

# PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

48 Princes Highway (PO Box 14) Unanderra NSW 2526



**Parish Priest:**

**Fr Duane Fernandez**  
Email: [Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au](mailto:Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au)

**Polish Chaplain:**

**Fr Jerzy Slowinski**  
Mobile: 0410 225 975  
Email: [slowinski54@gmail.com](mailto:slowinski54@gmail.com)

**Parish Assistant &  
Catechist Co-ordinator:**

**Sister Joan Goodwin**  
Phone: 4272 9980  
Mobile: 0499 970 074  
Email: [joan.goodwin@sosj.org.au](mailto:joan.goodwin@sosj.org.au)

**Parish School:**

**St Pius X School**  
Cnr Hargreaves & Cummins Streets  
PO Box 358 Unanderra NSW 2526  
Phone: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

**School Principal:**

**Mr Philip Moore**

**Parish Secretaries:**

**Mrs Magda Pires** (Mondays)  
**Mrs Sue Briscoe** (Thursdays / Fridays)

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday / Thursday / Friday: 9am—3.30pm  
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298  
Email: [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)  
Parish Website: [www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)

## PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

<b>Monday</b>	26 Aug	Mass:	7am
<b>Tuesday</b>	27 Aug	<b>St Monica</b>	
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm
		Mass:	5.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	28 Aug	<b>St Augustine</b>	
		Mass:	7am
<b>Thursday</b>	29 Aug	<b>The Passion of St John the Baptist</b>	
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm (Reconciliation Available)
		Mass:	5.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	30 Aug	Mass:	9.30am
<b>Saturday</b>	31 Aug	Mass:	7.30am
		Reconciliation:	5pm-5.30pm
		Vigil Mass:	6pm
<b>Sunday</b>	1 Sept	<b>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
(Unanderra)		Masses:	8am, 10.45am (Polish)
(West Wollongong)		Masses:	10am, 5pm

## 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C 25 AUGUST 2019

**Entrance Antiphon:**

Listen Lord, and answer me. Save your servant  
who trusts in you. I call to you all day long,  
have mercy on me, O Lord.

**First Reading:**

Isaiah 66:18-21

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

**Second Reading:**

Hebrews 12:5-78, 11-13

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:**

St Luke 13:22-30

**Communion Antiphon:**

Lord, the earth is filled with your gift from heaven;  
man grows bread from earth,  
and wine to cheer his heart.

## SR JOAN & SR MARGARET

Bishop Brian Mascord has announced that Sr Joan and Sr Margaret will be retiring from their work in the parish. Whilst we are very happy for them as they enjoy a more relaxing time in their lives, we are very sad to lose them from our parish. They have both spent many years of faithful service here. It would be fitting to thank them for their great work in our parish. A committee has been formed to organise a function to farewell the Sisters and thank them for all of their work here.

If you would like to be part of the committee, could you please contact either Sue or Magda at the parish office at [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au) or on 4271 1068.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Recently Deceased**

Terry DEAN  
Tullio PELLERANO

**Anniversaries**

Romeo ZAMPA



## ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

August	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 31 Aug	Church Cleaning	F Fernandez, B Rice, S Walsh	
	Lawns	J Lonard, F Timpano, S Carrigan	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 31 Aug 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	V Cleary	V Cleary
Sun 1 Sept 8am Mass	A Michielin, M Walsh	D Ferrer, C Walsh	S Michielin, Walsh Family
Counters	A Gunning, M Cauduro, C Garrett		
Children's Liturgy	K Hertsch, S Walsh		



## PARISH ACTIVITIES

- Catholic Women's League:** 2nd Thursday of the month - 10.30am in St Joseph's room  
*New members always welcome!*  
Please contact: Barbara - 4271 1584
- St Vincent de Paul Conference:** Every Tue 7.30pm in St Joseph's room
- Parish Pastoral Council:** 2nd Monday of alternate months 7.30pm in St Joseph's room
- Nursing Home Masses**
- Hillside Nursing Home:** 1st Tuesday of the month - 2pm
- Figtree Nursing Home:** 2nd Tuesday of the month - 10:45am
- Villa Maria Nursing Home:** 3rd Tuesday of the month - 9:30am

Refreshments after 9am Mass on 1st weekend of the month  
(except September due to it being Father's Day)

## NEW ROSTERS

New rosters have now been prepared for the 8am Mass that will commence in our parish next weekend (24-25 August).

There will be two acolytes rostered for the 8am Mass.

There will also be two lectors for each Mass:

the first lector will read the 1st Reading and the second lector will read the 2nd Reading, the Alleluia and the Prayers of the Faithful.

Thank you for your co-operation during this time of change for Immaculate Conception and St Therese Parishes.

*Please pick up your new roster from the side door.*



## MEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND

**30 August – 1 September 2019**

St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park  
*Presenter: Mr Paul White*

Join other men of faith exploring how the power of "Yes!" changes circumstances in dark times; how we can live in the light of God's truth which can bring much joy to our lives and much needed peace and harmony. Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre.

**Cost: \$230 RSVP**

**Ph: 4630 0233**

**Email: [contact@towersretreat.org.au](mailto:contact@towersretreat.org.au)**

**Website: [www.towersretreat.org.au](http://www.towersretreat.org.au)**



## RECRUITING MUSICIANS FOR OUR CHOIR

We are currently recruiting musicians for our choir at Unanderra for all/any 6pm Masses.

The Youth Mass on the 3rd Saturday of each month already has an organist — new choir members are always welcome! Meet upstairs in the choir loft at a 6pm Mass and discuss arrangements/make plans with each other after Mass.

New choir members are always welcome at 8am Mass too. Come upstairs and join us any time!

**Any enquiries, please contact Trudy at [zalewski48@live.com](mailto:zalewski48@live.com)**



## PARISH BULLETINS UNANDERRA & WEST WOLLONGONG

For parishioners wishing to view the Unanderra Sunday bulletin online, please go to:

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



For those wishing to receive the West Wollongong Sunday bulletin via email, please email your contact details to West Wollongong, and ask to be added to their bulletin mailing list:  
[westwollongong@dow.org.au](mailto:westwollongong@dow.org.au)

## POSITION VACANT ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

*Lumen Christi Catholic Parishes Wollongong*  
Casual one (1) day per week on Thursdays.

As a casual administration assistant, you provide a range of clerical and administrative duties to ensure the smooth and effective operation of the parish office for the parishes of St Francis Xavier Cathedral Wollongong, St John Vianney Fairy Meadow/Mater Dolorosa Balgownie and St Brigid's Gwynneville.

**Closing date is 4pm Friday 6 September 2019.**

For further details and a full position description, please contact Frances.

This position is also advertised at [www.dow.org.au](http://www.dow.org.au)  
Your application should include a cover letter and resume.

Completed applications should be emailed to Frances Van Leerdam at  
[frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au](mailto:frances.vanleerdam@dow.org.au)

## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL (ACYF)



PERTH 2019  
8-10 DECEMBER

ACYF is a national gathering of Catholic young people established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference which aims to provide young people with the opportunity to attend worship, workshops and plenaries that will deepen their faith. This year the festival will be held in Perth from **8-10 December 2019** and the Diocese of Wollongong will be organising a group of young adults (18-30) to attend.

*Please Note: Applications to attend with the diocese will close 8 November 2019.*

For more information on the Diocesan ACYF Group or to express interest in attending, please contact Georgia on 4222 2427 or at [youth@dow.org.au](mailto:youth@dow.org.au)

## MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

Illawarra Christian Meditation Groups invite everyone to a day of Meditation and Reflection with Fr Michael Whelan SM on the spirituality of THOMAS MERTON. Saturday 7 September at Kiama.



Enquiries: Monica Dowdell on 0412 056 877

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 2019 –

This week on the Journey, we hear Luke's Gospel 13:22-30, about "the narrow door". Pete Gilmore shares his inspiration of Living the Gospel, and we have some other amazing presenters sharing their faith filled experiences and parts of their life's journeys.

Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) to make sure you never miss a show, with it sent to you each week as a podcast via email — for free!

Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or  
[www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au)

where you can listen any time and  
subscribe to weekly shows via email



## FOSTERING FUTURES

*Every child has the right to a family and a permanent home. Every single one.*

Right now, children across our region are in need. If you would like to find out more about becoming a foster carer with CatholicCare Wollongong, please email us on

[fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au)  
or call 0418 783 956



## NO HOSPITAL MASSES

There will be no Masses at Wollongong Private Hospital or Wollongong Public Hospital between August and December 2019. It will resume in January 2020.



Kindly contact  
0475 815 506  
for your hospital  
spiritual needs.

## A VOCATION VIEW

Will you help gather people to be a part of the reign of God?  
Pray to be open if  
God calls you to serve as a priest, deacon, brother or sister. (Isaiah 66:18-21)



Please contact the Vocations Team at  
[priesthood@dow.org.au](mailto:priesthood@dow.org.au)

# *Message from Fr Duane*

The first thing I should say is a big thank you to Monsignor Graham Schmitzer, for his years of service in this parish and indeed his 50 years of service as a Priest! What a wonderful example of faithfulness to God's call — an inspiration to me, and no doubt to all of us as we seek to respond with generosity to what God is asking of us. It is impossible to measure the fruit that Monsignor's ministry has borne for God's people throughout the decades, and I know that he will be missed in this place. I write this before the celebratory Mass — and the party that follows — but I'm confident that the evening will be a fitting tribute to the Monsignor, as I have seen the Organising Committee working so hard behind the scenes to make it happen!

As for me, I've only been a priest for seven years! Most of this time has been as an Assistant Priest in Nowra parish, but since March this year I have been Parish Administrator at St Therese in West Wollongong. It is with a mixture of both nervousness and excitement that I now take up my new role as Parish Priest of St Therese West Wollongong and of Immaculate Conception Unanderra! I take courage from the Immaculate Conception herself, who shows us how to say "yes" even if we can't see exactly how everything will work out!

I am very grateful to the Unanderra Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council, and the two Parish Secretaries, for already welcoming me so warmly and helping me to transition into my new responsibilities here. I very much look forward to getting to know each and every one of you, and to learning how best to serve you all. There is of course no such thing as a perfect Parish Priest, and I know I have many weaknesses (as you will soon discover!). Whenever I feel inadequate for the role, I remember that it is Jesus who has called me to this, and he's the one perfect Priest! I do hope to continue to improve as a priest, and I will be counting on all of you to help me along that journey of growth. Please be assured that I am always ready to listen to your concerns and your suggestions, and to discern together with you how we can continue to build up this parish.

Finally, I am keenly aware that there have been some sudden changes of late — not only of the priest but also of Mass times and congregations. Change can sometimes be difficult — but it can also be exciting! Let's strive to preserve all that you already love about this parish, and be open to where the Spirit is leading us to grow and be renewed at this time.

Please pray for me, as I will pray for you, and let's work together with each other and in a special way also with the Parish of St Therese West Wollongong to continue to bring the love of Christ to all people in our region!

**Fr Duane Fernandez**  
Parish Priest



*St Therese — West Wollongong*



*Immaculate Conception — Unanderra*