

# PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

[www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)

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**Parish Pastoral Council President:**  
 Email:  
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**Parish School:** St Pius X Primary School  
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 (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](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)  
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## TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 22 OCT 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
<b>Mon 23 Oct</b> <i>St John of Capistrano</i>	Mass: 7am	
<b>Tues 24 Oct</b> <i>St Anthony Claret, bishop</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
<b>Wed 25 Oct</b>	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
<b>Thurs 26 Oct</b>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
<b>Fri 27 Oct</b>	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7:30am - 8am	Mass: 9:30am
<b>Sat 28 Oct</b> <i>Sts Simon and Jude, apostles</i>	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am
<b>Sun 29 Oct</b>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

Cecilia Donohue, William Blattman

#### Prayers for the sick

Jan Luke, Peter Lathourakis, Peter Stoyles  
 John Sweeney, Kerrie Maidment

#### Anniversaries

Pilar Villanueva, Manuel Mamanglu,  
 Judith Salway, Clara Dredge, Bonnie Grech,  
 Mavis Stubbs, Josie Fenech, Bill Micallef



### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

[unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto: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 Sunday is **World Mission Sunday**. Catholic Mission operates in over 160 countries, including in remote Australian communities, to give practical and spiritual support to those most in need. This year in our annual Mission Appeal we have an opportunity to contribute financially to a specific project of Catholic Mission in Timor Leste. This Sunday also serves as a reminder to every one of us that we are all called to be “missionary disciples”. How timely that Pope Francis has published an Apostolic Exhortation on St Therese – the patron saint of missionaries – who taught so powerfully by her words and example that Christ’s mission of love is lived primarily in the most ordinary, everyday ways. I encourage you to read the Pope’s beautiful letter on this wonderful saint here <https://tinyurl.com/stthereseletter> and to reflect upon the “local missionary opportunities” God might be calling you to.

One such local missionary opportunity is through **CatholicCare’s Foster Care program**. This might be occasional respite care, temporary foster care or permanent care. Please don’t hesitate to contact CatholicCare on 0418783956 to seek more information about whether you can help now or into the future. Single, married, young, old, all can help in this way, with CatholicCare providing all of the training and ongoing support you would need. Please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to this – you might be able to provide a place of security, safety and love that could change the whole trajectory of the life of a vulnerable child.

Another local missionary opportunity is volunteering to support the new joint initiative across Unanderra and West Wollongong parishes of providing a **Christmas Lunch** on Christmas Day at St Therese Parish Centre for those who are in need of food or company. Thank you to those who have already contacted the parish office to volunteer. We are now proceeding to the next step of finalizing whether we have enough volunteers to make this happen – please indicate your availability to help in one or more various ways through this Google Form <https://tinyurl.com/christmaslunch23>.

Finally, let’s remember, as St Therese (and all the saints) knew so deeply, that it is prayer that drives our participation in Christ’s mission. It was wonderful to see 60 people come to the new initiative at Immaculate Conception Church of extended Eucharistic Adoration on the First Friday of October. All are invited to join once again on the First Friday of November (3rd November) for any part of the evening (7pm to 10pm) with the Sacrament of Reconciliation also available. In the words of Pope Francis: *“It is good to adore in silence before the Most Blessed Sacrament, to be in the consoling presence of Jesus and there to draw the apostolic impetus to be instruments of goodness, tenderness and welcome in the community, the Church, and the world.”*

**CALLED BY NAME – YOUNG ADULTS AGED 17-35 YEARS OLD** – about 50 young adults have already registered for this event on Saturday 28th October. Registrations must close this Sunday 22nd October. Young adults, register now, and come and see!

**Congratulations and blessings to Seminarians Sinh Le, Joseph Nguyen and Darren McDowell. Bishop Brian will celebrate the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders for Sinh and Joseph (the final public step before ordination as Deacons), and the Rite of Installation as Lector and Acolyte for Darren, at St Francis Xavier’s Cathedral at 10:30am Mass on Sunday 29th October. All are welcome to attend!**

**Fr Duane Fernandez**

## *Message from Sr Kerry*

When visiting an Information centre of a very sacred indigenous site I was surprised to see a cabinet with soil, a stone etc. Each item was accompanied by a letter written from the sender. One touching letter was the sender returning the soil that went home with him after visiting the site. I was sceptical when I read this. I asked how could so much soil be taken out of the place?

I soon was confronted with the same problem. There was a photo on the Oodnadatta Track that I really wanted to capture. I edged a little closer to the subject and suddenly my legs were compressed by mud. I struggled to get out of the mud and when I did my shoes were covered with mud. Need I say I was very conscious of the soil and ensured it was returned to where it belonged.



This coming week how will you reverence creation and the beauty surrounding you?

**Sr Kerry Gardiner**

### ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

October	Church Washing	Barbara Faraway	
Sat 21 Oct	Church Cleaning	J Haywood, L Salway, M Hurley, T	
Sat 21 Oct	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
6pm 21 Oct	N O’Donoghue		
8am 22 Oct	C Walsh	A Kelly / M Graham	Kirra Calvert, Maria Matos
Counters	M Murphy(FH), C Stratton, M Winner.		

### ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

October	Church Washing	Barbara Faraway	
Sat 28 Oct	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 28 Oct	Lawns	H Fernandez, Milan Family, Broeckmann Family	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
6pm 28 Oct	B Faraway		
8am 29 Oct	P Gunning	M Matos	Kylie and Molly Hertsch, Gemma Farrugia
Counters	A Kelly, B Faraway		

## PARISH NEWS

### November Masses

As we prepare for November as the month of praying for all souls, please email the Parish office with any names of the deceased that you would like to be included in the parish book of remembrance, with the subject "November Masses"

### Eucharistic Adoration (first Friday of each month)

The next Friday night Eucharistic Adoration is **Friday 3 November, 7pm until 10pm.**



### Parish Finances - week ending 15 October 2023

\$534 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund  
\$375 Second collection - Parish expenses  
\$240 Tap Point - Parish donations  
\$414 Planned giving envelopes  
\$490 Direct debits (weekly average from Sept).  
Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

### Carmelite meeting

The next meeting of the Lay Carmelites will be on Saturday 4th November at 10am for 10.30am in St Joseph's room.  
Call Ann on 0427 235 955 for details. Everyone is welcome.

### Recycling bins - \$95 raised during Sept

Together, we have raised \$95 through our combined recycling efforts. Your donations of 10c recyclable bottles, cans and plastics are welcome. All proceeds go to the Parish.



### Used stamps for Peru

Please remember to place all of your used stamps (leaving a 1cm / ½" border) in the box near the side door of the church.  
All used stamps donated are sent to Sydney to raise money for the work of the Sisters of St Joseph in Peru.

## POSITION |

### SECRETARY/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

#### CORPUS CHRISTI MITTAGONG/BOWRAL

To express interest or to find out more information, please contact Frances Van Leerdam, at the Office of the Bishop, 0409 901 204 or email [frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au](mailto:frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au)  
Applications close 27 October 2023

## EL ROI: THE GOD WHO SEES ME

### (WOMEN'S RETREAT), 17-19 NOVEMBER 2023

Prepare for Advent through this women's retreat with the MGL Sisters, as we spend time together listening to God's unique heart of love for each one of us. This retreat is supported by the Catholic Women's Network in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

**Venue:** Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW

**Bookings:** <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBRE> (by 3 Nov)

**Contact:** Berna - [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

### **Summer School of Evangelisation (Sydney): 7-14th Jan 2024,**

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW

Summer School is a week-long, live-in, life-changing retreat featuring praise and worship, inspiring talks, engaging liturgy, time to chill & learn and more in the midst of a community of 150+ young people aged 16-35. Registrations open 31st Oct. Register by 30th November to receive early bird rates (concession \$525/adult \$625).

More info: [contact@summerschool.org.au](mailto:contact@summerschool.org.au).

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

### - AIRS SUNDAY 22 OCT 2023

On the Journey this week: Fr Christopher del Rosario says there are three key points we can take from this week's Gospel. Mother Hilda says that when we carry out random acts of kindness it's as though a healing balm enters the other person's life. Fr Tony Percy says that what Jesus has done in this Gospel is to say as Christians we can do both Caesar and God, we can be faithful to our obligations to the State and most faithful to our obligations to God in offering ourselves to God as a living sacrifice. Listen at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au)



## PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Faithful are encouraged to pray for the Synodal Process underway from **4 – 29 October in Rome**, specifically that the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.*

## SOCIAL JUSTICE POINTS

Thinking and acting in terms of community means, therefore, making room for others, imagining and working for a future where each person can find his or her place and have room in the world. A community that knows how to give a voice to the voiceless is what we all need.

- Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Members of the "Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice" Foundation, Clementine Hall, Monday, 5 June 2023

## MOROCCO EARTHQUAKE

Caritas Australia has launched an appeal for the victims of the earthquake in Morocco. Over 2,000 people have been confirmed dead. Thousands of people have been injured, over 1,000 critically. Search and rescue efforts are ongoing, with many people still trapped under rubble.

The time to act is now. Caritas agencies are on the ground as they assess the scale of the damage and critical needs. Your donation today can help communities affected by the earthquake. Please give generously at [www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergencyappeals/morocco-earthquake/](http://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergencyappeals/morocco-earthquake/)

## CALLED BY NAME: MACARTHUR YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING

**Campbelltown Catholic Club, Saturday 28 Oct 6:45pm - 9pm**

We extend to you this personal invitation to engage with fellow young adults from 17–35 years old, guided by a panel who will openly share the stories and learnings from their own journeys, with an opportunity for Q&A throughout the discussion.

This event is the beginning of a regional initiative connecting young adults in the Macarthur, though young adults from all throughout the Diocese are most welcome.

Register now: [dow.sh/cbn23](http://dow.sh/cbn23)

## 22 OCTOBER - TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

First Reading - Isaiah 45: 1,4-6

*I have taken the hand of Cyprus to subdue nations before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom he has taken by his right hand  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip the loins of kings,  
to force gateways before him  
that their gates be closed no more:  
'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,  
of Israel my chosen one,  
that I have called you by your name,  
conferring a title though you do not know me.  
I am the Lord, unrivalled;  
there is no other God besides me.  
Though you do not know me, I arm you  
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun  
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm - Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. R.
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. R.
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. R.
4. Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. R.

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

*We are mindful of your faith, hope and love*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 22: 15-21

*Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'