his 77th birthday. I celebrated his birthday a few days earlier. We sat around the dinner table and mum and dad were chatting about the upcoming celebration for the Senior’s Club to which they belonged. Dad, a chef and cake decorator, offered to make a cake for the occasion. Mum was talking about the cost, all in a convivial sense, but she knew dad would spare no expense in making it a great cake. In responding to my mum’s comments Dad said, *‘We are the wealthiest people in Oatley.’*.....and we were. My dad literally dropped dead the following morning, and I am so grateful for the ‘wealth’ in which I grew up. Our wealth was not in money but love, security, faith, equality, acceptance, encouragement etc.

As we celebrate Father’s Day are you able to recognise, acknowledge and give thanks for your ‘wealth’?

A very blessed day to all dad’s and dad like figures. Celebrate the gift you are.



Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER — THIS WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 31 Aug	Church Cleaning	J Haywood, L Salway, M Hurley, T Vaafusuaga	
Sat 31 Aug	Lawns	<i>No lawn mowing this week</i>	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 31 Aug	D Ferrer		
8am 1 Sept	M Matos	G Simmonite	Sandra & Lisa Michielin, Ella Alessi
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 7 Sept	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 7 Sept	Lawns	<i>No lawn mowing this week</i>	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 7 Sept	C & M Carolan	B Farraway	
8am 8 Sept	A Browne	J Sharwood	Kirra Calvert, Maria Matos
Counters	M Murphy (FT), S Alessi, H Murphy		

PARISH NEWS

Celebrant for Sunday Mass

We thank Monsignor Bryan Jones for celebrating this week's Vigil and 8am Sunday Mass at short notice - as Fr Duane has tested positive to Covid.

Funeral for Bob Lloyd

Sadly, we wish to let our Parish family know that Bob Lloyd, husband of Margaret and long standing active parishioner died suddenly on Tuesday evening 27 August. We give thanks for Bob and his years of generous work for others especially in our Unanderra Vinnies Conference.

Bob's funeral will be held at **1:30pm, Friday 6 Sept at Immaculate Conception Church, Unanderra**. Eternal rest grant to him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in eternal peace. Amen.

Vinnies Winter Appeal - thank you

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all the generous parishioners who supported our Winter bucket Appeal. **A total of \$2,845.95 has been raised.** Donations can still be made by using the poor box in the church or by placing an envelope in the Mass collection plate. All monies raised are used to support the poor of our Parish. The Society supports you in prayer.



Congratulations

To all the children who received their Sacrament of First Reconciliation this past week in our parishes! Thank you to their parents, families, teachers and the Sacramental Team who prepared them so well for this special encounter with the mercy of Jesus. May they, and all of us, continue to grow in our appreciation of this wonderful gift of God's mercy and peace in our lives.

Extended Adoration - Friday 6 Sept, 7pm to 10pm

Reconciliation available throughout.



Lunch - 12noon Monday 16 Sept

A lunch gathering will be held at Wests Club on Monday 16th Sept. These gatherings are very informal and most enjoyable. Please contact Sr Kerry on **0421 463 871** if you are able to join us.

STIC young adults meets each Thursday

Young adults (18-35) are warmly welcome to get involved with the great events being hosted by STIC Young Adults

First Thursday: Guest speaker (7pm @St Therese)
Last Thursday: Prayer and Pub (5:30pm Mass @ Immaculate Conception + dinner at Collegians Figtree)
Every other Thursday: Faith studies and fellowship (7pm @St Therese). Follow "STIC Young Adults" on Instagram and Facebook.



Parish Finances - week ending 25 August 2024

\$688	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$667	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$200	Tap Point donations	
\$459	Planned giving envelopes	
\$949	Direct debits (weekly average from July).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

Carmelite meeting - Saturday 7 Sept

The next meeting of the Lay Carmelites will be Sat 7 Sept 10:30am in St Joseph's room. Inquiries: call Ann 0427 235 955

Morning tea - Sunday 8 Sept

Morning tea will be served after 8am mass on 8 Sept. Join us in St Joseph's Room for a cuppa and a chat.



Gardening volunteers

Do you enjoy gardening? If you have some spare time and would you like to look after one of the gardens around the presbytery and the church, please contact the Parish Office.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME - AIRS SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2024

On the Journey this week. Fr Mark De Battista says this Gospel highlights while we may deceive others, we cannot deceive God. Mother Hilda says that we called to trust in God's promises even in times of uncertainty. Fr Tony Percy says that Jesus insists that holiness is about removing grit from our hearts, not so much from our hands, Trish McCarthy says expecting life's difficulties and trusting in God's presence, we can face life's ups and downs, and Deacon Josh Clayton says that by focusing on acts of kindness and reaching out to those in need, we become Christ-like and overcome our selfish tendencies. Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only." The reception of the Word of God demands a living response, for the Word is active and alive, spurring us on to action. (James 1:22)

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



IGNITE CONFERENCE 2024 RISE UP! SYDNEY 26 - 29 SEPTEMBER

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.

The Diocese of Wollongong is taking a group 30 young people to the conference at a subsidised cost.

There a few spots left, if you would like to join us, know someone who would, or would like to sponsor someone to attend, please contact Arnie Hurdoyal, Diocesan Youth Ministry Leader, Arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au or **0431 611 128**.

WEEKEND RETREAT

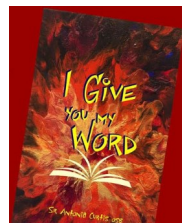
JAMBEROO ABBEY - 26 TO 28 SEPTEMBER

The Jamberoo Abbey invites all people to come and join in a face-to-face retreat at the Abbey 26 to 28 September 2024, titled "**Encountering God in Lectio Divina**".

The retreat will be co-ordinated by local author Sr Antonia Curtis, who has put together an amazing weekend of prayer, learning and reflection. The retreat will make use of the new resource written by Sr Antonia.

There is also the option of staying on at the Abbey for private reflection after the retreat ends on Sunday afternoon 28 September 2024. Please note that cottage accommodation must be vacated by Monday morning at 9am. For more information, please visit

jamberooabbey.org.au



PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - PARISH SECRETARY ST PAUL'S ALBION PARK

Albion Park parish is seeking the services of a part-time secretary for **16 hrs per week - Tuesday to Friday**, start and finish times negotiable. The position requires skills in administration, bookkeeping, maintaining a database, and high skills in MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

The parish secretary needs to be a person who is supportive of the Catholic ethos of the Parish, who bears witness to Christ and Christian values in their own lives and in their work. If interested, please make contact via email to request an application pack for this position to frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au Appl'n close 5pm 3 Sept 24

1 SEPTEMBER - THE TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 *You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you—keep the commands of the Lord.*

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm - The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue. R.
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. R.
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. R.

Second Reading - James 1:17-18, 21-22,27 *Be doers of the word.*

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation. Alleluia!

Gospel - Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 *You forget the commandments of God to hold onto human traditions.*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'