

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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**Parish Pastoral
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Parish Secretary: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C) – 22 MAY 2022

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 23 May	Mass: 7am	
Tues 24 May <i>Our Lady Help of Christians</i>	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 25 May <i>St Bede the Venerable St Gregory VII, pope St Mary Magdalene de Pazzi</i>	Mass: 9:30am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thur 26 May <i>St Philip Neri, priest</i>	Adoration: 4:30pm—5:15pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Rosary: 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 27 May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 28 May	Rosary: 7:10am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:40am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 29 May	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Anna Dubowska, Jean Piper,
Elizabeth Jamiro

Anniversaries

Adelina Madrid,
Thomas Staniforth



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

This is **“Laudato Si Week”**, marking the 7th anniversary of the Encyclical of Pope Francis on **“Care for our Common Home”**. In our time, many people throughout society are committed to caring for the earth and for the poor. As Catholics we should not only share this commitment but lead the way, since we are blessed to know the loving Creator of our earth which reflects the beauty of our Creator, and we recognize the dignity of every human being, from the “least” to the “greatest” created in the very image and likeness of God.

During this past year, Pope Francis has committed the whole Church to a seven year journey of action, with these words:

“I am pleased to announce that the Laudato Si’ Year will lead to a concrete action project, the Laudato Si’ Action Platform, a seven-year journey that will involve our communities in different ways, so that they can become totally sustainable in the spirit of the integral ecology. Thus, I would like to invite everyone to tackle this journey together.

‘I’m addressing these seven realities in particular: families, parishes and dioceses, schools and universities – hospitals – businesses and farms, organisations, groups and movements – religious communities. Work together. Only this way will we be able to create the future we want: a more inclusive, fraternal, peaceful, and sustainable world.’

It is worth celebrating a couple of practical actions that have been taken by our parish during this past year in this direction: the installation of solar panels thanks to a most generous donation from a parishioner; and the initiation of the “return and earn” bins in the parish carpark, where bottles and cans can be brought in for recycling benefitting both the environment and the wonderful work of Vinnies. Though not necessarily explicitly motivated by Laudato Si, these initiatives do indeed respond in practical ways to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Let us continue to reflect on ways that we as individuals, families and a parish community can take practical action moving forward – and in the meantime, I encourage us all to take this opportunity to read or read again the Encyclical, [Laudato Si’](#).

Fr Jerzy’s 40th Anniversary of Ordination

As we approach Fr Jerzy’s 40th Anniversary of Ordination, we give thanks for his ministry, his presence, and his Priesthood faithfully lived throughout the decades. Fr Jerzy was ordained on 25th May, and I encourage all who are able to come along to Mass next Wednesday morning, 25th May, to celebrate the actual day of his anniversary with Fr Jerzy, followed by a morning tea. Additionally, as noted in the main bulletin, Bishop Brian will come to celebrate with Fr Jerzy on Sunday 29th May at the 10am Mass – usually a Polish Mass, on this occasion it will contain some English for Bishop Brian’s sake! All are welcome to attend lunch with Fr Jerzy that day but must RSVP by THIS Sunday 22nd May, for catering purposes. We congratulate and thank you Fr Jerzy!

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

Message from Sr Kerry

I am a huge fan of Fr Greg Boyle SJ. Fr Greg is an American priest who has dedicated over thirty years of his life to helping gang members break out of the cycle of gangland living. While at a conference I accidentally met one former gang member who lived a life that was hard to imagine. As Sergio told me his story, I had to ask him to explain what some things meant. He had lived a life I could not ever imagine, nor desired. Sergio had totally turned his life around. It seemed unimaginable to me. I was stumped that one could reach such a low rock bottom and come back to such a full life. I asked Sergio this very question. His response was, ‘The beautiful thing about going so low, [rock-bottom] is that when you come out of it your heart is filled with so much gratitude.’

Sergio exuberated a peace and tranquillity he was living today’s Gospel. Sergio and I have continued to communicate. He ended one email with the words, ‘Rest in God, resting in you.’ May we take the words of the gospel to heart and do exactly that....rest in God resting in each of us.’ Then we will know peace and untroubled hearts.



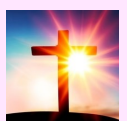
Looking forward to seeing you at the gathering for lunch next Friday at Wests. Come along at noon and join the table. Take time to chat and enjoy each other’s company If you require any information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

May	Church Washing	Jackie Allen	
Sat 28 May	Church Cleaning	Volunteers needed	
Sat 28 May	Lawns	M & J Winner, M Walsh, S Carrigan	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
Sat 28 May 6pm Mass	L Milan	-	No children’s liturgy
Sun 29 May 6pm Mass	M Walsh	-	Sarah Walsh and Michelle Rodwell
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

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

PARISH NEWS

Faith Enrichment Evenings—Thursday 26 May

All are most welcome to our next gathering in this wonderful series by Bishop Robert Barron, on "Catholicism". We commence with sharing a light meal at 7pm followed by the video screening at 7:30pm, in the St Joseph's room. This week's video is "**Peter, Paul, and the Missionary Adventure**"

Fr Jerzy's 40th anniversary of Ordination

Fr Jerzy is celebrating his 40th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination later this month. To mark this wonderful occasion Bishop Brian Mascord will be con- celebrating the 10am Mass (in English) with Fr Jerzy and Mons Schmitzer on **Sunday 29th May**. You are invited to be a part of this celebration and join with the community for lunch, 12 noon, at the Polish Club, 143 Gipps Rd Keiraville. Cost of the lunch is \$25 per person. If you wish to attend the lunch numbers and monies need to be finalised with Fr Jerzy by **Sunday 22nd May**.

Mass and Morning tea—Wednesday 25 May - 10am

Fr Duane Fernandez will celebrate 9:30am Mass on Wednesday 25 May, with Fr Jerzy, to mark Fr Jerzy's 40th Anniversary of Ordination. Morning tea will be served in the St Joseph's room after Mass. You are invited to attend.

Silver Circle results

9 May 2022	16 May 2022
1st - F Fernandez	1st - C Walsh
2nd - C Walsh	2nd - C Schembri

Life in the spirit

The CCR Prayer Group have organised a Life in the Spirit program 'Journey to Pentecost' to be held in the St Joseph's Room on four consecutive Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm. **On 25 May the topic is: Receiving God's Gifts.** To help with organisation, please confirm your attendance by emailing vincefitz7@yahoo.com.au

Walking group

Our next walk is planned for **Thursday 2nd June**. We will gather at the shops on Derribong Drive, Cordeaux Heights at 9.30am. There is plenty of parking. The walk will be up Cordeaux Road to Mt Kembla. After the walk, everyone is invited to enjoy morning tea together at the Cordeaux Café. 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. Hope to see you there.

LIVE LOCAL



Youth Groups

LIVE LOCAL Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong (CYMW) has arrived in the Illawarra! LIVE Local is a Regional Youth Group run by the CYMW and NET Team which runs **every Friday night during school term from 7 - 9pm, at St Therese West Wollongong school hall.**

For more details on youth groups, visit <https://www.dow.org.au/cymw/>

LAUDATO SI' WEEK 16 – 24 MAY

Laudato Si' Week (16-24 May) is a celebration of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' and a call to



action for Catholics around the world to care for our common home. You can participate through prayer, action, and reflection with the new resources for parishes, schools, organisations, and individuals created by the ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace. Go to www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 22 MAY 2022

On the Journey this week: Fr Anthony Crook says all the Easter gospels have been leading us towards the imminent return of the glorified Jesus to the Father; today Jesus gives us his peace and promises the Advocate. Mother Hilda on how music triggers all sorts of memories for us.

Listen at jcr.org.au



VOCATION NEWS

If we love, we know the presence of God. Take time to be aware of God's loving presence. Be open to the Holy Spirit. (John 14:23-29).

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocation@dow.org.au



DISCOVERING GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIVES: DOW VOCATIONS EVENT

You are invited to join with vibrant people from around the Diocese including an expert panel, addressing all 4 Vocations, with the opportunity for Q and A. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn how to hear, discern and respond to God's call in our lives. There will be more details in coming weeks but to book your spot, follow the links below but in the meantime, if anyone would like to discuss their vocation with Fr Duane, Vocations Director, email vocations@dow.org.au

DATE: Sunday 19 June

TIME: Light refreshments 1:30pm for 2pm start

PLACE: Xavier Centre, St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Wgong,

RSVP: <https://www.dow.org.au/events/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL UNANDERRA CONFERENCE

Are you willing to offer a helping hand to someone in need? We visit those in need on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.



Do you have a spare couple of hours 1-2 times/month?

Please call **Jo on 0425 236 214** for more information.

EUCHARIST - THE SACRIFICE WE OFFER

Join Bishop Mascord and people from across the Diocese for a Workshop on **Saturday 11 June 2022 Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong (38 Harbour St), 9:30am - 2:30pm**, presented by Sr Carmel Pilcher RSJ, PhD.

Lunch and Morning Tea provided. An opportunity to make a donation to assist in covering costs will be provided.

At this workshop we will seek to understand what the early church understood by priestly participation in the liturgy. Namely that each of us, together with our sisters and brothers in Christ, bring to the celebration the joys and hopes, grief and anxieties of our week. Ritually we place these on the Eucharistic table along with bread and wine to become the mystery of Christ's sacrifice.

Register by Tuesday 7 June 2022: dow.org.au/events.

LIVING FAITH BOOKS

Living Faith books for children and adults (Apr, May and June) are now available in the church. **Cost is \$5 each.**



22 MAY 2022 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C)

First Reading- Acts 15:1-2,22-29 *It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.*

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us; and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols; from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. R.
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. R.
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. R.

Second Reading — Apocalypse 21: 10-14,22-23 *He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel — John 14: 23-29 *The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him and make our home with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my words.
And my word is not my own:
it is the word of the one who sent me.
I have said these things to you while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.
Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give,
this is my gift to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return.
If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.
I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe.'