

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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 (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
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
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EASTER SUNDAY (YEAR B) – 31 MARCH 2024

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 1 Apr <i>Easter Monday</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	
Tues 2 Apr	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:45pm Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm 	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 3 Apr	Mass: 7am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm - 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm 
Thurs 4 Apr	Mass: 5:30pm Reconciliation: 6pm - 6:45pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm 	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 5 Apr	Mass: 7am Extended Adoration: 7pm - 10pm 	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 6 Apr	Rosary 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm 	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am 
Sun 7 Apr	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Lolli Forlano, Peter Ruhl

Prayers for the sick

Peter Lathourakis, Peter Stoyles, Antoinette Sakr
 Kerrie Maidment, Roger Baxendale, Josephine Moran

Anniversaries

Kathy Wiggins, William G Dredge,
 Janina Seweryn, Leigh Martin,
 Vivian Maloney



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

HAPPY EASTER! Whatever life might be throwing at us right now, the joy of Easter is available to us, because it's the promise that in the Cross, our God in Christ is with us even in our darkest times, and in his resurrection has promised us that the darkness is not the last word – He has conquered it, and he shares his light with us always! The Mass is the way that he has given us to celebrate this victory every Sunday, where he makes us new in his resurrection, giving us his strength, healing, hope, and a new beginning!

We are especially excited this Easter to **welcome 14 adults becoming Catholic** – congratulations to Andrew, Brett, Brodie, Cassandra, Gemma, Johnny, Kelly and Toby, baptised this Easter Vigil at St Therese West Wollongong and to Ebony, Heidi, Janet, Joan, John and Matthew, who will join them to receive Confirmation and First Eucharist. Every one of them has shown wonderful openness and commitment throughout their journey, and it has been a true joy for me to witness God working so powerfully in them. Thank you to their sponsors, and as a parish let us continue to pray for them and support them and each other in our shared journey of faith and life.

If this is your first time joining us here, or if you've been away for a while, we are so glad you've come! It's an exciting time in our parish, and our special "Welcome" flyer lists a few ways you might like to get more connected with this community. In addition to the information on that flyer, after our Masses next weekend we will have a "Come and See Cup of Tea" where you can meet representatives from the various groups, activities and ministries in our parish and see if you might like to connect with any of them now or into the future.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their gifts so generously during our Easter ceremonies and for all the preparations behind the scenes. There are too many people to thank in person, but God knows who you are and may you be richly blessed for your generosity!

Fr Duane Fernandez

Message from Sr Kerry

Some years back I was living in a situation that brought much fear into my life. I was a long way from home, living in unfamiliar circumstances and in some ways, I was very alone. I decided to ring my Provincial and tell her how things were for me. My Provincial was wonderful. I told her how fearful I was in the situation. Her response was: "If you are living in fear you aren't living." How true her words!

As we celebrate Easter, we can look around our world and our neighbourhood and see so much destruction, hate, revenge, unnecessary death and injury, lack of communication, the need to be first etc.

The egg is a symbol of new life; the new life given by Christ. While you enjoy the egg, may you also digest a little of the message. Can you live in such a way that others know security and love as opposed to fear?

Wishing you an incredibly happy, blessed, life giving and enjoyable Easter.



Sr Kerry Gardiner

HOLY WEEK at IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 2024

Holy Thursday 28 March

11am Polish Mass (Fr Jerzy)

7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Fr. David O'Brien)

Good Friday 29 March

10am Stations of the Cross (Acolyte)

11am Polish Mass (Fr Jerzy)

3pm Commemoration of the Passion (Fr. Duane)

Easter Saturday 30 March

11am Blessing of the food (Polish)

12 noon Blessing of the food (Polish)

7pm Easter Vigil (Fr. Peter Gardiner)

Easter Sunday 31 March

8am Mass (Fr. Duane)

10am Polish Mass (Fr Jerzy)

HOLY WEEK at ST THERESE 2024

Holy Thursday 28 March

7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Fr. Duane)

Good Friday 29 March

10am Stations of the Cross (Acolyte)

3pm Commemoration of the Passion (Fr. David O'Brien)

Easter Saturday 30 March

7pm Easter Vigil (Fr. Duane)

Easter Sunday 31 March

8am Mass (Fr. David O'Brien)

10am Mass (Fr. Duane)

There will be no 5pm Mass on Easter Sunday

ROSTER – THIS WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 30 Mar	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 30 Mar	Lawns	Mannix, Brown, F Caruana, Lonard, Sharwood	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 30 Mar	Easter Vigil	T Chicharo	
8am 31 Mar	A Browne	M Matos	Alicia Sanchez-Levine, , Luke Jansons
Counters	A Kelly, B Farraway		

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

April	Church Washing	Susan Adams	
Sat 6 Apr	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, R Tassone	
Sat 6 Apr	Lawns	No lawn mowing this week.	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 6 Apr	N O'Donoghue	C Cleary	
8am 7 Apr	M Matos	G Simmonite	Leah Galea, Alison Sharwood
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		

PARISH NEWS

Extended Adoration - Friday 5 April, 7pm to 10pm.
Reconciliation available throughout.

"Curiously, the prayer of adoration - we have lost it. We have lost it and everyone - priests, bishops, consecrated men and women, laypeople - have to recover it. It's to be in silence, before the Lord."
- Pope Francis



Come and See Cup of Tea - Saturday and Sunday 6/7 April



For anyone who would like to get more involved in Parish life, we are holding a **Come and See Cup of Tea**, after the Vigil and 8am Sunday morning Masses.

It will be an informal opportunity to find out more about what's happening in the Parish and to meet some of the people involved in the various ministries - CWL, Vinnies, reading team, lawn mowing team, catechists etc. We look forward to sharing a cuppa after Mass.

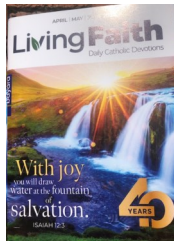
Carmelite Meeting - Saturday 6 April

The next meeting of the Lay Carmelites will be on Saturday 6 April 10am for 10.30am in St Joseph's room. Call Ann on 0427 235 955 for details. Everyone is welcome.

Living Faith books (April - June)

The new Living Faith books for April to June 2024 are available now.

Living Faith provides daily reflections based on a scripture passage from the daily Mass. This booklet helps Catholics pray and meditate in spirit with the seasons of the church Year. Cost is \$5. Please leave money in the small drawer.



Parish Pastoral Council

View the Parish calendar [here](#). If you would like to contact the PPC, please call *Chris Lyon* on 0403 296 837.

Christian Meditation:



The Christian Meditation Group meets on Monday evenings in the St Therese Parish Centre 6pm - 7:30pm.

ENQUIRIES: Please text **Monica 0412 056 877**. All are welcome

Project Compassion



Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia! Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal.

caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Parish Finances - week ending 24 March 2024

\$603	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$547	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$160	Tap Point	- Parish donations
\$432	Planned giving envelopes	
\$556	Direct debits (weekly average from Feb).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly

Recycling bins

Your donations of 10c recyclable bottles, cans and plastics are welcome. All proceeds go to the Parish. Our bins are located in the church car park.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME - AIRS SUNDAY 31 MARCH 2024

On the Journey this week: Bishop Brian Mascord's Easter message; let us hesitate no longer. Mother Hilda says the good news is that there's a God who wants only your happiness and your peace. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Byron and Francine Pirola, and Fr Joshua Whitehead. Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!" This day changes everything. The power of sin and death are broken, live in the freedom that comes solely in Christ. (Psalm 118)

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



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | WELCOMING AND INFORMATION - CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

An exciting opportunity exists for a suitably experienced and qualified person to apply for the role of Executive Assistant | Welcoming and Information.

Please visit the website dow.org.au/JOBS/

Applications can be emailed to recruitment@dow.org.au
For all enquiries, call Robin Williams on (02) 4222 2402

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS AT ST COLUMBKILLE'S PARISH CENTRE, CORRIMAL | 6 APRIL

(EACH MONTH A DIFFERENT DEVOTION)

April is devoted to Divine Mercy with a video presentation at 3 pm. Enjoy shared afternoon tea at 4 pm, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, International Rosary, Benediction, Anointing of the Sick at 4:30 pm. Reconciliation starts at 5:30 pm, leading to Holy Mass at 6 pm. All are welcome! Please bring a plate to share if possible

SOCIAL JUSTICE POINTS

In a world where the number of migrants and refugees is increasing while the willingness to welcome them is decreasing and where the foreigner is viewed with increasing suspicion, it is appropriate for the Church to engage decisively in education, in the culture of dialogue and encounter, combating racism and xenophobia, especially through pastoral formation. Equally, it is necessary to engage in concrete projects for the integration of migrants.

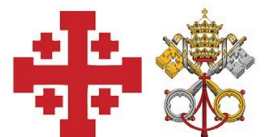
-- 'XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops' (Synod on Synodality) Synthesis Report.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The annual Holy Land Collection will be held on **Good Friday, 29 March 2024**. Pope Francis has asked our parishes to support the collection which helps Christians in the Holy Land.

Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, orphanages, and medical centres. The Holy Land Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

To find out more, or to make an on-line donation please visit <http://dow.sh/HolyLand>



31 MARCH - EASTER SUNDAY (YEAR B)

First Reading - Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm - This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

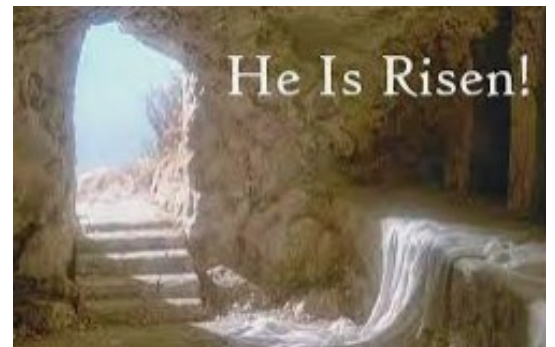
1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' R.
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. R.
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. R.

4. Second Reading - Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence:

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!



Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel - John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.