

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/



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 (PO Box 358) Unanderra NSW 2526
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School Principal: Mrs Pauline Chrostowski

Parish Secretaries: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

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THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 7 NOV 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.

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Mon 8 November	Mass: 7am	
Tues 9 November	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wed 10 November <i>St Leo the Great</i>	Mass: 9.30am	Adoration: 4.30pm Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.15pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thur 11 November <i>St Martin of Tours</i>	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 12 November <i>St Josaphat</i>	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 13 November	Rosary: 7.10am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sun 14 November	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm Mass: 7pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Maria Skofic, Sr Eileen Brown
 Monica Mullen

Anniversaries

Bertha Varley, William Henry Varley
 Mrs Parisi,

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

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 Fr Duane

You may have heard of further changes from the NSW Government regarding the "Roadmap" to easing Covid restrictions. At this stage as there is no clarity in the Public Health Orders relating to places of worship (which already enjoy an exemption allowing vaccinated and unvaccinated to attend). We will inform you of relevant changes to our parish life as they become clear.

For now, the 4 square metre rule applies, and capacity limits are on my mind. Thankfully we still have not had to turn anyone away from the doors of the church because of Covid restrictions and I am so glad of this as it would go against every fibre of my being! Last weekend, the 10am Mass at St Therese West Wollongong was the closest to capacity (13 spare spots); the 6pm Vigil and 8am Sunday Mass at Unanderra both had 30 spare spots; and the 5pm and 7pm Masses at St Therese had plenty of space. The special 7pm Mass is by far the least attended (being a rather inconvenient time) but if you are happy enough with that time, your attendance at that Mass would ease pressure on numbers at the other Masses and be most appreciated!

A big thank you to every one of you for your co-operation at all of our Masses, and to our wonderful monitors for ensuring a safe and smooth return to Masses. Let's keep praying and working for our safety and the safety of all as we look forward to further easing of restrictions if all goes well!

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

Message from Sr Kerry

There was a headline during this week that caught my attention. I had certainly remembered the incident, but names were not imprinted on my mind.

The article was reporting the death of Lanz Priestly. Lanz was an Indigenous man who earned for himself the title of 'Mayor of Martin Place.' He was the leader of 'tent city.'

It was with interest that I read he had gainful employment with a cosmetic company. Twenty years ago, he gave this up. For at least six months every year Lanz made himself homeless to live amongst those forced into homelessness. He wanted to experience what the homeless experienced.

Due to his experiences of homelessness Lanz set up Sydney's 24/7 Street Kitchen and Safe Space. Lanz was a person of integrity and commitment to others. He used his gifts for the benefit of those who had no voice.

Today's Gospel speaks about the poor widow only putting in two small coins for the temple collection. On appearance she could look to have been stingy with her money. Others were contributing much greater amounts. We know the poor widow gave everything she had. We are all gifted and gifted in so many ways. What gifts do I carry? Am I prepared to give all I have like Lanz and the poor widow, or do I only want to share from the overflow from my pocket of gifts?

Personally, at this time of our church reopening, I know we once more need to be connected to each other. We have been isolated and, in many ways, alone, and perhaps lonely. Is there one thing you could give from your treasure to enhance the connectedness we so much desire?

Sr Kerry Gardiner

Melbourne Cup sweep results:

First Prize: Sr Kerry

Second Prize: Melissa Bridges

Third Prize: Allen Faraway.

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez
Sun 14 Nov	Counting	A Kelly, B Faraway
Sat 13 Nov	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, R Tassone
	Lectors	Lawns — Sat 13 Nov
Sat 13 Nov 6pm Mass	V Cleary	M & J Winner, M Walsh,
Sun 14 Nov June 8am	A Kelly	S Carrigan

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:
please contact



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duane.fernandez@dow.org.au

Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871

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CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE OF WOLLONGONG

- CHRISTMAS STORY ART COMPETITION

The Christmas Story Art Competition and Exhibition is an initiative of the Catholic Education Offices in Wollongong and Sydney, designed to celebrate and explore children's creative and artistic ability in illustrating the Christmas story.

The exhibition and competition provides the opportunity for **Years 5 and 6 students** to share with the wider community a greater awareness of the role of the arts in Religious Education. Children can develop deeper appreciation for their talents and recognise the value of the arts in expressing understandings of the Catholic faith.

This year **St Pius X Catholic Parish Primary School** is pleased to announce that it has **6 student artworks shortlisted** to be a part of the next level of the diocesan wide competition. We wish the students all the very best with this next part of the competition.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Just as Joseph's willing response to God brought Jesus among us. May we too commit ourselves to relieving the suffering of those around us and bringing hope?



VOCATION NEWS



If we dare to trust God with our lives, great things happen. Give God your total self. (Mark 12:38-44).

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au

WALKING GROUP

It has been a long time since we have had the opportunity to enjoy a walk together. Therefore we have set a date....

Our next walk will be on **Thursday, 11th November**.

We will gather at the shops on **Derribong Drive**

Cordeaux Heights at 9.30am. There is plenty of parking.

We will walk up Cordeaux Road to Mount Kembla. After the walk, everyone is invited to enjoy morning tea together at the Cordeaux Cafe. If you are unable to join us for the walk, you may like to join us for **morning tea around 11.00am**. Everyone is welcome to join us.

PRAYER SEMINARS

Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>.

Please register before the day of the seminar, to ensure you receive your zoom link on time.

Next **Tuesday, 9 November**,

Katherine Kingsley MGL will lead us in Prayer through Creative Listening.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME - AIRS SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2021 -

On the Journey this week: Fr Slawek Plonka's gospel reflection and the widow's challenge to let go and let God. Mother Hilda on finding Christ right in front of us sometimes to our embarrassment. Fr Mike Delaney's Navy chaplain story. Plus, Darren McDowell in conversation with St Declan's parish (Penshurst, NSW) parishioners. Listen at jcr.org.au



DIVINE RENOVATION AUSTRALASIA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2021

Called to Discipleship

Saturday 20 November 2021 | 9:00am-12:30pm

Join us for a spirit-filled time of prayer, live keynotes, inspiring panel sessions. The virtual conference will aim to support priests, parish teams and individuals in their journey of parish renewal, while encouraging and equipping you in your Catholic faith.

For more and information and registration: <https://www.divinerenovation.org/dr-aus-called-to-discipleship-conference>

SALE OF 7 GRACE STREET, UNANDERRA

As mentioned earlier this year, the Parish Finance Council came to a clear consensus that it was the right time to sell the 7 Grace Street property. This was in accordance with the advice of the auditor over the last 3 years, for a number of reasons shared with you all in that earlier communication.

Since then, the Parish Finance Council and I obtained the necessary permissions from the Bishop, and it eventuated that the Diocese wished to purchase this property from the parish. All parties worked diligently to ensure a fair transfer of ownership (at market value assessed by two independent registered valuers) from the Parish to the Diocese. It is good that the property is still owned by the Church, while ensuring that the parish now has sufficient cash reserves to work with in these financially uncertain times - an especially important decision in light of overdue maintenance works in the church and the presbytery. I thank the Parish Finance Council for their wise and thorough discernment throughout this process.

Fr Duane

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: **response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action.**

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

7 NOVEMBER 2021 —THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

First Reading — 1 Kings 17:10-16 *The widow made a little scone with her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.*

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. R.
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. R.
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. R.

Second Reading — Hebrews 9: 24-28 *Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.*

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

Gospel — Mark 12: 38-44 *The poor widow has put in more than all who contributed.*

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

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.