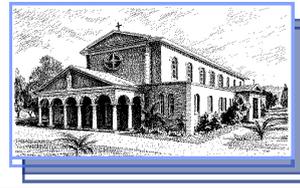


PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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	16 Dec	Mass:	7am	(U)
Tuesday	17 Dec	Mass:	7.45am	(WW)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
Wednesday	18 Dec	Mass:	7am	(U)
		Reconciliation:	10am (Polish)	(U)
		Adoration:	4.30pm (inc Reconciliation)	(WW)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(WW)
Thursday	19 Dec	Mass:	7.45am	(WW)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.20pm	(U)
			(Reconciliation Available)	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
Friday	20 Dec	Mass:	9.30am	(U)
		Mass:	10.15am	(WW)
Saturday	21 Dec	Mass:	7.30am	(U)
		Mass:	9am	(WW)
		Reconciliation:	9.30am-10.30am	(WW)
		Reconciliation:	5pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Vigil Mass:	6pm	(U)
Sunday	22 Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)		
		Mass:	8am	(U)
		Mass:	10am	(WW)
		Mass:	10am (Polish)	(U)
		Mass:	5pm	(WW)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A 15 DECEMBER 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

First Reading:

Isaiah 35:1-6,10

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading:

James 5:7-10

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring
Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and
do not fear. Behold, our God will come,
and he will save us.



WINNERS OF CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

1st Prize: Karene Harrison
2nd Prize: Norm Gamble
3rd Prize: Alan Bennett

The ladies of the CWL would like to thank the parishioners for their wonderful support. The money raised will be used for parish work, helping drought victims in western NSW and homeless women.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries

Ian RITCHIE

Bruce REEDY



ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 21 Dec	Church Cleaning	J Allen, J Haywood, A Gollop, S Chavez	
Sat 21 Dec	Lawns	Fernandez Family, M Walsh	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 21 Dec 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	A Kelly	B Farraway
Sun 22 Dec 8am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	S Walsh, G De Battista	L Harper, P De Battista
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
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: 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)

ADVENT PROGRAMME

"The Way" 2019 Advent programme
is available now

(located on the middle pew) —

\$4.00 each



CHRISTMAS MASS 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

VINNIES GIVING TREE

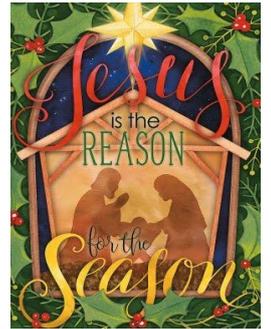


The Christmas Giving Tree still has some tags left on it for children's toys and Christmas food. Your gifts need to be placed under the Giving Tree by **Sunday 15 December** at the latest, as hampers and toys will be delivered on Thursday 19 December. The gifts received from this tree are used by the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

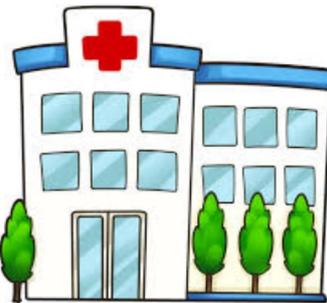
VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS

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

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



HOSPITAL MASSES



There will be no Masses at Wollongong Private Hospital and Wollongong Public Hospital between August and December 2019 — they will **resume in January 2020**.

Please contact **0475 815 506** for your hospital spiritual needs.

ROSTERS FOR 2020

Many thanks to all the parishioners who have volunteered to assist with parish ministries next year.

Your generosity is very much appreciated.

The Roster booklets for 2020 are now available for all volunteers to take. They are located in a box on the shelf to the right of the Christmas tree on the right-hand side of the church near the baptismal font.



CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH

This Christmas Day, Ratha's Place will be opening for a special purpose. All welcome!

Ratha's Place – 84 Central Avenue Oak Flats

Wednesday 25 December 2019 – From 10.30am to 12noon

Together, with the support of the community, Ratha's Place will be serving a festive feast on Christmas Day. Ratha's Place will be opening our doors to provide a safe and friendly environment for those in need of a Christmas meal.

We will have transport available to and from our cafe on Christmas Day for locals that don't have access to transport. We will also be delivering meals to local people or groups to ensure that we can help everyone to have a Merry Christmas.

Members of the local community have pre-purchased these meals on behalf of people in need – families, couples and individuals are all welcome!

Contact us if you know of anyone in need this Christmas:

Mobile: 0414 975 627

Email: faye.webb@barringtongroup.com.au



CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS



A great range of excellent quality religious gifts are available from Cathedral Books and Gifts. A beautiful selection of bibles, books, missals, rosaries, plaques, crucifixes, medals, statues, greeting cards and candles – perfect to commemorate

Confirmation, First Holy Communion and Baptism.

Enter the store via Crown St, Xavier Centre, Wollongong

For enquiries, please phone 4222 2484

SONGS OF JOY – KIAMA

Sunday 15 December at 2.30pm - Ss Peter & Paul Church 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 Hummingbird 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 15 DECEMBER 2019 –



Are you looking to reflect on this week's Gospel? Or need a bit of wisdom and inspiration? The Journey has a terrific Reflection from Pete Gilmore this week on the show, as well as talks from Mother Hilda Scott, Fr Dave Callaghan and Marilyn Rodrigues.

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

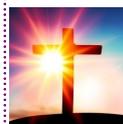
We are seeking participants to undertake the trek and help raise \$100,000 to help children in need throughout the Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Macarthur and Southern Highlands areas.

To find out more, please visit:

www.tiny.cc/CatholicCareLarapinta



A VOCATION VIEW



Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?". Simply, tell the good news to people. Nothing else matters.

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

MONSIGNOR GRAHAM'S GOLDEN JUBILEE/RETIREMENT PHOTOS

On Friday 23 August 2019 our former Parish Priest, Mgr Graham Schmitzer, celebrated both his Golden Jubilee and retirement.

To view all of the photos from that eventful day, please go to:



www.unanderraparish.org.au/retirement

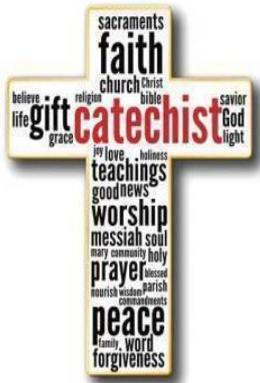
Message from Fr Duane

Our seminarian, Sinh, and I have just arrived back from the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth. About 100 young people from Wollongong diocese joined almost 6,000 youth from all around Australia.



The Festival exceeded all our expectations, including my own, and I can assure you that God is doing something very powerful in this next generation of young people. The Church is well and truly alive and growing!

Speaking of our youth, this Sunday we celebrate "Catechist Sunday" in both Unanderra and West Wollongong Parishes. This is an opportunity to celebrate the wonderful work of the catechists who volunteer to teach state school children about Jesus, as well as opening up the ministry to any parishioners who may consider taking up this vital ministry for children who may have no other way of coming to know Jesus.



Fr Duane Fernandez
Parish Priest

CATECHISTS NEEDED!

Are you available?

If so, please speak with **Mary Carolan, Barbara Farroway, Fiona Fernandez, Gabriella De Baptista, Mary Gillis or Sr Kerry.**

We would love for you to join our team!



Unanderra

Vigil Mass: 9pm
Polish Mass: 10.30pm

Christmas Mass: 8am
Polish Mass: 10am

Polish Mass: 10am

Christmas Eve:

Christmas Day:

Boxing Day:

West Wollongong

Vigil Mass: 6pm (at TIGS)

Christmas Mass: 10am



WEST WOLLONGONG PARISH BULLETINS

A limited amount of copies of West Wollongong's parish bulletin are available each week at Unanderra, which can be found 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**