

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 Pastoral Council President: Mr Chris Lyon
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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
 Phone: 4271 1068

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (YEAR B) – 24 NOV 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 25 Nov <i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i>	Mass: 7am	
Tues 26 Nov	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 27 Nov	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm - 5:30pm Mass: 5:30pm 
Thurs 28 Nov	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:30pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm 	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 29 Nov	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am - 8am 	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 30 Nov <i>St Andrew, apostle</i>	Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am No reconciliation due to First Holy Communion Masses Mass: 6pm 	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am - 10:30am 
Sun 1 Dec	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Francisca Quetcher, Sr Michelle Condon RSJ,
 George Bezzina, Anna Bazun, Catherine Vojtech

Prayers for the sick

Michael Murphy (Figtree), Peter Lathourakis, Felix Johnson,
 Antoinette Sakr, Josephine Moran, Tonina Volpato,
 Goran Andersson, Nick Gandy

Anniversaries

Annie Clarke, Henry Duxbury,
 Ellen Walsh



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

This is the final Sunday of the Liturgical year (with Advent beginning the new Church year next Sunday). On this final Sunday of the Liturgical year we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King – also known as the Solemnity of **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. This Feast gives us a timely reminder, even amidst the uncertainties and struggles of our world, that God is still in charge, and working out his good purposes for all who seek him. The day will come when this Kingdom will be revealed in all its fullness; but now we continue to walk by faith, and we do our part to bring his Kingdom into this world by our lives.

We will be celebrating two special **First Holy Communion Masses** in Unanderra this Saturday and the same in West Wollongong the following Saturday. (Note – our regular parish Masses will be as normal). I am deeply grateful to the Sacramental Team across the two parishes who have prepared the children very well, and to the parents of the children – the first and most important teachers of their children in faith. Let us keep all of the children and their families in our prayers during this sacred time, that they may experience more deeply the love and closeness of Jesus and be filled with the power of his Spirit. May they all come to a deeper appreciation of the precious gift and mystery of the Eucharist all throughout their lives – and may we do the same!

Due to the First Holy Communion Masses, there will be no 11am Confessions at Unanderra on Saturday 23/11 or Saturday 30/11.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

When travelling south I stopped for a short break. I like to stretch the legs and give the eyes a break. I bought a refreshing drink and wandered the grounds.

The attached sign greeted me at the beginning of my ventures. I stopped, read the sign, and pondered, but surprisingly I did decide to venture a little further. With the warning it just was not a mindless wander but cautious stepping. From years in the bush, I have encountered my share of snakes. My saddest memory is that of attending the funeral of a six-year-old Indigenous girl who died from a bite from an eastern brown snake. Catherine was flown to Sydney but after a week and with no improvement the family wanted to bring her home to die. After the funeral Catherine's mother asked me to send the funeral booklet to the doctor in Sydney. This man obviously had a significant impact on them. He will never know how much he touched their lives but I hope he received a glimpse of the gratitude when he did receive the booklet. Who touches your heart? Are you able to give thanks?



Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

November	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 23 Nov	Church Cleaning	D Attard, L Lathourakis	
Sat 23 Nov	Lawns	Mannix, Brown, F Caruana, J Lonard, J Sharwood	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 23 Nov	N O'Donoghue		
8am 24 Nov	C Lyon	A Kelly	Sandra Michielin, Lisa Michielin, Ella Alessi
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Susan Adams	
Sat 30 Nov	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 30 Nov	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 30 Nov	D Ferrer	C Cleary	
8am 1 Dec	P Gunning	G Simmonite	Alicia Sanchez- Levine, Luke Janson
Counters	M Murphy (FT), S Alessi, H Murphy		

PARISH NEWS

Vinnies News



The season of Christmas is once more with us, a special time to express our love to family and friends by gifting. We are also encouraged to widen our generosity.

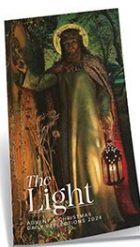
Our Parish Giving tree is standing tall near the Sacred Heart Altar. Please join in the St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal by taking a gift tag over the coming weeks. We thank you for your kindness, love and support.

New altar servers welcome

We are in the process of recruiting new altar servers - any children who have already received their First Holy Communion are eligible. If your child is interested, please contact the parish office by Friday 29th November.

The Light - Advent & Christmas reflections

The Light is a beautiful 88-page book of daily reflections designed to deepen your spiritual journey from the beginning of **Advent (1 December 2024) through to the Baptism of the Lord (12 January 2025)**, offering profound insights and contemplative thoughts that invite you to explore the depths of your faith and anticipate the joy of God's presence in the world. Cost is \$4. Please leave money in the container.



Church Ministries

Many parishioners give their valuable time to assist in helping in various ways to enable the smooth running of our parish. There is always a need for more volunteers to assist in the various ministries. If you are not already involved in any ministry the question is: *Are you able to assist in any ministry to help our parish?*

Volunteers are needed for:

- **Church cleaning** – This ministry involves an hour of your time once every 5 weeks and is usually done on Saturday mornings.
- **Lawn mowing** – This roster varies as more mowing is required in summer than in winter. Usually once a month in summer and once every couple of months in winter.
- **Lectors** to read at weekend and weekday masses
- **Welcomers** for the weekend masses.
- **Leaders for Children's Liturgy** after 8am Sunday mass during school term.
- **Washing of altar linen** on a monthly roster.
- **Flower arrangers.**

If you would like to be involved in any of these ministries could you please contact Barbara by email bfaraway@bigpond.com or by phone **0419 989608**. We are always in need of more volunteers particularly for church cleaning, lawn mowing and welcoming.

Becoming Catholic

Are you interested in becoming Catholic - or do you know anyone who might be interested? The first step in the process will be an individual meeting with Fr Duane, who will guide those interested into a preparation plan that will work best for them. Please contact Fr Duane or the Parish office.

Children's Liturgy Team and Baptism Preparation Team 2025

We are looking for volunteers to join the Children's Liturgy Team and the Baptism Preparation Team in 2025. These are both deeply rewarding ministries for all involved and help children and families draw closer to God and the Church. If you're interested to know more, please contact the parish office for more information.

STIC young adults - final event for 2024



STIC will have our final event on Thursday 28 Nov, and then will be in recess until 2025. Our final event **7pm Thursday 28 Nov** will be a pot luck and trivia night at St Therese - all young adults welcome.

Parish Finances - week ending 17 November 2024

\$700	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$559	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$292	Tap Point donations	
\$230	Planned giving envelopes	
\$503	Direct debits (weekly average from Oct).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

THE JOURNEY

CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2024

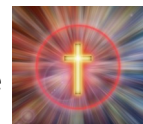
On the Journey this week. Fr Chris de Rosario says that God must reign over every aspect of our lives, not just in select moments or on Sundays. Mother Hilda says that every morning when you and I first wake, God whispers to us, have a nice day. Fr Tony Percy says that in times of crisis, the best antidote is truth. Fr Dave Callaghan MGL says that love inherently requires a response, prompting us to consider how we will respond, and Fr Mike Delaney on ordinary daily moments which inspired children and their parents. Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

To testify to the truth; this is why Christ came, this is the mission of the priest and religious. Has your life testified to the truth that Christ is King?

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



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

MONTAGUE STREET, NORTH WOLLONGONG

Vinnies are looking for your help. They need volunteers to help sort their ever-growing donations. As little as 3 hours/week will make a big difference.



If you are available and would like to share some of your time, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Lisa **0473 100 110** between 8am - 4pm Monday to Friday.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL CATECHIST MASS

9:30AM 7 DECEMBER

AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL, WOLLONGONG

All active and retired SRE Catechists and those involved in the Sacramental preparation of children are warmly invited to the Annual Catechist Mass and Awards Ceremony.

This special gathering is a wonderful opportunity to come together with fellow Life Members, fellow catechists, award recipients, special guests, and their families.

Join Bishop Brian Mascord, clergy, and fellow SRE and sacramental teachers and helpers for this celebration, followed by a light luncheon.

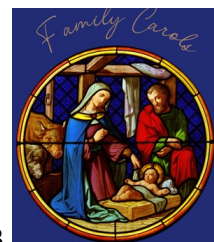
RSVP dow.sh/cm24 or helen.bennett@dow.org.au

GATHER

Christmas Carols will be held on **Monday 16 December from 5pm**. BYO picnic in the grounds of Edmund Rice College, enter via Mt Keira Rd, with community carol singing from 7pm.

All ages, individuals & families most welcome.

For further information: Fiona 0413 121383



PARISH NEWS CONTINUED...

CWL news - Christmas hampers for seafarers

The Catholic Women's league are preparing Christmas hampers for distribution to Seafarers. The Mission for Seafarers have requested magazines e.g. Wheels magazine, Sports magazines, National Geographic to give to the Seafarers. They have also requested 4 x guitars.

If you have items to donate, please call **Cathy 0421 189 948** for drop off arrangements.

Christmas Day lunch - 12pm at St Therese Parish Centre

If you or anyone you know might be interested in attending as a guest, or volunteer, please contact unanderra@dow.org.au with the subject heading "Christmas Lunch" to RSVP, for catering purposes. Flyers at the resource table to invite others

24 NOVEMBER - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

First Reading - Daniel 7:13-14

His sovereignty is eternal.

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm - The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

1. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. R.
2. The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. R.
3. Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. R.

Second Reading - Apocalypse 1:5-8

The ruler of the kings of the earth... made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God.

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the First-Born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia

Gospel - John 18:33-37

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'