

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au



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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: Mr Philip Moore
Parish Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon)
Mrs Sue Briscoe (Wed/Thu/Fri)

Parish Office: Mon: 8.30am–3pm (Magda)
Wed: 8.30am–11.30am (Sue)
Thu/Fri: 8.30am–2.30pm (Sue)
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

UNANDERRA (U) and WEST WOLLONGONG (WW)

Monday	2 Dec	Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
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Tuesday	3 Dec	St Francis Xavier		
		Mass:	7.45am	(WW)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
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Wednesday	4 Dec	Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
		Adoration:	4.30pm (inc Reconciliation)	(WW)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(WW)
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Thursday	5 Dec	Mass:	7.45am	(WW)
		Mass:	11am (Polish)	(U)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.20pm	(U)
			(Reconciliation Available)	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
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Friday	6 Dec	Mass:	10.15am	(WW)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5.30pm	(U)
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Saturday	7 Dec	St Ambrose		
		Mass:	7.30am	(U)
		Mass:	9am	(WW)
		Reconciliation:	9.30am-10.30am	(WW)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Reconciliation:	5pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Vigil Mass:	6pm	(U)
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Sunday	8 Dec	Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)		
		Mass:	8am	(U)
		Mass:	10am	(WW)
		Mass:	10am (Polish)	(U)
		Adoration:	4.30pm-5.30pm	(U)
		Mass:	5pm	(WW)

*** NB: Due to evening Masses on Mon/Wed/Fri, there will be NO MORNING MASSES at Unanderra on those 3 days.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A 1 DECEMBER 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Responsorial Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading:

Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
And grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 24:37-44

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Eutiquia CENIZA

Vina ABANG

Anniversaries

Fortuna, Aquilino and

Demetrio ESCOBIA



ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy	
Sat 7 Dec	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 7 Dec	Lawns	Winner Family, P Briscoe, A Gollop	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 7 Dec 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	M Gillis	D Gelfius
Sun 8 Dec 8am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	M Walsh, C Walsh	L Harper
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	M Rodwell, S Michielin		



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:** Mark Walsh (PPC President)
Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com
0407 604 498
- 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
Uniting Nursing Home FarmHts: 3rd Friday of the month - 9.30am

Refreshments after the 8am Mass on the first weekend of each month in St Joseph's Meeting Room (Unanderra)



ADVENT PROGRAMME

"The Way" 2019 Advent programme is available now
(located on the middle pew) —

\$4.00 each

— NOVENA — FOR THE FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adoration and Mass are to be held at Immaculate Conception Church from **Monday 2 December to Monday 9 December (inclusive)**, times as follows:

- Mon-Fri (2-6 Dec): Adoration 4.30pm / Mass 5.30pm
 Sat 7 Dec: Adoration 4.30pm / Mass 6pm (Vigil)
 Sun 8 Dec: Adoration 4.30pm-5.30pm
 Mon 9 Dec: Adoration 4.30pm / Mass 5.30pm



CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

It's that time of year again for our

Annual Christmas Raffle

to support the charities of the
Catholic Women's League

There are 3 Christmas Hampers to be won!

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Raffle tickets will be on sale at the following Masses over the next two weekends:

Saturday 30 November (6pm), Sunday 1 December (8am), Saturday 7 December (6pm) and Sunday 8 December (8am).

The raffle will then be drawn after the 8am Mass on Sunday 8 December. The ladies of the CWL would like to thank you all for your continued support.



VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS AND COLUMBAN CALENDARS

The Unanderra Conference of St Vincent de Paul will start selling their Christmas cards and Columban calendars this weekend after each Mass.

Christmas cards are \$6.00 for a pack of 10 and the 2020 Columban Calendar is \$9.00.



A VOCATION VIEW



Make your decision to follow Jesus during THIS Advent Season. Delaying until "one" of these days is "none" of these days. Follow now.

If anyone would like to know more, please contact the **Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez**, at vocations@dow.org.au

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?!

There is an URGENT need for more volunteers to assist with church cleaning. What does this task entail?

When: Saturday mornings at 8am.

How long: Approximately 1 hour.

How often: Once every 5 weeks.

Tasks: Vacuuming and dusting.

You will be working with other volunteers who will help you.

If you are able to assist, please contact **Barbara** on **0419 989 608**.



MONSIGNOR GRAHAM'S GOLDEN JUBILEE/RETIREMENT PHOTOS

On Friday 23 August 2019 our former Parish Priest, Monsignor Graham Schmitzer, commenced his retirement, which coincided with the date of his Golden Jubilee — which was celebrated on that day.

To view the photos from that eventful gathering, please go to: www.unanderraparish.org.au/retirement



THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE 2

2—8 January 2020

The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at

Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way.

Registration and details at www.epiphanypilgrimage.org and www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage



SONGS OF JOY — KIAMA

Sunday 15 December 2019 — 2.30pm
at Ss Peter & Paul Church in Kiama

A combined chorus of over 180 singers from Sydney and the South Coast are joining together for a sensational afternoon of song. Antoinette Raynal, Director of Katandra Women's A Cappella, says "The joy of singing has such an impact on both the audience and the singers, nothing beats the excitement and impact of such a beautiful big sound."

Sydney's Hummingsong Community Choirs, Maribella and Senisuara — as recently seen on Australia's Got Talent — are the special guests for the event.

The finale features the Kiama youth group "The Sing Space Vocal Ensemble" leading the combined chorus in singing "One Voice" — it is sure to create a moving highlight which will raise the roof and cheer in the season!

Entry to the concert is by donation with all proceeds going to charity, "The Homestead of Hope", a proud collaborative endeavour by Kiama churches to support those in need within our community.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

— AIRS SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2019 —

This week on the Journey we have an exceptional line-up. Kicking off Advent, we involve our local priests and contemplate the Gospel each week with reflections from our Advent Reflections book, *The Way*.

This week, Fr Gregory Pine OP takes us on a journey from the Gospel of Matthew. We also hear from Pete Gilmore, Mother Hilda Scott and Sam Clear, just to name a couple of the great inputs on the show.

Tune into **LIFE 101.9** or **98.5** or go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au to ensure 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 or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen any time and subscribe to weekly shows via email



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

"I have seen (God) so close to those who suffer, to those who cry, to those who are shipwrecked in this life of abandonment, that there has been a burning desire in me to imitate him in this voluntary proximity to the derelict of the world, whom society despises." (Este Japón increíble. Memoria del P. Arrupe, 4th edition Mensajero, Bilbao, 1991, p.19).

— Pope Francis 7/11/19

JOINT PARISHES SOCIAL EVENING AT FIGGY BOWLO

Approximately 90 parishioners from both Immaculate Conception And St Therese (ICAST) attended the first joint parishes social evening on Friday 22 November at Figgy Bowlo. A great night was had by all, with a good deal of mingling, mixing, chatting and getting to know each other; as well as lovely food and drinks, which was only surpassed by the company. Another joint parishes function is planned for early in the new year, so hopefully more parishioners from both parishes can attend the next gathering in order for our two parishes to continue to grow together.



Message from Fr Duane

There was a lot to celebrate last week! Firstly it was wonderful to see about 90 people gather at "Figgy Bowlo" for the Parish Social just over a week ago - a record number, thanks to representation from both Unanderra and West Wollongong! A big thank you to the organisers, Mary O'Rourke, Sue Briscoe, Gloria Simmonite and Barbara Faraway. We look forward to more of the same next year! Then we had the privilege of celebrating the First Holy Communion for 46 wonderful children and their families. Thank you again to all who prepared the children, and congratulations to the children and their families for entering into the Masses so prayerfully.

We now begin the Advent season, a sacred time of preparing our hearts in hope for a renewed encounter with Jesus this Christmas. Practically as we enter into this season, I draw your attention to the Advent Reflection Books, entitled "The Way", which are located on the middle pew of the church. Also, one way of putting Christ's love into action during this season is to participate in the tradition in both West Wollongong and Unanderra of buying Christmas items for those in need this Christmas. Simply take a tag from the Christmas Giving Tree and bring the item when you can to place under the tree. Thanks to the St Vincent de Paul Society for organising this wonderful initiative.

Advent blessings to all!

Fr Duane Fernandez
Parish Priest



ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree has been placed in the church and is full of tags for children's toys and Christmas food.

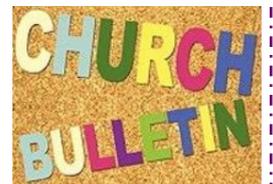
The gifts received from this tree are used by the Unanderra St Vinnies Conference to distribute approximately 40 Christmas hampers and toys for about 70 children to the needy within the Unanderra area.

Gifts need to be placed under the Giving Tree by **Sunday 15 December**, as hampers and toys will be delivered on Thursday 19 December.

A big thank you to all of the generous parishioners who have supported the Vinnies Giving Tree for many years.

WEST WOLLONGONG PARISH BULLETINS

For those who would like to read the West Wollongong Sunday bulletin each week, there are several copies located in a tray near the side door of the church — alternatively if you would like to receive the bulletin via email, please contact: westwollongong@dow.org.au



BAPTISMS

Sundays at 12 noon (second and fourth Sunday of each month only)

Second Sunday of the Month — **West Wollongong**

Fourth Sunday of the Month — **Unanderra**

(Minimum of one month's notice is required)

MARRIAGES / FUNERALS / ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By appointment only — please contact Fr Duane

(Minimum of six months' notice is required for weddings — no Sunday weddings)

PARISH SICK LIST

If you would like to include your loved ones' names on our Sick List — please email the Parish office at unanderra@dow.org.au or telephone **4271 1068**