

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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 15 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 16 Sep <i>Sts Cornelius and Cyprian</i>	Mass: 7am	
Tues 17 Sep <i>St Hildegard of Bingen St Robert Bellarmine</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 18 Sep	Anointing of the sick Mass: 11am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 19 Sep <i>St Januarius, bishop, martyr</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 20 Sep <i>Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang</i>	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am - 8am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 21 Sep <i>St Matthew, apostle, evangelist</i>	Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 11am Mass: 5pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 22 Sep	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

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

Prayers for the sick

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

Anniversaries

Clare Nissen, Antonio Carlotto, Paul Blood, Floyd Gourillis, Anton Hans, Flo McNamara



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

I am excited to share a new initiative in our parish called **“Connect Groups”**. These will be informal, relaxed small groups of about 10-12 people, gathering in parish spaces to begin with, to meet fortnightly for spiritual reflection, friendship and prayer. While Sunday Mass is the high point of our worship as a community, these smaller group gatherings will enable people to go deeper in their relationships with God and with one another, supported by Diocesan resources. In our time especially it is so easy for people to feel disconnected and isolated, in both faith and life, and Connect Groups will help people in our parish to genuinely get to know and care for one another. At this stage, we are gauging expressions of interest, and note that an expression of interest is not a commitment at this stage. I encourage every one of you to consider becoming part of this exciting new initiative – both for your own benefit, and the benefit of others. You can register your interest, and potential availabilities, by either:

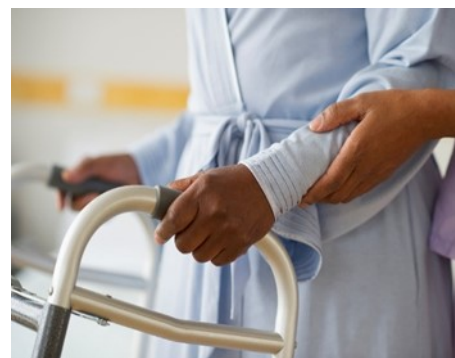
1. going to this link <https://tinyurl.com/connectgroups2024>; or
2. contacting the parish office; or
3. Using the QR code



Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

The recently arrived resident at the nursing home, Jim, was very alert and very stooped. His mind though was sharp. As they passed in the corridor a more settled in resident, Paula, said ‘Good morning.’ Jim replied, ‘Would you please look into my mirror?’ Now that certainly is not the normal response to a greeting. Paula was a little puzzled but looked down into the mirror that was strategically placed on Jim’s walker. Then she asked, ‘Why did you ask me to look into the mirror?’ Jim replied, ‘So I can see your face and know who you are.’



Looking into a mirror can be scary. Often, we see what we would rather not notice. However, more important, is what the heart reflects to others. When God or others look at the reflection of your heart what is it that they see? Are you pleased with what is reflected or is the sight a little scary?

Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER — THIS WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 14 Sept	Church Cleaning	D Attard, L Lathourakis	
Sat 14 Sept	Lawns	H Fernandez, Milan, Broeckmann, Oliphant	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 14 Sep	M Rodwell	T Chicharo	
8am 15 Sep	A Kelly	A Arnone	Kylie & Molly Hertsch, Gemma Farrugia
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 21 Sept	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 21 Sept	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
5pm 21 Sep	N O’Donoghue	B Collins	
8am 22 Sep	C Walsh	A Kelly	Leah Galea, Alison Sharwood
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		

PARISH NEWS

Lunch - 12noon Monday 16 Sept

A lunch gathering will be held at Wests Club on Monday 16th Sept. Please contact Sr Kerry on **0421 463 871** if you are able to join us. All welcome.

STIC young adults meets each Thursday (18-35)



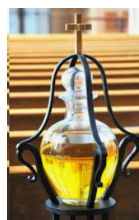
First Thursday: Guest speaker (7pm @St Therese)

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.

Anointing of the sick Mass - 11am Wed 18 Sept



You are invited to a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick and Elderly. The Mass will be celebrated at the Immaculate Conception Church on Wed 18 Sept commencing at 11am.

Following the Mass a light lunch will be served in the St Joseph's room. If you would like transport to and from the Mass, please contact Sr Kerry on 0421 463 871. We look forward to welcoming you.

Thank you for your prayers

Gloria Simmonite is progressing well in her recovery and wishes to thank those who have prayed for her.



Parish Finances - week ending 8 September 2024

\$617 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund

\$584 Second collection - Parish expenses

\$200 Tap Point donations

\$380 Planned giving envelopes

\$554 Direct debits (weekly average from August).

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

Safeguarding training - 1pm Saturday 12 October

The Diocese is providing a free Safeguarding training session for the parishes of Unanderra and West Wollongong at St Therese Parish Centre on Saturday 12th October, from 1pm (approximately 2 hours or so). This will provide essential knowledge for all involved in child-related ministries (especially Children's Liturgy volunteers and acolytes and adult servers).

Anyone involved in these ministries who can't attend this session, please let me know. All parishioners who are interested in gaining this important knowledge are also most welcome to attend.

Registration is essential – either email training@dow.org.au with your name and parish to indicate your attendance, or contact our parish office. The more of us who are equipped with this knowledge, the more effectively we will be able to work together in our parishes, homes and broader community to ensure our children are safe, protected and empowered.

FOSTER CARE WEEK 2024 – A CALL FOR FOSTER CARERS

Foster Care Week, beginning on 8 September to 15 September, aims to raise awareness of the urgent need for foster carers. In NSW, over 350 children and young people are urgently seeking foster care, with close to 100 of those children and young people living in our diocese alone.

CatholicCare is doing all it can to meet this need – but more carers are desperately needed. Bishop Brian has recorded a short video that outlines the challenges of the foster care system and is urging all parishioners within the Wollongong Diocese to discern if you can help: <https://dow.sh/bmfc24>.

For more information on becoming a foster carer, please contact CatholicCare on 02 4227 1122 or email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au.

CatholicCare will provide you and your family with training, emotional support, and financial assistance to ensure that you are supported every step of the way.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2024

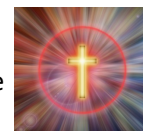
On the Journey this week. Fr Sheldon Burke CRS says Jesus reminds us that life involves suffering. Mother Hilda calls all to go to church on Sunday instead of worshipping a God of another kind somewhere else. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Fr Dave Callaghan, and Peter Abela
Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

"The Lord GOD is my help." When Christ calls one to follow as a priest or religious, He also gives the strength to overcome the obstacles that are sometimes in the way, but we must ask to receive this strength! (Isaiah 50:5-9)

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



"COME & SEE, GO & MAKE" FORMATION OPPORTUNITY!

Introduction to Parish Renewal (Module 103)

What is "parish renewal"? How do we recognise and honour all that is good in our communities and courageously move forward into the future? Then we can walk the path of renewal of heart, culture, and practice, and rediscover our reason for being.

REGISTRATION COMPULSORY FOR CATERING PURPOSES

Wollongong (& Zoom) – Wednesday, 2 October, 7-9:30pm

REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL: dow.sh/oct2024

All welcome!

WALK FOR LIFE SYDNEY

2 - 4PM SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, HYDE PARK, SYDNEY

Join the movement of Australians making abortion unthinkable in our country! All are welcome to this family-friendly gathering to be a voice for the unborn and call for the protection of every life from the moment of conception.

Information and Registration:

<https://www.lovesydney.org.au/>

WEEKEND RETREAT

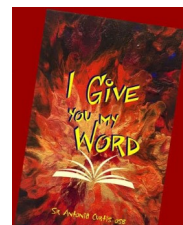
JAMBEROO ABBEY - 26 TO 28 SEPTEMBER

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



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Nowra parish is seeking the services of a part-time Parish Office Administration for 12 hrs per week – Tuesday to Friday, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

The position requires skills in administration, maintaining a database, and high skills in MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint. The parish office administration 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

Applications close 5pm Wednesday, 25 September 2024.

15 SEPTEMBER - THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - Isaiah 50:5-9

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who will dare to condemn me?

Responsorial Psalm - I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him. R.
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with the anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord, my God, deliver me! R.
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. R.
4. He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living. R.

Second Reading - James 2:14-18

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

Gospel - Mark 8:27-35

You are the Christ... The Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'