

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au



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Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
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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 Pauline Chrostowski
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon)
 Mrs Sue Briscoe (Wed/Thu/Fri)

Parish Office: Mon: 8.30am–3pm (Magda)
 Wed/Thu: 8.30am–1.30pm (Sue)
 Fri: 9.30am–2.30pm (Sue)
 Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
 Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2020

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 24 February	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 25 February	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 26 February <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Mass: 9.30am Mass: 11am (<u>Polish</u>)	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 27 February	Mass: 11am (<u>Polish</u>) Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Friday 28 February	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9.30am
Saturday 29 February	Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 1 March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<u>Polish</u>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Sidney HARTIN

Rosina CERTOMA (nee CARLINO)



Anniversaries

Micky WALSH

David CROWE

Joseph DREDGE

Fr Tony DALY

Message from Fr Duane

Next Sunday the 10am Mass at St Therese will be a special "Family Mass", with a special focus on younger children and young families. There will be a "blessing of backpacks" to bless the children for the school year, and a few differences in the Mass in an attempt to better connect with the children. This Mass will be followed by a BYO picnic to which everyone is invited, where there will be games and sport for the kids (and adults!). All are welcome!

Fr Duane Fernandez
Parish Priest

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 29 Feb	Church Cleaning	J Allen, J Haywood, L Salway	
Sat 29 Feb	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, R Murphy	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 29 Feb 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	D Ferrer	S Marsala
Sun 1 Mar 8am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	A Kelly	F Fernandez
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	S & L Michielin		

A VOCATION VIEW

Young Men's Gathering

Any young men (18+) who are open to discerning God's call in their lives are most welcome to come along to a relaxed evening of dinner, drinks and conversation, with the Vocations Director (Fr Duane Fernandez), Bishop Brian Mascord and our two current seminarians (James Arblaster and Sinh Le), this **Friday 28 February** from 6.30pm at the Rigney Room (next to the Cathedral Presbytery, Harbour Street Wollongong). **Please RSVP to Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au for catering purposes.**

ASH WEDNESDAY & LENTEN PENANCES

From the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Abstinence for meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following: (a) prayer – as for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the stations of the cross; praying the rosary; or in other ways; (b) self-denial – eg not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country and elsewhere; or in other ways; (c) helping others – eg special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened, or in other ways.



ST PIUS X SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Every week during school term, St Pius X Primary School will be producing a school newsletter — you can grab your copy each week from the St Pius X tray located next to the side door of the church.

School Newsletter

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 Sunday of each month in St Joseph's Meeting Room (Unanderra)

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please collect your 2020 Planned Giving Envelopes that start on Sunday 1 March — located near side door of the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS — FRIDAYS OF LENT —



Ash Wednesday is on 26 February, and during the Fridays of Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place at **5pm at St Therese West Wollongong** and **7pm at Immaculate Conception Unanderra**.

ROSARY ON SATURDAY MORNINGS

Starting next Saturday, all are welcome to pray the Rosary together at Immaculate Conception Church before the 7.30am Mass. The **Rosary will begin at 7.10am**. This is very appropriate for Immaculate Conception Parish, as it is also the Diocesan Shrine to Our Lady.



"FAMILY MASS" AND PICNIC DAY

The **10am Mass on Sunday 1 March** will be a very special "Family Mass". It is also the beginning of "Catholic Schools Week", and will be supported especially by the students and staff of St Therese Primary School. The Mass will be a bit different from usual, with a special focus on primary aged children and young families who may not regularly come to Mass, and will include a "blessing of backpacks" for all school students who wish to bring their backpacks along as a sign of blessing for their school year ahead. Mass will be followed by a BYO picnic on the grassed area near the school hall, with sports and games. **Spread the word, all welcome!**



PARISH WORKING BEE

Saturday 14 March 2020 — from 8am

Come and have fun at the next Unanderra Parish Working Bee — everyone is invited! Come and have a fun morning while helping out at our parish. At the last Working Bee in November, everybody gardened and socialised, found new friends, and generally made our church grounds so much better.



The next Working Bee is scheduled for Saturday 14 March from 8am, for just a few hours, and this time we will spruce up the church courtyard, the gardens around our church, and Sister Kerry's garden. No skill is required, just turn up and join in with others in small groups. Someone will know what to do, but please wear sensible clothes, shoes and a hat. Bottles of water and gloves will be on hand so that we stay safe and hydrated.

If you have skills, we are painting a section of our church interior, which badly needs attention, and we are starting to address some of our leaking roof issues.

If you can't make it, but want to help, please donate towards the cost of roofing materials of about \$500. Simply place an envelope marked "Roof Repair" in the second collection, or send it to the office. **For further information, please contact Wayne Rodgers on 0402 026 310, or ask a member of the PFC.**

THE RELICS OF ST THERESE OF LISIEUX



The relics of St Therese and her parents, Sts Louis and Zelie Martin, are coming to our Parishes on the weekend of 21-22 March. They arrive for veneration at Unanderra on Saturday 21 March at 4.30pm, and stay until 8.30pm (including the 6pm Mass). They will then go directly to West Wollongong — the only Parish dedicated to St Therese in Wollongong Diocese — for an all-night prayer vigil. The 10am Mass on the Sunday will be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, and the relics will leave St Therese Church at midday. *We are looking to form a "working group" across both parishes to help organise proceedings and promotion. If you have a particular devotion to St Therese (or her parents) we would love to have you in the working group. Please contact either Parish Office to indicate your interest.*

HELPING FELLOW PARISHIONERS

Are you aware of any parishioner who is not able to come to Mass? If you think they may like a home visit or Communion taken to them at home, you might like to ask them. If they would like such a visit or Communion, **please contact Sr Kerry** with the contact details.



LENTEN GROUP

A Lenten Group commences this Wed 26 February, **Ash Wednesday**.



Place: St Joseph's Room.

Time: 7:30pm.

Please bring along a Lenten book prepared by the diocese and available at the church. All welcome.

LENTEN PROGRAMMES AND THE WORD AMONG US BOOKLETS

Now on sale — located on the middle pew of the church — \$5.00

The financial audit of the parish books has been completed for 2019. A summary of the parish income/expenditure is enclosed with the bulletin. Please contact Wayne Rodgers on 0402 026 310 if further details are required.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

— AIRS SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2020 —

This week on the Journey, we have a stellar show lined up for you! All your favourites, such as Mother Hilda Scott with another terrific talk; and you'll also hear from Pete Gilmore.

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

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Sunday 23 February 2020

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes — located near the side door of the church — and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Go Further Together".

As Teresa of Calcutta said "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love." You will be helping empower our world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we Go Further Together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and/or envelopes, or by visiting

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413



ICAST JOINT PARISH SOCIAL DINNER GATHERING

It's on again! The first joint social gathering with parishioners from both Immaculate Conception And St Therese (ICAST) at Figgy Bowlo last November was such a great success, that we're doing it again!



SAVE THE DATE!

Venue — Figgy Bowlo

Date / Time — **Friday 6 March 2020 at 6pm**

If you couldn't make it last time, hopefully we'll see you this time in March!

Please RSVP to Sue/Magda in the Parish Office at unanderra@dow.org.au or on 4271 1068

All welcome — including the kids!

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2020 — SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

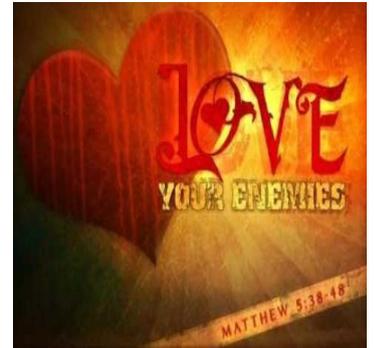
First Reading — Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 — *You must love your neighbour as yourself.*

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.'

'You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord".'

Responsorial Psalm — *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. *R.*
2. It is the Lord who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. *R.*
3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. *R.*
4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion to his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. *R.*



Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 3-16:23 — *All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.*

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation — John 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!

Gospel — Matthew 5:38-48 — *Love your enemies.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.'

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

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**

(Please see Fr Duane after Mass for a form — 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**