

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au

www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/



Parish Priest: Fr Duane Fernandez
 Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
 Mobile: 0414 626 357

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

Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
 Email: Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au
 Mobile: 0421 463 871

Parish Pastoral Council President: Mark Walsh
 Email: Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com
 Mobile: 0407 604 498

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/Thu)
 Mrs Melissa Bridges (Wed, Fri)

Parish Office: Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
 Phone: 4271 1068
 Fax: 4271 1298

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) – SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020

**Registrations ESSENTIAL for ALL Masses — via Unanderra Parish Office:
unanderra@dow.org.au or 4271 1068**

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 21 December	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 22 December	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 23 December	Mass: 9.30am	Adoration: 4.30pm Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.15pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 24 December	Mass: 7pm Mass: 10pm (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 6pm @TIGS Hall Mass: 6pm @St Therese Church (live streamed Mass from TIGS Hall and Communion) Mass: 8pm @TIGS Hall
Friday 25 December <i>Christmas Day</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am @TIGS Hall
Saturday 26 December <i>St Stephen</i>	Rosary: 7.15am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 27 December <i>The Holy Family</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm (<i>also streamed online</i>)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries

Bruce Reedy Neta Brown
 Colleen Walter Nicholas Bruton
 Esther Schembri

Please also pray for the sick and those unable to attend Mass

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068

Monday: 11am-3pm (*Magda*)
 Tuesday: *Closed*
 Wednesday: 8:30am—1:30pm (*Melissa*)
 Thursday: 9am-3pm (*Magda*)
 Friday: 8:30am-1:30pm (*Melissa*)

Message from Fr Duane

During the week we farewelled Sue Briscoe in her capacity as Parish Secretary – though she and Patrick will be back at Masses in the future! I thank Sue again for all her wonderful work, including in recent weeks providing a thorough handover, together with Magda, for the incoming secretary, Melissa Bridges. Melissa attends Masses at both Unanderra and West Wollongong, and has been assisting me on a voluntary basis with the Covid-related administrative tasks in recent times. Melissa will be a wonderful addition to the Parish staff and we thank her for accepting this new position. How blessed we are to have so many good people – both staff and volunteers – in our parish communities!



CHRISTMAS MASS REGISTRATIONS

- If your preferred Mass has been “sold out” on the Trybooking website, and you cannot attend a different Mass, please let me know at duane.fernandez@dow.org.au.
- Most of the Masses are at or near capacity with the exceptions of the 8pm Christmas Eve Mass at TIGS Hall, and the 10am Christmas Morning Mass at TIGS Hall, both of which have plenty of capacity remaining. If anyone has booked a different Mass but is happy attend one of these two Masses instead, please also let me know at duane.fernandez@dow.org.au, as this would free up space for at the more popular Masses.
- Thank you all for your co-operation with these processes during this most complicated Christmas in living memory!

EXTRA RECONCILIATION TIMES

In addition to the usual times of Reconciliation, this Wednesday evening at St Therese West Wollongong I will provide the Sacrament of Reconciliation after the 5:30pm Mass for anyone who wishes to receive this wonderful Sacrament of healing at this sacred time of the year. In addition, Fr Jerzy has been offering Reconciliation after each weekday Mass at Unanderra.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

REGISTRATION PROCESS - BOTH UNANDERRA & WEST WOLLONGONG

Registrations are ESSENTIAL for ALL Masses at both Unanderra and West Wollongong — ALL registrations must be via the Unanderra Parish Office: unanderra@dow.org.au or 4271 1068 (please only call during office hours, shown in pink box on front page of bulletin). Please include the name of all family members who will be attending, contact phone number, email address and the day/time/church of your preferred Mass(es), both weekday and weekend. For weekend Masses, please await a confirmation email from Fr Duane approximately 24 hours prior to the Mass time, before attending the church.

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy
Sat 26 Dec	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson
	Lectors	Lawns — Sat 26 Dec
Sat 26 Dec 6pm Mass	A Kelly	No Lawnmowing duties this week
Sun 27 Dec 8am Mass	S Walsh	

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS

For any pastoral needs:



please contact

Fr Duane Fernandez

0414 626 357

duane.fernandez@dow.org.au



ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree is now located in the church and has tags for children's toys and Christmas food — which are used to make approx 40 hampers for families and toys for about 60 children in need in our parish. Please place gifts under the Giving Tree by **Sunday 20 December** as hampers and toys will be distributed on Tuesday 22 December.



The generosity you provide the Unanderra St Vinnies conference is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference to needy families at Christmas.

Christmas cards and calendars are also available for purchase — cards \$6 a pack and calendars \$10 each.

Thank you for your support!

SUMMER NIGHTS 21

Summer Nights 21 happening at Varroville in January 2021 - for 16-35 year olds.

There are two options (retreat running twice during the week):

Monday 11 - Wednesday 13 January (3pm to 9pm) & Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 January (3pm to 9pm)

COVID safe dinner is provided each day

The retreat will feature excellent quality talks and teaching, night sessions with praise and worship, drama, preaching, testimonies, and prayer. Mass and adoration is available each day.

PARISH WALKING GROUP

Last Thursday, 12 members of our walking group joined together for an enjoyable walk around the lake from the sailing club to the yacht club. After the walk we all had a delicious seafood lunch by the lake watching the pelicans.



Our next walk will be on **Friday 5 February** so mark that date in your calendar. More details after Christmas.

A VOCATION VIEW

Mary was called to be open to the extraordinary. What do you need to say "let it be" in response to God's call to you? Trust that the Lord is with you and will guide you always.

(Luke 1: 26-38). If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au



ADVENT BOOKLET

This year's Advent booklet — 'Adore' — is now available for purchase in the church (located on the middle pew) for only \$3.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

— AIRS SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020 —

On the Journey this week: Fr Greg Pine's Gospel reflection says we have choices — to be selfish or selfless or be like Mary and just respond to God's grace. Mother Hilda on those who find Christmas difficult and says they're the reason for the season, Pete Gilmore waiting for Christmas gifts, and Fr Mike Delaney tells us all he wants for Christmas. Plus, great music!



The Journey available as a podcast now — jcr.org.au

CHURCH ROSTERS

Thank you to all those generous people who have volunteered their time to assist in the various Church Ministries. Your help is appreciated. The rosters are now being compiled and you will receive them by email this week

HOWEVER we are still in urgent need of more church cleaners and lawn mowers to lighten the load for those who have



already volunteered. If you are able to give a little of your time, it would be appreciated. Please email Melissa or Magda at unanderra@dow.org.au

FORMED

Would you like to nurture your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au or helen.bennett@dow.org.au

ADORATION

CYMW is holding Holy Hour **every Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM to 7:30PM** for an hour of Adoration at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. There will be time for silence and reflection before the Lord and is a great time to quiet our hearts to listen to Him more closely. We hope to see to you there!



SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

First Reading — 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12,14-16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"

Responsorial Psalm — *For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.. R.
2. I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever and set up your throne through all ages. R.
3. He will say to me: "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me."
I will keep my love for him always; with him my covenant shall last.' R.

Second Reading — Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel — Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held on the 2nd Sunday of every month at West Wollongong (12noon) and the 4th Sunday of every month at Unanderra (12noon). Please email westwollongong@dow.org.au or unanderra@dow.org.au to ask for a Baptism Enquiry Form to be sent to you.