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/

Parish Priest: **Fr Duane Fernandez**
Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
Mobile: 0414 626 357

Assistant Priest: **Fr Joseph Vuong Nguyen**
Email: joseph.vuongnguyen@dow.org.au

Polish Chaplain: **Fr Jerzy Slowinski**
Email: slowinski54@gmail.com
Mobile: 0410 225 975

Parish Assistant: **Sr Kerry Gardiner**
Email: Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au
Mobile: 0421 463 871

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: **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 Lisa Tyson**

Parish Secretary: **Mrs Melissa Bridges**
Office Hours: Mon/Wed: 8:30am - 1:30pm
Friday: 8:30am - 3:30pm

Parish Office:
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
Phone: 4271 1068

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (YEAR A) — 31 MAY 2026

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 1 June *St Justin, martyr*	Mass: 8am	
Tues 2 June *Sts Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs*	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:50pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	
Wed 3 June *Sts Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs*		Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:30pm Adoration: 4:30pm - 5:30pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 4 June	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:50pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	
Fri 5 June *St Boniface, bishop, martyr*	***Extended Adoration: 6pm - 9pm***	Mass: 7:45am
Sat 6 June	Mass: 5pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am - 10:30am
Sun 7 June	Mass: 8am *Mass: 10am (Polish)*	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Shirley Noonan, David Parr, Fr John Pickering, Peter McLeod, Arthur Infante Boer, Rosemarie Saad

Anniversaries

Katrina Meehan, Anthony Potts, Manuela Fanke, Peter Joseph, Tom Gerovassilis, Fr Doug Smith, Brielle Falzon, Mary Dredge

Prayers for the sick

Peter Stevens, Rachael Wakeley, Iris Brown, Michael Murphy, Mr Leandro, Don Harper, Peter Lathourakis, Antoinette Sakr, Lien Tran, George Hoyn Mary Gillis, Noel Meddows, Quoc H Tran, Trace Lee Wood

COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE

For any suggestions or concerns about safeguarding our children and vulnerable people, please contact the Parish Office, or the Diocesan Office of Professional Standards and Safeguarding at ***safeguarding@dow.org.au*** or ***4222 2428.***

Message from Fr Duane

Next Sunday we will celebrate the ***Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ*** – also known as ***"Corpus Christi".*** Having embarked upon our journey to the International Eucharistic Congress in 2028, there are a number of opportunities for us to enter more deeply into the wonderful mystery of the Eucharist.

- There is the Eucharistic Formation opportunity, via zoom, on Tuesday evenings;
- This Friday there is the extended Eucharistic Adoration at Unanderra, from 6pm to 9pm (with Reconciliation available), in addition to the usual times for Eucharistic Adoration across our two parishes; and
- Next Sunday 7th June, there is the Corpus Christi Retreat at Rosemeadow from 11am to 3:30pm, which is always a wonderful opportunity for formation and prayer. May we continue to deepen our appreciation for the most precious gift of the Eucharist during this sacred time of year.

Fittingly, next Saturday evening, following the Vigil Mass of the Body and Blood of Christ, there will be an important meeting for all who take ***Communion to the Sick and Housebound*** at any stage (other than to family members) ***6pm at St Joseph's Room on Saturday 6th June.*** Could all involved in this ministry please RSVP your attendance to the parish office as soon as possible. Thank you again for your vital ministry!

This weekend is our annual ***"Come and See Cup of Tea"*** in St Joseph's room, co-ordinated by our Parish Pastoral Council – whose role includes unite and supporting the various activities of the parish. This will be a special gathering showcasing the various parish groups and activities, and give everyone an opportunity to discern your own gifts and ways you might be called – whether at this time or in the future – to serve in our parish and broader community. We hope to see you all there!

Thank you to those who have already expressed an interest in helping serve a simple morning tea after Sunday 8am Masses – in addition to the wonderful feast prepared by the Catholic Women's League on the first Sunday of the month. If anyone is interested in joining the growing hospitality team, you can either contact the parish office, or express your interest at the Come and See Cup of Tea, where you can also chat with some of the others on the team.

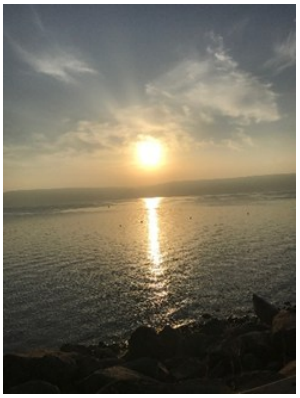
The young men's vocational discernment event, ***"Ephphatha: Be Opened"*** is coming up in just two weeks, and promises to be a blessed time of fellowship, formation and sharing with the Vocations Team (myself, Fr Joe Nguyen and Fr Mark De Battista), as well our own Fr Joseph and the Seminarians of our Diocese. We already have a number of young men registered, all at different places in their faith journey. RSVP by next Sunday.

This week, Pope Leo XIV published his first Encyclical Letter, entitled ***"On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence".*** I have not yet had the chance to read it, but encourage us all to look for time to read this newest papal teaching, so relevant for our time.

Our next Alpha is coming soon – commencing 22nd July – there are cards available on the resource table for you to register or invite others along!

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry



While studying in England I had the opportunity to visit the Holy Land in the mid-term break. The richness of the Holy Land still stirs my heart.

During the last week of the course, we had a retreat with well-known spiritual writer Margaret Silf. It was a wonderful retreat. Our last session was on Jesus telling his apostles they were to go to Galilee, and he would meet them there.

I knew when I returned to Australia, I would be living alone in an isolated town in the far northwest of the state. I knew the isolation, poverty, crime, the long, lonely roads, the dangers of night driving, the distances to be travelled, the lack of resources. I knew what awaited me as I had a posting there in my younger days.

Margaret's final words of the retreat after talking of the encounter with Jesus and the apostles was, 'Now go to ***your*** Galilee.' What profound words. ***What is your Galilee? Do you see / seek Jesus there?***

Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER — THIS WEEKEND

May	**Church Washing**	Susan Adams	
Sat 30 May	**Church Cleaning**	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 30 May	**Lawns**	*No lawn mowing this week*	
	Lectors	**Welcomers**	**Children's liturgy**
5pm 30 May	T Chicharo		
8am 31 May	C Walsh	M Matos	Gemma Farrugia, Leah Galea, Ella Alessi
Counters	S Alessi, A Davis, M Lyon		

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

June	**Church Washing**	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 6 June	**Church Cleaning**	A Williams, K Quinte	
Sat 6 June	**Lawns**	*No lawn mowing this week*	
	Lectors	**Welcomers**	**Children's liturgy**
5pm 6 June	N O'Donoghue	S Adams	
8am 7 June	D Ferrer	G Simmonite and A Arnone	Tierney, Nadine & Scarlett Dunne
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

PARISH NEWS

Safeguarding - Children's liturgy QR code registration
Please use this QR code to register your children for Children's Liturgy.

Come and See Cup of tea - 30/31 May in St Joseph's room

This will be a special gathering showcasing the various parish groups and activities, and give everyone an opportunity to discern your own gifts and ways you might be called to serve in our parish and broader community. We hope to see you all there!

2026 Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Program
Registration and information sessions will be held at the St Therese Parish Centre, Powell St, West Wollongong on either:

- 6:30pm Tuesday 16 June 2026.
- 6:30pm Thursday 18 June 2026.

Catholic Women's League - Silver circle tickets
CWL will be selling Silver Circle tickets after Mass on the weekends of 30/31 May and 6/7 June. It will commence on 8 June and run for 10 weeks. Tickets are $20 each.
Monday night lotto draw- 1st supplementary number receives $20 & 2nd supplementary $10 each week. Final week draw - winner receives $100.

Catholic Women's league - Morning tea Sunday 7 June
We are raising funds for the local Cancer Carers. There will be a donation box in the St Joseph's room. Cash donations will be greatly received to go towards supporting our community in time of need.

Morning tea at Wests Illawarra café
Due to the long weekend in June, we will not be gathering at Wests in June. Sr Kerry.

Your help would be appreciated
Every week many parishioners volunteer in various ministries to keep our parish running smoothly. We are grateful for all the work they do. Would you be able to give one hour of your time each month to volunteer in one of the parish ministries to help those who are already volunteering? We urgently need more people to:

- Clean our beautiful church (1hour every 5 weeks)
- To mow the lawns in the church grounds (Every 6 weeks)

Other ministries that need volunteers include Lectors and Welcomers at weekend masses, Children's Liturgy during 8am mass on Sunday and Flower Arranging. Please give some thought to volunteering. For more information contact Barbara on ***0419 989608***

STIC Young Adults - 7pm in the St Therese Parish Centre
Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. Message us on FB or Insta(@sticyoungadults) to join our WhatsApp for regular updates

Parish Finances - week ending 24 May 2026

$574	First Collection	*- Diocesan Clergy Remuneration Fund*
$548	Second collection	*- Parish expenses*
$467	Tap Point donations	
$330	Planned giving envelopes	
$587	Direct debits (weekly average from March).	

AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE

Tuesday 9 June 9am - 1pm
The Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow

Join us for a free community event featuring Dr Emily Steel from the Australian Human Rights Commission focusing on practical approaches to ageing well. Register by using the QR code or calling ***1800 967 894.*** If you require transport, please contact Sr Kerry who is happy to assist.

THE JOURNEY
CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 31 MAY 2026

On The Journey This Week: Fr Daniel McCaughan says the Trinity, is a mystery which God has progressively revealed through Scripture and salvation history. Mother Hilda says Henri Nouwen taught that brokenness is an unavoidable part of every human life. Bishop Tony Percy says through baptism, we are immersed into divine life. Listen at www.jcr.org.au

EPHPHATHA: BE OPENED!

Calling young men 18-35 years old
Sat 13 June, 12:30pm for 1pm lunch
St Therese Parish Centre, West Wollongong | cost FREE

How can we become more open to discovering God's plan in our daily lives? How do we know if we are called to marriage, priesthood or religious life? There are many opportunities now available through the Vocations and Youth Ministries of our Diocese, for young people to grow in faith and encourage each other. This is the first young men's discernment event, for all unmarried young men aged 18-35 to join Bishop Brian Mascord, the priests of the Vocations Team and our Seminarians for lunch, formation, Q&A, one to one chats and Eucharistic Adoration.

Register through this QR code or go to dow.sh/Ephphatha
If any young men or women would like help discerning their vocation, contact Fr Duane at ***vocations@dow.org.au***

CLERGY CARE COORDINATOR ASSISTANT

The Office of the Bishop | Catholic Diocese of Wollongong is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced ***Registered or Enrolled Nurse*** to join the team as an assistant to the Clergy Care Coordinator. This is a permanent part-time position, starting at 2 days/week with the possibility of extended hours in the future. The role involves providing general healthcare assistance including phone and email enquiries from clergy, providing transport for medical appointments and assisting with Clergy Health Assessments.
For further information or to request a full position description, please email ***louise.macdonald@dow.org.au***

CORPUS CHRISTI RETREAT

Sunday 7 June 2026
Location: Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow

As we prepare for the Eucharistic Congress, join with people from across the Diocese for a retreat to deepen your love of the Eucharist. St Joachim Hall, Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow from 11am–3:30pm (Following 10am Mass). Lunch will be provided. Open to adults (ages 14–17 with parent/guardian). For more information or to register go to: dow.sh/corpuschristi26

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

19 – 21 June 2026
Location: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love!
Book online at www.wwme.org.au or phone ***0490 774 419***

EUCHARISITIC FORMATION OPPORTUNITY—REAL PRESENCE

Join the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation for Rediscover the Real Presence, a FREE four-part Zoom series exploring Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. Three sessions feature a FORMED.org video series, with a final deep dive into the riches of the Church's teaching on the Eucharist. ***The series will run on Zoom Tuesdays, 7:00–8:15pm, from 26 May to 16 June.*** Register here: tinyurl.com/RRPZoomSeries

31 MAY 2026 - THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (YEAR A)

First Reading - Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9 ***The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.***

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.
He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

Responsorial Psalm - Glory and praise for ever!

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. R.
   Blest your glorious holy name. R.

2. You are blest in the temple of your glory. R.
   You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. R.

3. You are blest who gaze into the depths. R.
   You are blest in the firmament of heaven. R.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 13:11-13 ***The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.***

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.
Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was and who is to come. Alleluia!

Gospel - John 3:16-18 ***God sent his Son to save the world through him.***

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'