

# 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:  
 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)

**Parish Office:** Email: [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)  
 Website: [www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)  
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## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (YEAR A) – 26 NOV 23

**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 27 Nov	Mass: 7am	
Tues 28 Nov	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 29 Nov	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 30 Nov <i>St Andrew, apostle</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 1 Dec	Mass: 7am <b>Adoration: 7pm - 10pm</b>	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 2 Dec	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am
Sun 3 Dec	Mass: 8am <i>Mass: 10am (Polish)</i>	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

John Sweeney, Giuseppe Masi,  
Louise Packham

#### Prayers for the sick

Jan Luke, Peter Lathourakis, Peter Stoyles  
Kerrie Maidment, Roger Baxendale, Josephine Moran

#### Anniversaries

Annie Clarke, Henry Duxbury,  
Ellen Walsh, Maria Iannuzzi



### 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*

On this **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**, Bishop Brian Mascord has shared his vision for the parishes of the Diocese of Wollongong, entitled *Come & See, Go & Make*. This message from our Bishop is accompanied by a number of excellent resources which I encourage you all to take with you this weekend at our churches – specifically, three beautifully prepared publications:

1. *A vision for parishes* – which our Bishop invites us to prayerfully read
2. *Principles and Foundations* – a short explanation of key principles described in the vision document, which are also formative in our own personal faith and understanding;
3. *Go Deeper* – a short compendium of additional reading on key concepts discussed in the vision document

I am excited to read and reflect upon these documents during the upcoming Advent season, and then to discern together with you all the ways we can work together to bring our Bishop’s vision to life as we continue to build up our wonderful parish community together in 2024 and beyond!

A central part of the Bishop’s vision for our parishes is Alpha – in part because he has been able to see the power of Alpha to transform countless lives and communities throughout the Diocese and beyond. You can come and see for yourself this **Wednesday 29th November at 7pm at St Therese Parish Centre** – registration is essential for catering purposes by Sunday 26th November at this QR code, or go to [tinyurl.com/alphacomeandsee](http://tinyurl.com/alphacomeandsee) or contact the parish office.



*First Friday Extended Eucharistic Adoration THIS FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER, 7pm – 10pm with Reconciliation available throughout. All welcome!*

### **Fr Duane Fernandez**

## *Message from Sr Kerry*

My sister loves her gardening. Often we have enjoyed time at garden events. Often she gifts me with a plant.

Having arrived in a remote town I couldn’t help but snigger at the Botanical garden. I took a photo and sent it to her.

As the days unfolded I was sorry for my sniggle. Everything has a beginning rather than an array of flowers and enormous displays. While this is arid land I quietly admired those who hope so much for the future and while they may not see the full potential gift of creation they do so in the hope for those who follow.

What is the legacy I hope to leave for others?



### **Sr Kerry Gardiner**

#### ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

November	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 25 Nov	Church Cleaning	J Haywood, L Salway, M Hurley, T Vaafusuaga	
Sat 25 Nov	Lawns	B Mannix, W Brown, F Caruana, J Lonard, J	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
6pm 25 Nov	B Farraway		
8am 26 Nov	A Kelly	A Kelly / M Graham	Sandra Michielin Sarah Walsh
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

#### ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 2 Dec	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 2 Dec	Lawns	<i>No lawn mowing this week</i>	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children’s liturgy
6pm 2 Dec	D Nugent	C Cleary	
8am 3 Dec	C Lyon	G Simmonite	Kylie & Molly Hertsch, Gemma Farrugia
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		

## PARISH NEWS

### St Vincent De Paul Giving Tree

The Giving Christmas Tree has been placed in the church full of tags for children's toys and Christmas food. The gifts received from this tree are used by the Unanderra Vinnies Conference to distribute approximately 40 Christmas hampers and toys for about seventy children within the Unanderra area. Gifts need to be placed under the Giving Tree **by Sunday 17 December** as hampers and toys will be delivered on Tuesday 19 December. A big thank you to all the generous parishioners who have supported the Vinnies Giving Tree for many years.



### Vinnies Christmas Cards and Columban calendars

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul will start selling their Christmas Cards and the Columban Calendars this weekend at the table near the side door. **Christmas cards are \$5/pack of ten and the 2024 Columban calendar is \$10.**

### Advent & Christmas Daily reflections - available now

The Sign: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2023 - a captivating 80-page book filled with spiritually enriching daily reflections from Advent (3 December 2023) to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024). **Cost is \$3.** Please leave money in the small drawer at the side door.



### CWL Christmas raffle

Catholic Women's League will have a Christmas raffle to raise money to support their Charities. There will be several prizes that will appeal to all - **\$50 vouchers, bottles of wine, beer, picnic set, cooking set, Bluey, Rabbit and snack pack.** You win and you choose your prize. Tickets will be available before mass next Sunday. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

### RCIA program

It is exciting to have a number of people expressing their desire to become Catholic through the RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). The first step will be for Fr Duane to meet with each one during the coming weeks. If you're interested please contact Fr Duane at: **duane.fernandez@dow.org.au**

### First Aid Training



We are arranging a **First Aid Training Day** (including the use of the defib machine) to be held in the St Joseph's meeting room. The course is 5 hours held over 2 days, with a certificate issued upon completion. The cost of the course is \$95. Please contact the Parish office if you are interested in attending.

### Parish Finances - week ending 19 November 2023

\$529	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$581	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$200	Tap Point	- Parish donations
\$175	Planned giving envelopes	
\$489	Direct debits (weekly average from October).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

The easiest way for our parish to budget for the many and rising expenses of the parish is via the Planned Giving program – preferably Direct Debit via this QR code (2nd collection, and you can choose weekly, fortnightly or monthly and change your contribution at any stage if you need to). Planned Giving envelopes for cash are also still an option – contact the parish office for these.



### 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, please contact Melissa at the Parish Office **unanderra@dow.org.au**

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 26 NOV 2023

On the Journey this week: Fr Mark De Battista says that we're celebrating something that is yet to come, that Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. Mother Hilda has a story of a dud toaster acting like God. Fr Tony Percy on doing a spiritual audit and being judged on whether we recognized Christ in people, especially in the needy. Listen at [jcr.org.au](http://jcr.org.au)



## PURPOSE CONFERENCE FREE BUS FROM WOLLONGONG/ MACARTHUR - 18-35 YEARS OLD

The 'Purpose Conference' will feature world renowned Catholic speakers Jason Evert and Matt Fradd, and hundreds of young adults from Sydney and all over Australia. We are also providing a free bus from Wollongong Diocese where you can connect with other local young adults on the way to the event. Tickets to the event are limited and so are spots on the bus, so register for both as soon as you can!

**Tickets:** Book your own ticket to the conference via: [dow.sh/Purpose23](https://dow.sh/Purpose23)

**Book your travel on Free Gong Bus:** Feel free to make your own way to the Conference on Thursday 7 December, but be sure to reserve your spot on our Free Gong Bus for Friday 8 December by registering here ([dow.sh/YA-BUS](https://dow.sh/YA-BUS)) and connect with other young adults from our Diocese on the journey - departing from West Wollongong Parish at 4pm or Rosemeadow Parish at 4.45pm. Deadline for booking a spot on the bus is 3 December. Contact Fr Duane and the team at  **vocations@dow.org.au** if you have any questions.

## CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs. *'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'* Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia  
With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone **1800 024 413**

## RETREAT DAY "LET THERE BE LIGHT"

| BENEDICTINE ABBEY JAMBEROO  
SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 10AM-3:30PM

This day is especially set aside as a day of reflection with Christmas in mind. We see it as, a day to visit hope, a day to look forward toward the light that may just have escaped us during this past year, and yet still shines brightly beyond the clouds, beckoning us toward all that is good in the time ahead. There will be three input sessions by the Sisters along with time for quiet reflection and a guided meditation by one of the Sisters as well.

**Mass:** 9am for anyone who would like to come

**Lunch:** Bring your own, plenty of tea and coffee here

**Cost:** \$30 (Morning Tea provided)

To register please phone 4236 0011 Ext 106 (Just leave your name and number)

## 26 NOVEMBER - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (YEAR A)

### First Reading - Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats..

### Responsorial Psalm - The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. R.
2. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. R.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. R.
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. R.

### Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28

*He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

### Gospel - Matthew 25: 31 - 46

*He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'