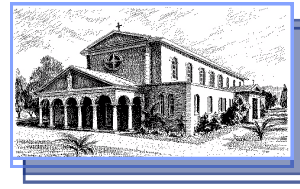


PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48-50 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526

www.unanderraparish.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Duane Fernandez
Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
Phone: 4229 1074

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

Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
Email: Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au
Phone: 4272 9980 (Convent)
Mobile: 0421 463 871

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: Mr Philip Moore
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon)
Mrs Sue Briscoe (Wed/Thu/Fri)

Parish Office: Mon: 8.30am–3pm (Magda)
Wed: 8.30am–11.30am (Sue)
Thu/Fri: 8.30am–2.30pm (Sue)
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

UNANDERRA (U) and WEST WOLLONGONG (WW)

Monday	9 Dec	Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary	
		Mass: 11am (Polish)	(U)
		Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass: 5.30pm	(U)

Tuesday	10 Dec	Mass: 7.45am	(WW)
		Adoration: 4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass: 5.30pm	(U)

Wednesday	11 Dec	Mass: 7am	(U)
Wed WW Adoration & Mass not on this week		Adoration: 4.30pm (inc Reconciliation)	(WW)
		Mass: 5.30pm	(WW)

Thursday	12 Dec	Mass: 7.45am	(WW)
		Adoration: 4.30pm-5.20pm	(U)
		(Reconciliation Available)	(U)
		Mass: 5.30pm	(U)

Friday	13 Dec	St Lucy	
		Mass: 9.30am	(U)
		Mass: 10.15am	(WW)

Saturday	14 Dec	St John of the Cross	
		Mass: 7.30am	(U)
		Mass: 9am	(WW)
		Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am	(WW)
		Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Vigil Mass: 6pm	(U)

Sunday	15 Dec	Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)	
		Mass: 8am	(U)
		Mass: 10am	(WW)
		Mass: 10am (Polish)	(U)
		Mass: 5pm	(WW)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A 8 DECEMBER 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory
of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading:

Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading:

Romans 15:4-9

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 3:1-12

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes
to you from God.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday 9 December marks our Patronal Feast, The Immaculate Conception — this is the final day of the Novena at Unanderra, with Adoration at 4.30pm and Mass at 5.30pm.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries

Ellen WALSH
Norm BRANSGROVE Snr
Fr Andrew APOSTOLI



ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 14 Dec	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, S Walsh	
Sat 14 Dec	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, R Murphy	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 14 Dec 6pm Mass	G Attard	R Baxendale	C Dean
Sun 15 Dec 8am Mass	M Walsh, L Burns	C Walsh, A Kelly	S Michielin, Walsh Family
Counters	A Gunning, M Cauduro, C Garrett		
Children's Liturgy	L Galea, V Cleary		



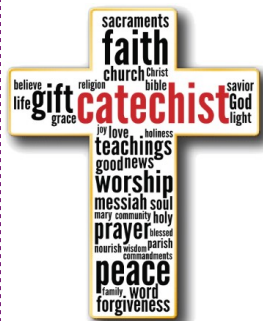
PARISH ACTIVITIES

- 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:** Mark Walsh (PPC President)
Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com
0407 604 498
- 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
 - Uniting Nursing Home FarmHts: 3rd Friday of the month - 9.30am

Refreshments after the 8am Mass on the first weekend of each month in St Joseph's Meeting Room (Unanderra)

ATTENTION ALL CATECHISTS!

It is my pleasure to be able to say a personal 'thank you' to you, the catechists, who have given tirelessly throughout the year to bring the Good News to the children in our state schools.



You are invited to gather at the **Convent** this coming **Tuesday 10 December at 3.30pm**. To assist with catering, it would be appreciated if you could please contact me if you wish to attend. (see front of bulletin for contact details).

*With thanks and blessings,
Sr Kerry*

ADVENT PROGRAMME

"The Way" 2019 Advent programme is available now

(located on the middle pew) —

\$4.00 each



CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

It's that time of year again for our

Annual Christmas Raffle

to support the charities of the Catholic Women's League.

There are 3 Christmas Hampers to be won!

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Raffle tickets will be on sale at the following Masses: **Saturday 7 December (6pm) and Sunday 8 December (8am)**. The raffle will then be drawn after the 8am Mass on Sunday 8 December.

The ladies of the CWL would like to thank you all for your continued support.



VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul will start selling their Christmas cards and Columban calendars this weekend after each Mass.

Christmas cards are \$6.00 for a pack of 10 and the 2020 Columban Calendar is \$9.00.



A VOCATION VIEW



Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord, to clear Him a straight path? Good, I prayed you would.

If anyone would like to know more, please contact the **Diocesan Vocations Director**, Fr Duane Fernandez, at vocations@dow.org.au

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

If you would like to be involved in the Liturgy at the Christmas Masses as an ACOLYTE, a LECTOR or a WELCOMER, you are invited to put your name on the Christmas Roster. The roster sheet is located on the middle pew of the church.



Unanderra Parish Christmas Mass times will be:

Christmas Eve — 9pm Vigil

Christmas Day — 8am

USED STAMPS FOR PERU

Did you know that your used stamps can help the poor of Peru?! The Sisters of St Joseph are carrying out much needed charity and educational work amongst



Peru's poor and youth — and our used postage stamps are sold to raise funds for this work.

Thank you to all those who continue to collect used stamps and put them in the box at the side door of the church.

Please continue to collect them at home and/or work, and maybe ask your family and friends to save their used stamps too. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!



"On behalf of Mary MacKillop Today, I thank you for your generous support in supplying and assisting with used stamps. We have had another wonderful year, raising approximately \$65,000. A great effort from many, many people! From 2001 until now, the total raise has been \$378,000. It is through your efforts that the legacy of St Mary MacKillop Today continues in Peru to this day."

Sr Helen Saunders, for Sisters of St Joseph

A MESSY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

If, like us, your Christmas is a bit messy, we'd love you to come along to our Messy Christmas Celebration!

We'll be doing some messy crafts, exploring the Christmas story and sharing some afternoon tea.

Join us from **3.30pm on Saturday 14 December** at St Therese parish hall.



Please contact
Lauren Hall at
westgongyouth@hotmail.com
to RSVP!

SONGS OF JOY — KIAMA

**Sunday 15 December 2019 — 2.30pm
at Ss Peter & Paul Church in Kiama**

A combined chorus of over 180 singers from Sydney and the South Coast are joining together for a sensational afternoon of song. Antoinette Raynal, Director of Katandra Women's A Cappella, says "The joy of singing has such an impact on both the audience and the singers, nothing beats the excitement and impact of such a beautiful big sound."

Sydney's Hummingsong Community Choirs, Maribella and Senisuara — as recently seen on Australia's Got Talent — are the special guests for the event.

The finale features the Kiama youth group "The Sing Space Vocal Ensemble" leading the combined chorus in singing "One Voice" — it is sure to create a moving highlight which will raise the roof and cheer in the season!

Entry to the concert is by donation with all proceeds going to charity, "The Homestead of Hope", a proud collaborative endeavour by Kiama churches to support those in need within our community.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

— AIRS SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2019 —

Here on the Journey this week, we have nothing but the best to continue the Advent Season. You'll hear from Fr Antony Jukes, straight from the Advent programme, as well as the wonderful Mother Hilda Scott, Bruce Downes and Sam Clear, just to name a few.

Tune in to **LIFE 101.9** or **98.5** or go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au to ensure you never miss a show, with it sent to you each week as a podcast via email — for free!

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



JOIN THE ADVENTURE

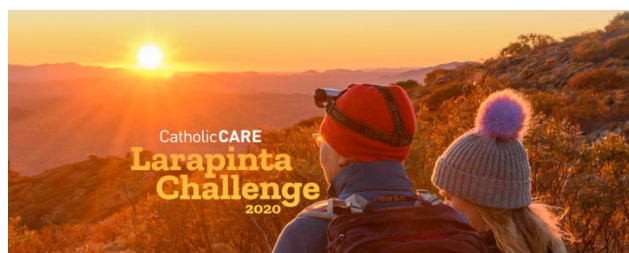
It is with great excitement we announce CatholicCare will be holding a fundraising trek to the iconic Larapinta Trail (near Alice Springs)

28 September – 4 October 2020

We are seeking participants to undertake the trek and help raise \$100,000 to help children in need throughout the Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Macarthur and Southern Highlands areas.

To find out more, please visit:

www.tiny.cc/CatholicCareLarapinta



MONSIGNOR GRAHAM'S GOLDEN JUBILEE/RETIREMENT PHOTOS

On Friday 23 August 2019 our former Parish Priest, Monsignor Graham Schmitzer, commenced his retirement, which coincided with the date of his Golden Jubilee — which was celebrated on that day.

To view the photos from that eventful gathering, please go to: www.unanderraparish.org.au/retirement



Message from Fr Duane

Firstly I wish to thank Mgr David O'Brien for celebrating all four Masses (and a baptism!) this weekend in my absence. Sinh Le (seminarian on placement with us) and I are away in Perth for five days for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. About 120 young people from the Diocese of Wollongong are joining about 5,000 other young Catholics from all around Australia, for this biennial festival. Please keep the young people in your prayers, that this may be a blessed time of encounter with God and each other.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is to be celebrated this Monday 9 December (since Sunday takes precedence on 8 December this year). In the words of Pope Francis, "In the Immaculate Conception of Mary we are invited to recognize the dawn of the new world, transformed by the salvific work of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; the dawn of the new creation brought about by divine mercy. For this reason the Virgin Mary, never infected by sin and always full of God, is the mother of a new humanity. She is the mother of the recreated world." This is a wonderful feast day for the whole Church and indeed the whole world - and in a special way for this Parish of the Immaculate Conception. I thank Fr Jerzy for celebrating the Mass on the Feast Day itself, as well as providing Eucharistic Adoration every evening this past week in preparation for the Feast. Let's pray for an outpouring of blessings upon this Parish through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother, that we too may say an ever deeper "yes" to God's call in our lives.

Next Sunday 15 December is the final monthly "youth focused Mass" for the year — 5pm at St Therese West Wollongong. Young adults who attend other Masses are most welcome to gather after that Mass at the St Therese old convent, where around 50 young adults gather for refreshments and fellowship.

Fr Duane Fernandez
Parish Priest



Unanderra

Vigil Mass: 9pm
Polish Mass: 10.30pm

Christmas Mass: 8am
Polish Mass: 10am

Polish Mass: 10am

West Wollongong

Christmas Eve:

Vigil Mass: 6pm (at TIGS)

Christmas Day:

Christmas Mass: 10am

Boxing Day:



ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree has been placed in the church and is full of tags for children's toys and Christmas food. The gifts received from this tree are used by the Unanderra St Vinnies Conference to distribute approximately 40 Christmas hampers and toys for about 70 children to the needy within the Unanderra area. Gifts need to be placed under the Giving Tree by **Sunday 15 December**, as hampers and toys will be delivered on Thursday 19 December. A big thank you to all of the generous parishioners who have supported the Vinnies Giving Tree for many years.



WEST WOLLONGONG PARISH BULLETINS

For those who would like to read the West Wollongong Sunday bulletin each week, there are several copies located in a tray near the side door of the church — alternatively if you would like to receive the bulletin via email, please contact: westwollongong@dow.org.au

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 12 noon (second and fourth Sunday of each month only)

Second Sunday of the Month — **West Wollongong**

Fourth Sunday of the Month — **Unanderra**

(Minimum of one month's notice is required)

MARRIAGES / FUNERALS / ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By appointment only — please contact Fr Duane

(Minimum of six months' notice is required for weddings — no Sunday weddings)

PARISH SICK LIST

If you would like to include your loved ones' names on our Sick List — please email the Parish office at unanderra@dow.org.au or telephone **4271 1068**