

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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 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 TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 22 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 23 Sep <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest</i>	Mass: 7am	
Tues 24 Sep	No Mass today	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 25 Sep	No Mass today	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm 
Thurs 26 Sep <i>Sts Cosmas and Damian, martyrs</i>	Mass: 5:30pm  Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 27 Sep <i>St Vincent de Paul, priest</i>	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am - 8am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 28 Sep <i>St Wenceslaus and St Lawrence Ruiz and companions</i>	Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am  Reconciliation: 11am Mass: 5pm	Rosary: 8:30am  Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 29 Sep	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Bernie Fitzpatrick, Maya Isobel Borja
 Domenico Carvana; Nicole Morris

Prayers for the sick

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

Anniversaries

Frank Posavec, Ellen Brown, Marie LaBrody,
 Dave Mellor, Leslie Heffernan, Ilenana Corradini

Ron Costello, Helen Duxbury,
 Charlie and Mary Micallef



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068

Monday: 8:30am-1:30pm
 Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday: 8:30am-1:30pm
 Thursday: Closed
 Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Message from Fr Duane

There is a lot of news this week! I'll simply comment briefly on some of the main items in the bulletin. The new parish initiative of **Connect Groups** is an exciting new way to connect more deeply with parishioners in an ongoing way. The upcoming **Safeguarding Training** will be an excellent opportunity to learn important skills and knowledge that will help us all to keep children safe both in our own parish and in our other spheres of influence. The **"Come and See, Go and Make"** formation sessions are an excellent opportunity to learn more about the Bishop's vision for our parishes, and also to connect with other parishioners from our region.

This weekend we will hold the **Bishop's Annual Appeal** where prayers and donations are requested for the sick and retired clergy of our Diocese, and the formation of our seminarians. In the video (shared via the emailed bulletin this week) Monsignor Graham Schmitzer is featured, as well as Joseph Nguyen, one of our senior seminarians. Speaking of our seminarians – please keep Duyet Le, the father of our seminarian Sinh Le, in your prayers. He is seriously ill in Vietnam, and Sinh has travelled there this week to be with him and support his family. Let us pray for Duyet's recovery, and for comfort and strength for Sinh and his family at this time.

Note that the Saturday Vigil Mass time will change to 6pm starting Saturday 12th October as daylight savings time would have recommenced, as agreed through the parish surveys some months ago.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

Observing the tree lopper taught me how thorough he was with his planned execution of what needed doing. Safety was a great issue. Tireless effort went into ensuring all was in place long before the chainsaw kissed the branch it was soon to chop. It was meticulous and timely, serious and well executed.

It's easy to allow barnacles to grow on us. They grow slowly over time, and we don't even notice the small changes until they are well established.

Like the tree lopper are you prepared to carefully observe what is happening within you? Those parts that need pruning or lopping away, or scraped off? It isn't an easy task. It can be frustrating and seemingly going nowhere but work away at this we must if we wish to be the best person we can be. *'The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.'* [Chinese proverb]

Sr Kerry Gardiner



ROSTER — THIS 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		

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

September	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 28 Sept	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, R Tassone, K McCrohon	
Sat 28 Sept	Lawns	Winner, Walsh, Carrigan, Bennett, Walker	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
5pm 28 Sep	T Chicharo		
8am 29 Sep	T Vaafusuaga	M Matos	School holidays
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

PARISH NEWS

Thank you from Marg Lloyd

Dear friends and parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish, thank you for your support of myself and my family at the time of Bob's recent passing into eternal life. In faith, hope and love I offer thanks for your sympathy and love.

Marg Lloyd

Parish Safety

We are committed to providing a safe environment for our church community. We ask that if you see anything unsafe whilst on church grounds please let us know by emailing the Parish office at unanderra@dow.org.au or calling 4271 1068. Members of our PPC and Finance Committee will review the information and take appropriate action

Parish Lunch

Thank you to those who were able to enjoy lunch and conviviality at the club last Monday. A great time was had by all. We hope you can join us next time we gather.



Anointing of the sick Mass

Sincere and prayer filled thanks to everyone who made possible the Mass and lunch on Thursday for the Anointing of the Sick. It was a wonderful celebration and gathering.



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.

Parish Finances - week ending 15 September 2024

\$569 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund

\$465 Second collection - Parish expenses

\$200 Tap Point donations

\$285 Planned giving envelopes

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

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

Connect Groups

This is a new initiative where relaxed small groups of about 10-12 people can gather (in parish spaces to begin with) to meet fortnightly for spiritual reflection, friendship and prayer, enabling people to go deeper in their relationships with God and with one another. We already have a number of expressions of interest both verbally and through this form. If you're interested, note that filling out this form is not a commitment at this stage, but you will be contacted soon where you can ask any questions and find out the next steps. You can register your interest, and potential availabilities, by:

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



Safeguarding training - 1pm Saturday 12 October

A free Safeguarding training session at St Therese Parish Centre on Saturday 12th October, from 1pm (approx 2 hours). This will provide essential knowledge for all involved in child-related ministries. Register at training@dow.org.au

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME - AIRS SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

On the Journey this week. Fr Chris de Rosario says Jesus urges us to be like little children and trust in God's presence, calling on Him constantly. Mother Hilda has a simple prayer from the Desert Fathers and Mothers. Fr Tony Percy says the importance of childlike receptiveness to God's kingdom ties into Pope Francis' Jubilee Year 2025 message. Journey Editor, Max Norden, talks to some participants at last year's menALIVE Growing Good Men weekend on their experience of the event.

Listen at jcr.org.au



JOURNEY
CATHOLIC RADIO

A VOCATION VIEW

"The Kingdom of Heaven is built by mutual cooperation, not competition. Work together to build the Kingdom, regardless of when God calls. (Matthew 20:1-16)

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!

SOCIAL JUSTICE POINTS

Today, in a culture where people struggle against one another for dominance and become obsessed with what is visible, the Church is called to echo the words of Jesus, to bring them to life again in all their potency.

- 'XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS' (Synod on Synodality) Synthesis Report.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

"Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and the sound and holistic formation of our Seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop. I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated."

+ Bishop Brian Mascord

The Bishop's Annual Appeal will be promoted in our parish this weekend. To find out more or make a tax deductible donation please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/>

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.

22 SEPTEMBER - THE TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading - Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death

The godless say to themselves:
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.
'Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.
If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.
Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

Responsorial Psalm - The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayer;
listen to the words of my mouth. R.
2. For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. R.
3. But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. R.

Second Reading - James 3:16 - 4:3

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia

Gospel - Mark 9:30-37

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity...

All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'