

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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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 29 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
Mon 30 Oct	Mass: 7am	
Tues 31 Oct	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 1 Nov <i>All Saints Day</i>	Mass: 7am Mass: 11am (Polish)	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 2 Nov <i>All Souls' Day</i>	Mass: 11am (Polish) Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 3 Nov <i>St Martin de Porres</i>	Mass: 7am Adoration: 7pm - 10pm	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 4 Nov <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am
Sun 5 Nov	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,
 Madeline Heffernan, Patricia Geyling

Josie Newman, Don Mascord, Stephen Cabor

Leo Haywood,
 Vincent Stubbs



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 Friday is our second instalment of our new initiative of **First Friday Adoration – from 7pm until 10pm**, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available as well. All are most welcome to attend for any part of the evening. Last month 60 people attended for a beautiful time of silence and prayer. Feel free to invite anyone who you think might be interested in joining us.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with the **Christmas Day Lunch**, especially for those who might be in need of food or company on Christmas Day. We are committing to go ahead with this initiative but would love to have more volunteers. If you or anyone you know might be interested and available to assist, it would be most appreciated – and an opportunity to share the love and peace of Christ in a very practical way to those who need it most. There are a number of ways you could assist, listed in this Google Form - <https://tinyurl.com/christmaslunch23> - or contact the parish office. Thank you also for your generosity to the Catholic Mission Appeal last weekend. Envelopes can still be returned with either cash or written details in the envelopes during this weekend.

This week we celebrate **All Saints Day on Wednesday 1st November, and All Souls Day on Thursday 2nd November**. I look forward to joining Fr Jerzy at the usual Mass times at Unanderra, as well as celebrating the usual Mass times at West Wollongong. The month of November is then dedicated in a special way to remembering and praying for all the faithful departed. You can still send names of deceased loved ones to the parish office to be entered into our Book of Remembrance.

We look forward to our next **Parish Dinner**, Friday 17th November at 6pm at Figgy Bowlo (Figtree Sports Club) – we had over 60 come along last time around, and it was a wonderful opportunity to build community within this parish and with West Wollongong parishioners as well. RSVP details in main section of bulletin.

Congratulations to Darren McDowell who will be instituted as Lector and Acolyte, and Sinh Le and Joseph Nguyen who will be receive admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders, at this Sunday's 10:30am Mass at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. Please keep them and all of our seminarians in your prayers.

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

Recently Sr Yvonne Parker sgs shared her expertise and wisdom with many of us as we gathered to hear about 'Spirituality of Aging.' It was a most enlightening and encouraging few hours.

Sr Yvonne's talk led me to think of my mother. My mum grew up in a church that was hard in many ways. Added to that my mum worried a little more than most people.

Each night in my mum's latter years I prayed a prayer for her. My prayer taken from the book 'Good Friday People' by Sheila Cassidy goes like this:-

'We pray O Lord for all who must soon face death, whether by illness, old age, or violence. Comfort them in their fear; strengthen them in their grief and give them some taste, some inkling of the joy you have prepared for them.'

Perhaps there is someone you know who may need this prayer at this time.

Sr Kerry Gardiner



ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

October	Church Washing	Barbara Farraway	
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 Farraway		
8am 29 Oct	P Gunning	M Matos	Kylie and Molly Hertsch, Gemma Farrugia
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

November	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 4 Nov	Church Cleaning	McInerney Family	
Sat 4 Nov	Lawns	No Lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 4 Nov	D Nugent	C Cleary	
8am 5 Nov	M Matos	G Simmonite	Leah Galea, Alison Sharwood.
Counters	A Gunning, M Caudero, C Garrett		

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"

Vinnies Winter Appeal - thank you.

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all Parishioners who supported our Winter bucket Appeal. **A total of \$2,735.90 was raised.**

Also a big thank you to all the Parishioners who donate to the Unanderra Vinnies via the poor box at the side door. Your support is much appreciated and the Society supports you in prayer.



Christmas lunch at the St Therese Parish Centre.

We will be offering Christmas lunch at the St Therese Parish Centre. If you would like to join us or help by cooking a Christmas pudding for dessert, please contact Melissa at the Parish Office unanderra@dow.org.au

Eucharistic Adoration (first Friday of each month)

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



Parish Finances - week ending 22 October 2023

\$570	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$444	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$240	Tap Point - Parish donations	
\$344	Planned giving envelopes	
\$490	Direct debits (weekly average from Sept).	
Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.		
\$911	Catholic Mission Appeal	

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.

PPC meeting:

The Parish Pastoral Council met this week and discussed:

- Christmas lunch planning at St Therese Parish Centre.
- Alpha celebration night – Wed 29 November.
- Joint Parish Social dinner, 6pm 17 Nov at Figtree Sports. Please RSVP to the Parish office.

Recycling bins

Your donations of 10c recyclable bottles, cans and plastics are welcome. All proceeds go to the Parish.



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

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.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 29 OCT 2023

On the Journey this week: Fr James Arblaster says the Gospel doesn't cancel out the Old Testament but continues its timeless message with two simple Do's. Mother Hilda has an antidote for our life's regrets. Fr Tony Percy says the decalogue given to Moses in the 10 commandments Jesus summarises as the two greatest love words: God and neighbour, and Jude Hennessy is in conversation with Dr Eammon Mathieson from the Catholic Medical Association of Australia. Listen at jcr.org.au



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

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

Much has changed over this half-century. We need only think of the advent of new technologies and the impact of trans-versal and global phenomena such as the pandemic or the transformation of an increasingly globalized society that "makes us neighbours but does not make us brothers". We have also witnessed an "increasing sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature", which has given rise to a "growing concern, both genuine and distressing, for what is happening to our planet" (Laudato Si', 19). Experts are clear that the impact of the choices and actions made in this current decade will be felt for thousands of years. Our understanding has thus grown concerning the impact our actions will have on our common home and on those who dwell here, both now and in the future. This has also increased our sense of responsibility to God, who has entrusted us with the care of creation, to our neighbours and to future generations. - 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. 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/

AUSTRALIAN YOUNG CATHOLIC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 2024/2025

This initiative of the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry (BCELM) has been offered since 2006 to young women aged 25- 35 years. The Fellowship provides financial sponsorship toward a graduate certificate in theological studies and a supportive community of women and spiritual accompaniment for future leaders. A more detailed outline of Fellowship inclusions and schedule can be found at www.nce.catholic.org.au/womensfellowship Applications close Thursday 16 November

29 OCTOBER - THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

First Reading - Exodus 22:20-26 *If you are harsh with the widow or orphan, my anger will rage against one.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

“You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

Responsorial Psalm - I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise,
when I call I am saved from my foes. R.
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me,
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. R.

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10 *You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

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 - Matthew 22: 34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'