

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



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Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

School Principal: Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary: Mrs Sue Briscoe

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	8 Apr	Mass:	7am
Tuesday	9 Apr	Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm
		Mass:	5.30pm
Wednesday	10 Apr	Mass:	7am
Thursday	11 Apr	Polish Mass:	11am
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available)
		Mass:	5.30pm
Friday	12 Apr	Mass:	9.30am
Saturday	13 Apr	Mass:	7.30am
		Reconciliation:	4.30pm-5.30pm
		Vigil Mass:	6pm
Sunday	14 Apr	Palm Sunday of the Passion	
		Masses:	7am, 9am (begins in the Porch)
		Polish Mass:	10.45am

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — YEAR C

7 APRIL 2019

READINGS: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

The prophet Isaiah addresses a message of hope to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. God will rescue them in a way more marvellous than He did their ancestors from Egypt. This will happen because God is faithful to His people (**FIRST READING**).

This prepares us for the **GOSPEL** — Jesus is faithful even to the sinner. In the **SECOND READING** St Paul declares He has willingly sacrificed everything

for Christ. Like a runner at the final stage of a race, he doesn't look back but keeps his eye on the prize.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Kevin GREW
Raymond BLATTMAN

Anniversaries

Rita ZAMPA
William DREDGE



PARISH NOVENA

Hello Parish Prayers,

How time flies. The next rosary novena for a parish priest for our parish begins on Monday 8 April. This is the midway novena, so with a prayer of gratitude to our Lord for His grace of perseverance, let's make use of this grace to faithfully continue with our prayer commitment.

For further details, contact Mark Walsh on 0407 604 498.



ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

April	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 13 Apr	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, S Walsh	
	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown F Caruana, R Murphy	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 13 Apr	G Attard	R Baxendale	C Dean
Sun 14 Apr 7am Mass	M Walsh	C Walsh	Walsh Family
Sun 14 Apr 9am Mass	R Klaus, C Carolan	A Kelly	S Michielin, V Cleary
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		

ROSTER – EASTER

Sat 20 Apr	Church Cleaning	J Allen, J Haywood, A Gollop, S Chavez	
	Lawns		
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 20 Apr	A Carlotto	A Kelly	B Faraway
Sun 21 Apr 7am Mass	A Michielin	S Walsh	Volunteer
Sun 21 Apr 9am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	J De Battista	P De Battista
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays		

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 on 1st weekend of the month

Gospel Reflection

*The quality of mercy is not strain'd;
it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
upon the place beneath,
It is twice blest:
it blesseth him that gives and him that takes.
'Tis mightiest in the mighty;
it becomes the throned monarch
better than his crown.
It is enshrined in the hearts of kings.
It is an attribute of God himself.
And earthly power doth then show likest
God's when mercy seasons justice.
Therefore, though justice be thy plea,
consider this - that in the course of justice
none of us should see salvation.
We do pray for mercy,
and the same prayer doth teach us all to
render the deeds of mercy."*

*William Shakespeare
(The Merchant of Venice)*



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Everyone is welcome to join the ladies for morning tea on
Thursday 11 April 2019 at 10.30am in St Joseph's Room.

The meeting will
follow morning tea.
Please come and
join us for a chat.



EASTER RAFFLE

This weekend is your last chance to get some raffle tickets! We will be selling raffle tickets at every Mass to win some Easter goodies — **to be drawn after 9am Mass on Palm Sunday next week.** All money raised will go towards the celebrations of Monsignor Graham's Golden Jubilee dinner later this year.



“Have courage. We must all willingly and with constancy suffer all that God sends for our good.”

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1872)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EASTER CEREMONIES

Volunteers are required for the various ministries for the Easter Ceremonies. If you would like to be involved in the parish ceremonies for the most important week in our Church, please write your name on the sheets located on the seat in the centre aisle of the church.

- Acolytes / Readers / Servers / Welcomers
- Volunteers for Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday



APPIN MASSACRE MEMORIAL

Sunday 14 April 2019 Cataract Dam Picnic Area 11am-3.30pm
Hosted by The Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group and the Aboriginal Communities of Macarthur. For further information, contact Uncle Ivan Wellington 0447 581 306 or Sr Kerry 9605 1838.

CHILDREN’S RELIGIOUS LIBRARY

Parents — a wonderful library has been set up in St Joseph’s Room containing over 400 Religious Books. It caters for children from the age of 3 to young teenagers. It operates each Sunday after the 9am Mass or by arrangement with parents. The Library is stocked with over 100 books on suitable Holy Week and Easter stories. Enrol your children and provide them with books to help them grow in their Catholic Faith. A special library bag is provided.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 7 APRIL 2019 –

This week on The Journey, we move into the Gospel of John 8:1-11 and Fr Sean Cullen reflects on this Gospel reading; our Trust Lenten programme provides the sung Responsorial Psalm, “The Lord Has Done Great Things”; Mother Hilda from the Abbey reminds us of “The Divine Presence”; and our Sam Clear in his Walking the Walk God spot reminds us about Facing the Darkness. We have some amazing music so be sure to listen until the very end of our programme.



JOURNEY
CATHOLIC RADIO

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

KEY REGISTER

I am creating a Key Register to keep track of who is in possession of keys to the Church/ Presbytery. Can you please contact me to let me know, so that I can put your name/contact phone number/email into the register.

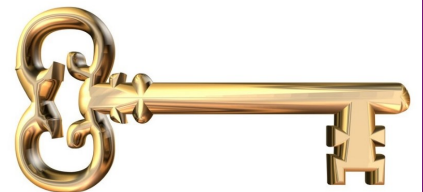
Please either email: unanderra@dow.org.au

OR

Telephone parish office: 4271 1068

(Mon/Thu/Fri 9am-3pm)

From
Sue Briscoe
Parish Secretary



PROJECT COMPASSION

You may remember Salma, who featured in Project Compassion 2013. At the time she was pregnant with her first child, sick and terribly frightened. In distress, she sought the help of a midwife trained by Caritas’ Safe Motherhood Programme.

Six years on, she’s now a healthy mother of two strong, happy children. Salma is committed to giving her children the education they need to provide them with the future she hoped for.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help reduce infant mortality rates in countries like Bangladesh and provide hope to pregnant women in remote communities for happy and healthy families.

My Dear People,

The first Lenten Preface of the Mass tells us: “Each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed. As we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ, you bring the image of Your Son to perfection within us.”

During the course of the Church’s year we celebrate in liturgy the history of our salvation — from the fall of our First Parents to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. We celebrate this Mystery more solemnly during Holy Week. Mankind’s salvation history can be divided into two, but not

separate, parts: (1) What God did in the past, and how this all led up to the First Coming of Christ; and (2) What God is doing in the present, and how this will lead up to the Second Coming of Christ.

In the Old Testament, God dealt with His people through signs (especially the Passover through the Red Sea) and through the prophets. All this came to fulfilment through Christ’s Passover from death to life. Now God carries on His work amongst His people through the Sacraments (a word meaning ‘signs’). At Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time, the signs will give way to the realities they signify. There will be no need for signs in Heaven — we will see as we are seen.

In order that these Sacramental signs have their intended effect on us, we must come to them with the proper dispositions. Our observance of Lent has been preparing us for this — more fervent prayer, more practical generosity. In short — a desire for union with God. The object of the ceremonies of Holy Week is to bring about in us a true spiritual resurrection, that we begin afresh to think as God thinks. We will renew the vows of our Baptism and commit ourselves once more to living a holy Christian life. Therefore, at Easter something should happen. We are not just spectators at a light and sound show.

St Andrew of Crete gives good advice as we begin our celebration of the Great Week, as it was called in medieval times. “It is ourselves that we must spread under Christ’s feet, not coats or lifeless branches or shoots of trees, matter which wastes away and delights the eye only for a few brief hours. We have clothed ourselves with Christ’s grace, so let us spread ourselves like coats under his feet.”

The Holy Week ceremonies only make sense if they are true expressions of our love for Christ. The Holy Week liturgy grew out of the devotion of the early Christians of Jerusalem who loved to visit the sites of the Passion. By the year 400 the ceremonies had become quite stylised (we know this from the diary of a visiting nun called Egeria), and they have changed very little since.

It is true that the Christians of Jerusalem had an advantage over us — they were closer to Our Lord both in time and place. But our devotion need not be any less. Our Faith tells us that in the Sacred Liturgy what we remember actually becomes present. Time is suspended. Unanderra becomes Calvary. The Divine Victim becomes present in all His power. And all for our sakes. We are not doing Christ

a favour by attending next week’s ceremonies. He’s doing us a favour.



LIVING FAITH

Now available

Daily Devotions: April—June

Two versions: Adult and Children

\$4.00

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mgr Graham Schmitzer".

Mgr Graham Schmitzer
Parish Priest