

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 Secretary: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

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

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 26 SEPT 2021

Parish Vision—We are a diverse community united by our love for Jesus and for one another, constantly seeking to grow in this love especially through the Eucharist. We welcome everyone and help each other to discover their unique gifts, joyfully working together as one to bring the overflowing love of Jesus to all people.

Message from Fr Duane

This Sunday marks the 107th World Migrant and Refugee Day in the Church. As you can see in the attached history of this day in the Church calendar, the main focus in its earlier years was on migrants - itself highly relevant for Australia and specifically our own region of Wollongong, increasingly enriched by cultural diversity. Let us give thanks to God for this enrichment, and for the ways migrants have enriched our nation and our own parish communities.

In more recent years the day expanded to include not only migrants who have chosen to come to new lands but also refugees, forced by circumstances to leave their homeland. The Church has a most important responsibility in leading the world in a compassionate response to refugees. The recent events of Afghanistan highlight an extreme example of this need.

To mark this day, I encourage us all to do the following:

- Read the message of Pope Francis, and the story of the unfolding of this day (attached)
- Read the Australian Catholic Bishops' Appeal and you may wish to support the recommendations by writing to local MPs <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/08/17/acbc-calls-for-support-to-afghans/>
- Some of these recommendations are echoed in an inter-denominational initiative, which you can support here if you wish: <https://www.unitedforafghanistan.com/>

CONGRATULATIONS PAULINE CHROSTOWSKI!

It is my great joy to announce to you all that Pauline Chrostowski, who had been acting Principal for the past 2 years at St Pius X Primary School, has now been appointed to the role permanently. This is wonderful news for both St Pius X school and Immaculate Conception Parish. Pauline is secretary of our Parish Pastoral Council, has worked closely with myself and Sister Kerry in deepening the connections between the Parish and School, and has done great things within the school community. Congratulations Pauline - I am very excited to continue working with you in the years ahead!

FEAST OF ST THERESE

Our "sister Parish" St Therese West Wollongong will be marking the Feast of St Therese with an online event, where I will share a documentary for us to watch together about this inspiring Saint of modern times. If you would like to join this event, please contact Melissa at unanderra@dow.org.au to register and we will provide you with the Zoom link:

Documentary: "The Secret of St Therese" - Friday 1st October (Feast of St Therese) - 7pm-8pm (via Zoom)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Vita Barbagallo, Margaret Harris
Noel Smith, Evelyn Ryan

Anniversaries

Norma Melki, Clare Patton
Fr Peter Little SJ, Warren Yates
Marie Dawson, Launa Wall
John Nissen, Daniela Kostoska

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068

Monday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 8:30am-3pm

Message from Sr Kerry

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Immaculate Conception Parish Unanderra,

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of mending broken ceramics. If we break something, even if it is precious and sentimental, we would usually just discard it for it has lost so much in the breaking. In one way it becomes worthless.

In the art of kintsugi the Japanese use a precious metal, often gold, in the repairing. Every object becomes unique and even more beautiful. Kintsugi teaches us not to hide or discard, but rather to display the scars / brokenness that make us unique.

In the gospel for today we hear so much with which I easily identify with.....sinning with my hands, feet and eyes. The thought of this can be so discouraging, even depressing. I like to think that God takes my brokenness, and like the art of kintsugi, makes me even more beautiful and unique.....if we only allow God to caress us in our weakness and failings.

This week allow God to hold / caress your brokenness knowing what beauty and uniqueness God can create with your scars.

Always with my blessings and prayers,

Sr Kerry Gardiner



LIVE STREAMED MASSES



Sunday 5pm Mass at West Wollongong with Fr Duane continues to be live-streamed every week:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ICASTImmaculateConceptionStThereseParishes>



**MASS
FOR YOU**
at home

Mass for you at home: <https://massforyou.com.au/>

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

	Church Washing	
Sun	Counting	
Sat	Church Cleaning	
	Lectors	Lawns —
Sat 6pm Mass		No Lawn mowing this week
Sun 8am Mass		

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:
please contact



Fr Duane Fernandez - 0414 626 357

duane.fernandez@dow.org.au

Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871

Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au

PRAYER SEMINARS:

EXPERIENCE VARIOUS PRAYER STYLES – ALL WELCOME

A series of Prayer Seminars, commencing on Tuesday 21 September, and run weekly, **7pm - 8:30pm** via Zoom. These are open to anyone in the Diocese to attend any or all of the 12 evenings.

Each week a different presenter will lead us in a style of prayer that is meaningful to them. The seminars will include information, but also the opportunity to be led by an expert in the prayer experience. You are welcome to come to any or all of the seminars.

Registering does not require you to attend every seminar. Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>

Next **Tuesday 28 September**, **Peter Gilmore** will lead us on Praying with the Holy Spirit. Tuesday 5th October Frances Tilly on The Examen. Come and discover the beautiful practice of interior silence using a sacred word and simply rest in the presence of God.



VOCATION NEWS

All who serve in the name of Jesus will receive a reward. Encourage someone you know who would be of service as a priest, deacon, brother, or sister. (Mark 9:38-43) If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation begins September 1, on the designated **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**. It concludes on **October 4, the Feast of St. Francis**.

The Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace have created five prayer cards which focus on the themes of the statement. This week's prayer focuses on [God is a Trinity of Love](#)



ONLINE ALPHA

Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong is holding an online youth alpha series for all young people **aged 13 to 18 years old**.

Youth Alpha is a video series that tackles questions on faith, life, and God. The weekly online youth group will run from **7pm to 8pm each Friday** starting soon. For more information and to register your interest, please visit <https://forms.gle/oXmRjx6QkNeydihs8>

THE JOURNEY

CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2021 –

On the Journey this week: Lana Turvey Collins explains the Plenary Council week from 3 to 9 October. Fr Bernard Gordon says in the gospel reflection that Jesus' large-heartedness & generosity challenges us to do and be the same. Plus, Mother Hilda on how God is just like a beaming dad and Fr Mike Delaney observes we often prejudge people before we actually experience their capabilities. Listen at jcr.org.au



ALONE CHRIST ALONE : A WOMEN'S RETREAT

Women of all ages are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia for an online retreat into silence, **24-26 September**.

You will provide the silent times and spaces over the course of the weekend. The sisters will provide common times for Mass, communal and private prayer, and talks that delve deeper into the theme of silence.



For more information or to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTYGD>
[Click to download flyer](#)

SERVICE NSW—COVID 19 CHECK IN CARD

There is now a quicker and easier way, with Service NSW launching personalised check-in cards to replace scanning in with QR codes for those without smartphones.

The cards contain a unique QR code that holds a person's registered contact details. When they attend a venue, a staff member can scan the card to register their attendance and details, rather than having them fill out a form. The cards are available from [Service NSW online](#), or by calling 13 77 88.

MEN'S KICKSTART PROGRAM: MONDAY NIGHTS 13 SEPT—4 OCT 7:30PM—8PM

There are still two sessions to go for the kickstart program and men can attend any or all of the remaining sessions that engage with some great talks from the National Catholic Men's Gathering (NCMG) presentations. Kickstart is being facilitated by menALIVE for the Diocese of Wollongong, online by Peter Gabauer and Colin Bennett and the menALIVE leaders from the Diocese of Wollongong.

To register go to <https://www.dow.org.au/events/ancmgkickstart>

Sessions are short and sharp and a great way for men in lockdown to come together to engage with the theme **'Brothers What must we Do?'**

- Man of Character: Shayne Bennett (27 Sept)
- Missioning and Sending: Archbishop Julian Porteous

26 SEPTEMBER 2021 — TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

First Reading — Numbers 11:25-29 *Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?*

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm — **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. R.
2. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. R.
3. So in them your servant finds instruction; great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors? From hidden faults acquit me. R.
4. From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin. R.

Second Reading — James 5:1-6 *Your wealth is rotting*

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia! Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel — Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48 *Anyone who is against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.*

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'