

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



Parish Priest:

Mgr Graham Schmitzer

Parish School:

St Pius X School
Cnr Hargreaves & Cummins Streets
PO Box 358 Unanderra NSW 2526
Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

Polish Chaplain:

Fr Tomasz Nowak
Mobile: 0437 677 727
Email: tomasz.n04@gmail.com

School Principal:

Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Sue Briscoe

**Parish Assistant &
Catechist Co-ordinator:**

Sister Joan Goodwin
Phone: 4272 9980
Mobile: 0499 970 074
Email: joan.goodwin@sosj.org.au

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9am—3:30pm
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Parish Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	13 Aug	Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm <u>NOVENA continues</u> Mass: 5.30pm
Tuesday	14 Aug	Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available) <u>Vigil Mass:</u> 5.30pm
Wednesday	15 Aug	The Assumption of Our Lady <u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> Masses: 7am, 9.30am, 11am (Polish), 7.30pm
Thursday	16 Aug	St Stephen of Hungary Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available) Mass: 5.30pm
Friday	17 Aug	Mass: 9.30am
Saturday	18 Aug	Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm
Sunday	19 Aug	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Masses: 7am, 9am, 10.45am (Polish)

NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION



*Mary has reached
the Father's House —
she beckons us on.*

Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament each day from
**Monday 6 August 2018 to
Tuesday 14 August 2018**

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR B 12 AUGUST 2018

READINGS: 1 Kg 19:4-8; Eph 4:30-5:2; Jn 6:41-51

Fed by an angel, a broken and dispirited Elijah is able



to walk all the way to
the Mountain of God.
(**FIRST READING**)

Jesus is the food which
gives us strength to
walk the pilgrimage of
life. (**GOSPEL**)

St Paul urges the
Ephesians to walk in the
way of love and thus
live up to their calling.
(**SECOND READING**)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries:

Cardinal Edward CLANCY
Bonnie MILLER
Bernard GILLIS
Frank TOOHEY
Geoff GOODWIN
Geraldine DRIES



ROSTERS — NEXT WEEKEND

August	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
Sat 18 Aug	Church Cleaning	M Lloyd, J Allen, J Haywood	
	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 18 Aug 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	M Gillis	Volunteer
Sun 19 Aug 7am Mass	A Michielin	M Walsh	Walsh Family
Sun 19 Aug 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	V Cleary	P Cundy, V Cleary
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, A McQueen, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	C Hailstone, L Galea		



PARISH ACTIVITIES

- Catholic Women's League:** 2nd Thursday of the month - 10.30am in St Joseph's room
New members always welcome!
Please contact: Barbara - 4271 1584
- St Vincent de Paul Conference:** Every Tue 7.30pm in St Joseph's room
- Parish Pastoral Council:** 2nd Monday of alternate months
7.30pm in St Joseph's room
- Nursing Home Masses**
- Hillside Nursing Home:** 1st Tuesday of the month - 2pm
- Figtree Nursing Home:** 2nd Tuesday of the month - 10:45am
- Villa Maria Nursing Home:** 3rd Tuesday of the month - 9:30am

*** Refreshments after 9am Mass ***

*** will NOT be held during August or September ***

Gospel Reflection

Lord, I've no idea where I'm going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will lead.
Nor do I really know myself.
And the fact that I think I'm doing your will
doesn't mean that I'm actually doing it.
But I believe that the desire to please you,
does in fact please you,
and I hope that I have this desire.
Though I may seem to be lost,
And in the shadow of death,
I will not fear, for you are with me,
And you will never leave me to face my perils alone.



Since Bob Lloyd has moved away from our parish, the church gardens are no longer being watered weekly...it would be much appreciated if someone could please spare some time each week to water our gardens. Thank You!!



MGR GRAHAM'S 75th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Thursday 16 August 2018 — Mass at 5.30pm / Dinner at 6.30pm (Finish time approx 9.30pm)

** Dinner/Drinks will be \$20pp, to be collected after Masses this weekend **

***** **CHANGE OF VENUE!!!!** *****

Due to numbers, the venue has been changed to St Pius X School Hall (park on street, enter via single gate on Cummins Street - gate has magnetic latch, push to open - please ensure gate closes after you enter)



If anyone has any queries regarding the night, please contact one of the following:

Mark Walsh - 0407 604 498

Fiona Fernandez - 0408 496 385

Barbara Farraway - 0419 989 608



**“Remember we are but
travellers here.”**

St Mary of the Cross — 1867

“Saint John Vianney taught his parishioners primarily by the witness of his life. It was from his example that they learned to pray, halting frequently before the Tabernacle for a visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. ‘One need not say much to pray well.’ the Curé explained to them.

‘We know that Jesus is there in the Tabernacle: let us open our hearts to him, let us rejoice in His sacred presence. That is the best prayer!’.”



Pope Benedict XVI

ILLAWARRA PEOPLE FOR PEACE

Annual General Meeting

Monday 13 August 2018 — Starting at 6.30pm

At the Edmund Rice College Hub

Supper will be supplied — All denominations are welcome



MANY CULTURES - ONE IN CHRIST MASS & FESTIVAL

Sunday 26 August 2018 at 2pm

St Francis Xavier Cathedral and
St Mary Star of the Sea College
Harbour Street Wollongong

Our annual Mass and festival celebrating the rich cultural diversity and heritage existing within our Diocese occurs at the end of August. All are invited to celebrate with Bishop Brian the many blessings and roles our cultural communities play within our broader diocesan community. This celebration coincides with the annual *Migrant & Refugee Week*.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM — AIRS SUNDAY 12 AUGUST 2018 —

This week on The Journey, we have invited the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to share with us their reflection from the Gospel of John. Trish McCarthy joins us in her Milk & Honey segment and reminds us that Life is Fragile, and Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy talks to us about Trusting is a Better Life. Christian Music is an integral part of our show and together with our God Spots, this is the Journey Catholic Radio, where faith, hope, love and life come together.

Go to www.jcr.org.au or
www.itunes.jcr.org.au
where you can listen any time and
subscribe to weekly shows by email



PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 - LISTEN TO WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING

This week, Bishop Brian Mascord is sending a Pastoral letter to all Parishes regarding the launch of the listening process for the Diocese of Wollongong and important information about the role of local animators and options for their training. Please go to www.dow.org.au for more information. A Vigil Mass will be held at **St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow, on Saturday 18 August 2018 at 6pm** to officially launch Plenary 2020 processes in the Diocese of Wollongong. As individuals and parish communities in the Diocese of Wollongong, there are some simple but important things you can do right now.



Visit the website at:

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au
which provides great resources that
will enable individuals and groups
to **Pray** for guidance, learn
more, commence dialogue and
subscribe for regular updates.

CURSILLO THREE-DAY WEEKEND

13-16 September 2018 - Hartzer Park, Bowral

This is a wonderful experience aimed at developing your relationship with God, and allowing you to really know just how much you are loved by Him. The informal weekend is a journey of sharing our faith through friendship. Single rooms and home-cooked meals add to a memorable experience. Men's and women's weekend run concurrently. For more information, please contact **Ken on 0417 244 059** or **Geraldine on 0421 329 365**.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILD 0-12 YEARS

A practical course on how we can hand on the Faith at different stages of a child's development. Based on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd approach developed by Maria Montessori and Sofia Cavalletti.

This short course on the formation of the Catholic heart, memory, intellect and imagination, will be held in St Joseph's meeting room at Immaculate Conception Parish Unanderra.



**Mondays 9.30am–11am for 4 weeks:
6, 13, 20 & 27 August 2018**

All welcome! Enquiries: Mary Carolan 0423 385 448

My dear people,

The universal Church celebrates on Wednesday the Solemn Feast of Our Lady's Assumption. The Catechism contains a succinct summary of this dogma: *"The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of His Body."* (#974).

The proclamation of this dogma on 1st November 1950 by Pope Pius XII, is the only declared exercise of papal infallibility. But it was also an exercise of the infallibility of Christ's Church. In 1946 Pope Pius sent a letter to all the Bishops of the world asking two questions: "(1) Do you judge that the bodily Assumption of the Blessed Virgin can be proposed and defined as a dogma of the faith? (2) Do you, with your clergy and people, desire it?". With only a few exceptions (some wondered the necessity of declaring this a dogma since everyone believed it), the resounding answer was YES.



The Catholic people were already expressing this truth in many ways. They had always frequented churches on 15th August, and were reciting a decade of the Rosary in honour of the Assumption in their private prayer. Under the title of the Assumption, countless churches had been dedicated. The definition came as little surprise. But why 1950?

Pius XII had come to the papacy in March 1939 as war clouds began to blacken the skies of Europe. Before the year was over, Germany had invaded Poland and World War II had begun. For the next ten years Pius would lead the Church through one of the most agonising periods of its history. He would witness the physical destruction of Europe, the defeat of Nazism and Fascism, the internal struggle against Communism in his own Italy, the persecution of the Church in Eastern Europe. He would be overwhelmed with grief by the extermination of 6 million Jews and 4 million Christians. He would see China opt for Communism which would wipe out the Catholic Church which had only begun to flourish there. He would witness the dropping of the atomic bomb, and the awe that began to settle over the world as the threat of a nuclear holocaust became possible. Two Cardinals would be sentenced to imprisonment by Communist regimes—Cardinal Mindszenty of Hungary and Cardinal Stepinac (now Blessed) of Yugoslavia. Inside the Church theological opinions would begin to question the basics of the Faith.

In this climate the Pope called a Holy Year for 1950. It was to be the Year of the Great Return, a Year of the Great Pardon as he called it. He appealed both to the faithful and to all people of good will to make reparation for the sins committed against the dignity of the human race. He was greatly devoted to Our Lady, having been consecrated a bishop on 13th May 1917, the day of the first apparition of Our Lady at Fatima.

In this post-war atmosphere, Pope Pius hoped by his definition of the dogma of the Assumption to give glory to God, the giver of all gifts, including the gift of Mary. He hoped that greater devotion to Our Lady would bring people back to God and thus improve social and moral life, and bring the universal peace all hoped for. Another benefit of the dogma, he believed, was that calling attention to the bodily Assumption of Mary would remind all men and women that the human body is sacred, and that the whole person, body and soul, is holy and destined to live forever. As he so clearly stated, the declaration of the Assumption would make our belief in our own resurrection stronger.

The Assumption is one of the most important dogmas of our Faith because it bears direct reference on our own lives. "Father, I want those You have given me to be with me where I am," Christ prayed at the Last Supper. The Assumption announces the beginning of the fulfilment of that prayer. What God has done for Mary, He intends to do for each one of us.

Mgr Graham Schmitzer

Mgr Graham Schmitzer
Parish Priest