

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 Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
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Parish Pastoral Council President:
 Email:
 Mobile:

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)

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 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 22 JANUARY 2023

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 Jan	Mass: 7am	
Tues 24 Jan <i>St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary 6pm Adoration: 6pm- 7pm	No Mass today due to concreting work
Wed 25 Jan <i>The Conversion of St Paul, apostle</i>	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: 9:30am	No Mass today due to concreting work
Thurs 26 Jan <i>Australia Day</i>	Mass: 8am	No Mass today due to concreting work
Fri 27 Jan <i>St Angela Merici, Sts Timothy and Titus</i>	Mass: 7am	No Mass today due to concreting work
Sat 28 Jan <i>St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor</i>	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am—10:30am
Sun 29 Jan	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell
 Benedetto Forte

Prayers for the sick

Craig Battley, Francesca Quetcher
 Jackie Allen, Lesley Lloyd, Vera Cleary

Anniversaries

John Griffiths, Joyce Monaghan
 Fr Barry Swift



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 week I have become aware of a greater need for prayers for Jackie Allen, a faithful, generous and beloved parishioner who has been battling cancer this past year, and whose condition has deteriorated recently. Please join me in praying even more fervently for Jackie, her family, and the health professionals entrusted with her care. We will offer our Tuesday and Thursday Rosaries for Jackie, and also continuing to hold Vera Cleary in our prayers. If anyone becomes aware of other sick parishioners please let me know.

ALPHA UPDATE

We are most grateful to those who have offered to help with catering for Alpha. As the list of volunteers gradually grows, we are still looking for more volunteers as the more hands the better. Let's also keep prayerfully considering who we might invite. We have begun to collate RSVPs so if anyone is interested in attending Alpha as a guest please RSVP as soon as possible by contacting Melissa on 0419 465 050.

AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ

The tradition of a BBQ Breakfast following Australia Day Mass is returning this year, after a break during Covid. All are welcome to join the special 8am Mass and BBQ afterwards – thank you to those who are generously organizing the breakfast.

Note: There will be no Masses or Confessions from Tuesday to Friday at St Therese this week only, due to concreting taking place in the carpark.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

A friend had gifted me with a rose bush. That began my desire to plant more roses.

Being a 'gardener' in name only I did a trial one and all was going well. I decided to venture out even more. I prepared the garden bed. All was in readiness. Off I went to the nursery but this time I was stumped. The roses were marked down. They had no labels. I had left my purchasing spree too late. I could have waited until next year, but I was impatient. Hoping not to be disappointed I purchased what appeared to be the healthiest plants.

My first buds have been a surprise. I haven't been disappointed. One I like more than the other, but despite their differences I love them both. It is the differences that have struck me.

Life is like that. There are differences all around us. All is beautiful but am I accepting and welcoming of those differences?

Sr Kerry Gardiner



ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

January	Church Washing	Barbara Faraway	
Sat 28 Jan	Church Cleaning	P & L Vassallo, McInerney Family	
Sat 28 Jan	Lawns	No Lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 28 Jan	M Rodwell		
8am 29 Jan	P Gunning	M Matos	School Holidays
Counters	M Murphy (FT), S Alessi		

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

Australia Day celebrations - 26 January

Come and join us for our Australia Day celebrations - starting with Mass at 8am.

Parishioners are then invited to a **free breakfast which will be served in the Church grounds**. All are welcome.



Curious about Faith - Try Alpha—8 Feb 2023

You're invited to **Alpha**, a place to explore the Christian faith in an easy and friendly environment.

Each session starts with dinner in small groups before watching a talk on a question of faith. Then there's plenty of time to share your thoughts - you can say anything you like, or nothing at all - question everything!!

There's no follow up, no charge and never any pressure. **Everyone's welcome**. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. So why not see where your curiosity takes you?

We'll be starting on **Wednesday 8th February at 7pm in the Parish Centre at St Therese Parish**, 2 Powell Street West Wollongong. To RSVP, for catering purposes only, please contact **Melissa on 0419 465 050**. We also have expression of interest forms out in the foyer.

Triumph - Lenten Program 2023 (available February)

Triumph is an 88-page full colour book (240x170mm) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions that traditionally form part of Lenten group gatherings.



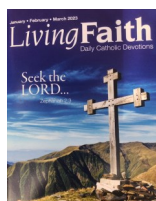
Unanderra Parish is planning for Lenten groups to be run during the day and also in the evening. For more details please contact **George on 0435 790019 or dgattard@optusnet.com.au**

Parish Finances - week ending 15 January

\$589 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$511 Second collection - Parish expenses
\$220 Tap Point - Parish donations
\$329 Planned giving envelopes
\$549 Direct debits (weekly average from Dec).
Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Living Faith books—Jan, Feb, Mar 2023

The new Living Faith books have arrived. There is also a separate Living Faith Kids book - which includes daily reflections, prayers and activities. Cost is \$5.



Lay Carmelite meeting - 4 February

The first meeting for 2023 will be in the St Joseph's room on Saturday 4 February. All are welcome. Call Ann Baumber on 0427 235 955 for more information.

Recycling bins

Please save your recycling (cans, bottles and plastics) and donate to our Parish recycling bins. All proceeds go to the Parish. Our bins are located in the church car park.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME — AIRS SUNDAY 22 JANUARY 2023

On the Journey this week: The Gospel reflection by Fr John Littleton on sorrow and repentance. Mother Hilda's story about God's interaction with St Jerome. Plus, we welcome back one of our presenters from earlier years, Marilyn Rodrigues, with her new segment, the Urban Contemplative, Trish McCarthy says keeping balance and focus in life is easy if we make Christ our focal point, Pete Gilmore wonders how much salt do each of us need to draw out our flavour, and more great music! Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

After the time of His prayer and fasting in the desert, Jesus begins to call the Twelve. We must be students of prayer that we can hear the same call given to Peter, James and John. (Matthew 4:20)

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



LEVEL 1 TRAINING COURSE FOR SRE CATECHISTS IN FEBRUARY

The CCD Team will shortly commence this training course for all of the new volunteers teaching Special Religious Education in State Schools. Week 1 at each location will cover Child Protection and Classroom Management training, and this half-day part of the course should be completed by Catechists every three years.

The Course starts at **Micah House Campbelltown on 6 February and the Xavier Centre Wollongong on 10 February** from 9.30-1.30 pm over five consecutive weeks with morning tea provided.

Come and join this great ministry. To register please email support@ccdwoollongong.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Reject spiritual abuse by debunking the misuse of faith sources to justify violence, abusive behaviour or to coerce women to stay in unsafe situations.

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

HELP SUPPORT SISTERS IN KENYA!

Aid to the Church in Need is asking for support to aid sisters in Kenya in building a new mother house and formation centre for their local community.

Hunger, illiteracy, and lack of medical provision, combined with desperately poor roads and a lack of clean drinking water make life incredibly difficult for many people in Kenya. The diocesan congregation of the *"Visitation Daughters of the Immaculate Heart"* were established in order to help this needy population - but to continue their work they need your help!

The sisters' work includes caring for expectant mothers, acting as midwives, providing counselling, caring for the sick and looking after the elderly and orphans who are frequently abandoned by society.

Your support will help these sisters to continue their mission by providing them with a permanent convent.

To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject>

22 JAN - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

First Reading - Isaiah 8: 23-9:3 *In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.
For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor –
these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm - The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? R.
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. R.
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! R.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 *I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 4:12-23 *This is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

Hearing that John had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

'Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!
The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.'

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.