

PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

www.unanderraparish.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Duane Fernandez
 Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
 Phone: 4229 1074

Polish Chaplain: Fr Jerzy Slowinski
 Email: slowinski54@gmail.com
 Mobile: 0410 225 975

Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
 Email: Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au
 Phone: 4272 9980 (Convent)
 Mobile: 0421 463 871

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 Secretaries: Mrs Magda Pires (Mon)
 Mrs Sue Briscoe (Wed/Thu/Fri)

Parish Office: Mon: 8.30am–3pm (Magda)
 Wed/Thu: 8.30am–1.30pm (Sue)
 Fri: 9.30am–2.30pm (Sue)
 Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
 Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A SUNDAY 8 MARCH 2020

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 9 March	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 10 March	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 11 March	Mass: 9.30am	Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 12 March	Mass: 11am (<i>Polish</i>) Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Friday 13 March	Mass: 7am Stations of the Cross: 7pm	Mass: 9.30am Stations of the Cross: 5pm
Saturday 14 March	Rosary: 7.10am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 15 March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (<i>Polish</i>)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Peter PELLIZZARI

Anniversaries

Richard BAMPTON

Don BUCKNAL

Rose WYLIE

Sr Rita ZAMPA

Doris MURPHY



Message from Fr Duane

A Pastoral Statement from our Bishop, Brian Mascord, regarding temporary Mass changes as a result of the increasing risk of coronavirus is attached. To summarise the practical changes that will take place at this time at all Masses:

- Communion of the Precious Blood will be for the celebrant only.
- Given that one of the easiest ways to transmit a virus is by the transmission of saliva, Communion will be received only in the hand.
- Clergy and parishioners are not to shake hands during the sign of peace, but should acknowledge each other at the exchange with the words "Peace be with you."
- All ministers of holy Communion (both ordinary and extraordinary) are to use hand sanitisers before the distribution of holy Communion commences, and are not to physically touch anyone in the act of blessing.
- Holy water fonts are to be emptied or removed.

While I am aware there are varied opinions on these matters, these directives from our Bishop will enable us to take a united approach in our Masses at this time. Let us not be tempted to panic at this time; rather let's keep in mind that we are taking these extra precautions at the advice of health professionals for the sake of the most vulnerable amongst us, including the elderly and the sick – for the sake of their physical health and their peace of mind. If anyone has any questions or concerns about these temporary changes, please feel free to raise them with me at any time.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

March	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 14 Mar	Church Cleaning	P & A Browne, K Harrison	
Sat 14 Mar	Lawns	J Lonard, S Carrigan, H Fernandez	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Sat 14 Mar 6pm Mass	A Carlotto	M Gillis	B Farraway
Sun 15 Mar 8am Mass	N Dwyer, C Carolan	S Walsh	S Brown
Counters	M Murphy (FT), A Kelly, S Alessi		
Children's Liturgy	V Cleary		



Catholic Women's League:

PARISH ACTIVITIES

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 Sunday of each month in St Joseph's Meeting Room (Unanderra)

CWL MEETING

Come and meet the ladies in the Catholic Women's League this **Thursday 12 March at 10am in St Joseph's room** for morning tea and a chat, before the CWL meeting starts at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa followed by our meeting. Please come along and learn the projects that CWL are supporting this year.



IRON YOUTH GROUP

(Ages 14 to 18 years old)

If you are aged 14-18 years old, or if you know someone in this age bracket, please invite them along to our Youth Group on **Friday nights every fortnight**. We meet at St Therese West Wollongong School hall from **7pm-9pm**. Our next Iron Youth Group is on **Friday 13 March** — please bring a gold coin donation for supper. Bring a positive attitude as we have a lot of fun, plus it is one of the best places to make life-long friends and grow closer to God. If you have any questions please email ironyouthgroup1@gmail.com or call Rachel on 0401 019 851.



JOURNEY TO BECOMING CATHOLIC

Celebrating the Journey to Becoming Catholic – 2020 Rite of Election

Last Sunday 1 March some 30 people gathered with Bishop Brian at the "Rite of Election", where they were welcomed into the final stage of preparing for full initiation into our Catholic Church. The Rite of Election celebrates the calling and invitation by God to become part of his family. This year marked a resurgence of numbers making this step, with people attending from 5 parishes (West Wollongong, Unanderra, Varroville, Eagle Vale and Macquarie Fields). We congratulate and continue to pray for those journeying towards Baptism, Confirmation and first Eucharist this Easter!

WOLLONGONG LAY CARMELITES

Come join the Wollongong Lay Carmelites!

Prayer gatherings are held monthly in Wollongong and all are very welcome for Prayer, Formation and Discussion every third Saturday of the month at **10am**.

Our next gathering will be held on **Saturday 21 March 2020**. For venue and further details — Mobile 0415 926 132.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is holding the first of a monthly gathering to be held in the St Joseph's room at the rear of the Immaculate Conception Church in Unanderra.

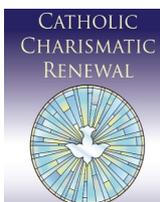
Date: Friday 13 March 2020

Time: 7.30pm to 9pm

Theme: "God's Healing Love"

An evening of Praise & Worship

A sharing on the Theme of "God's Healing Love" Prayer Ministry — **For more info: 0413 126 095**



A VOCATION VIEW

"Rise, and do not be afraid."

So many experience fear or trepidation when called to the priesthood and/or religious life. God strengthens those who are called if they but respond with a generous heart. (Matthew 5:38-48)

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez, at vocations@dow.org.au



PARISH WORKING BEE

Saturday 14 March 2020 — from 8am



Come and have fun at the next Unanderra Parish Working Bee — everyone is invited! Come and have a fun morning while helping out at our parish. At the last Working Bee in November, everybody gardened and socialised, found new friends, and generally made our church grounds so much better.

The next Working Bee is scheduled for next Saturday 14 March from 8am, for just a few hours, and this time we will spruce up the church courtyard, the gardens around our church, and Sister Kerry's garden. No skill is required, just turn up and join in with others in small groups. Someone will know what to do, but please wear sensible clothes, shoes and a hat. Bottles of water and gloves will be on hand so that we stay safe and hydrated.

If you have skills, we are painting a section of our church interior, which badly needs attention, and we are starting to address some of our leaking roof issues.

If you can't make it, but want to help, please donate towards the cost of roofing materials of about \$500. Simply place an envelope marked "Roof Repair" in the second collection, or send it to the office. **For further information, please contact Wayne Rodgers on 0402 026 310, or ask a member of the PFC.**

RELICS OF ST THERESE OF LISIEUX

The relics of St Therese and her parents — Sts Louis and Zelig Martin — are coming to our Parishes on the weekend of **21-22 March 2020**. They arrive for veneration at Unanderra on Saturday 21 March at 4.30pm, and stay until 8.30pm (including the 6pm Mass). They will then go directly to West Wollongong — the only Parish dedicated to St Therese in the Wollongong Diocese — for an all-night prayer vigil. The 10am Mass on the Sunday will be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, and the relics will leave St Therese Church at 11.30am — collect an itinerary located near church side door. **If you would like to commit to an hour of prayer at Unanderra or overnight at St Therese Church, please write your contact details on the sign-up sheets near church side door.**



ACIES CEREMONY

Acies Ceremony - Legion of Mary Immaculate Heart of Mary, Wollongong Curia - **Sunday 22 March 2020 at 2pm**

Shrine of the Immaculate

Conception, Unanderra Parish, Princes Highway, Unanderra
Celebrant: The Most Rev Bishop Brian Mascord DD
together with priests of the Diocese of Wollongong



EASTER CARDS

Easter Cards are now available for purchase from Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). Each packet contains 12 Easter cards and envelopes. Prices: First packet \$23 (includes postage); and extra packets \$15 each. The Easter cards feature the religious paintings of Swiss artist Bradi Barth and include a Bible verse inside. Proceeds raised go toward ACN projects that support the Church where she is unable to support herself. You can order over the phone on **1800 101 201** or online at **www.aidtochurch.org**



HOLY SPIRIT COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

Enrolments at Holy Spirit College are now open for Year 7 2022. There are limited vacancies for families wishing to enrol their child into Year 7 2021. Applications for Year 7 2022 close on Thursday 9 April 2020.



LENTEN PROGRAMMES

On sale — located on the middle pew of the church — \$5.00

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME — AIRS SUNDAY 8 MARCH 2020 —

This week on the Journey, Week 2 of Lent for you! The Gospel reading by Bishop Brian Mascord, reflections by Fr Chris Sarkis and Sr Anastasia Reeves. You'll hear from such favourites as Mother Hilda Scott; Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy; Pete Gilmore and Trish McCarthy.

Tune in to **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



PROJECT COMPASSION

Twenty-seven-year-old Phany, lives in a village in western Cambodia. Struggling to earn a living as a farmer, she was forced to leave her daughter behind in the village, to take up construction work in the city. Phany joined the Upholding Community Dignity Together program, where she learnt new farming techniques, such as a drip irrigation system, which enabled her to get a better yield from her vegetable crops and to conserve water in her drought-stricken region. Phany's community also took part in training in health, nutrition, hygiene and disaster preparedness, arming them with better strategies to cope with environmental changes. Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help mothers like Phany continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families.

Let's Go Further, Together — when we Go Further Together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Project Compassion boxes and/or envelopes (located near side door of church), or by visiting

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413



WHY WE'RE CATHOLIC

A Presentation by Trent Horn

Sunday 8 March 2020 — 6.30pm-8.30pm

Xavier Conference Centre, 38 Harbour Street Wollongong

Why are you Catholic? Trent Horn, international Catholic Speaker, shares his conversion story and explains how the grace of God guided him through the biblical and historical evidence and led him to faith in Jesus Christ and the Church he founded. Come along and engage with this powerful speaker from Catholic Answers. Join us for **Mass at 5pm** followed by a light supper at 6pm before the presentation at 6.30pm (See the poster on the noticeboard near side door of the church).

SISTERHOOD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

20-22 March 2020

Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops

ANOINTED — You're invited ...

to draw aside and encounter a God who loves you beyond measure. Join women from around Australia and the Diocese of Wollongong for this inspiring conference.

(See poster on noticeboard or flyers near side door of the church)

To Book: www.trybooking.com/BFQZP



DAY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Sunday 29 March 2020 at St Marys Cathedral, Sydney

10.30am: Mass

12noon: Angelus and then prayerful street procession

1.30pm: Benediction

Contact — Adrian Devlin on 0416 073 996



SUNDAY 8 MARCH 2020 — SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

First Reading — Genesis 12:1-4 — *The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm — *Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. *R.*
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. *R.*
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. *R.*



Second Reading — 2 Timothy 1:8-10 — *God has saved us, and called us to be holy.*

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation — Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel — Matthew 17:1-9 — *His face shone like the sun.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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**

(Please see Fr Duane after Mass for a form — 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**