

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: 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2020

| Weekly Programme | Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA | St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG |
|---|---|---|
| Monday 16 March | Mass: 7am | |
| Tuesday 17 March St Patrick | Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm | Mass: 7.45am |
| Wednesday 18 March | Mass: 9.30am | Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm |
| Thursday 19 March St Joseph | Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration/Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.20pm Mass: 5.30pm | Mass: 7.45am |
| Friday 20 March | Mass: 7am Stations of the Cross: 7pm | Mass: 9.30am Stations of the Cross: 5pm |
| Saturday 21 March | Rosary: 7.10am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm | Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am |
| Sunday 22 March 4th Sunday of Lent | Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish) | Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm |

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

John O'DONNELL

Anniversaries

Nancy PLENDERLEITH Ryan TEASDALE Mary VARLEY Bill CROWE

James Maxwell BRAME

William SWIFT

Kevin SWIFT



Message from Fr Duane

VENERATION OF THE RELICS OF STS THERESE, LOUIS AND ZELIE

"We do not worship, we do not adore, for fear that we should bow down to the creature rather than to the Creator; but we venerate the relics of the martyrs in order the better to adore Him whose martyrs they are" (St Jerome, letter to Riparius, 404AD). This quote sums up well the wonderful opportunity that is coming our way next weekend. St Jerome's words sum up the true meaning of veneration of the relics of saints, while highlighting the truly ancient origins of this practice. Just as the earthly remains of our own loved ones bring us a special sense of connection with them, especially as we look forward to the resurrection, so too the relics of saints have always brought Christians a special sense of connection with these heroes of faith. May our veneration of the relics of St Therese and her parents Sts Louis and Zelig next weekend bring us a deeper sense of our communion with these and all the saints "on whose constant intercession we rely for unfailing help" (Eucharistic Prayer 3); and may we be inspired through their example to better adore Him whose saints they are.

Also, we need a number of (strong) volunteers to carry the relics into and out of the churches. Please contact Fr Duane at duane.fernandez@dow.org.au if you're able to help with this.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| March | Church Washing | Fiona Fernandez | |
| Sat 21 Mar | Church Cleaning | W & J Rodgers, J Andersson | |
| Sat 21 Mar | Lawns | | |
| | Acolytes | Lectors | Welcomers |
| Sat 21 Mar 6pm Mass | G Attard | V Cleary | V Cleary |
| Sun 22 Mar 8am Mass | M Walsh, A Michielin | A Browne | G Simmonite |
| Counters | M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner | | |
| Children's Liturgy | K Calvert, M Matos | | |

VINNIES YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Vinnies Youth and Young Adults (16-35 years old)

It was wonderful to see young people coming together, planning and running the first "Buddies Day" for local children facing disadvantage. We would love more volunteers to join this group - come along and meet other wonderful young volunteers and make a lasting difference in children's lives! **Contact either 0429 656 886 or email wollongongyouth@vinnies.org.au to find out more.**

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.

HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 17-35)

Adoration — Wednesday 18 March 2020 at St John the Evangelist Church, Campbelltown

Come and join a growing vibrant group of young adults this Wednesday evening for Eucharistic Adoration, praise and worship, Reconciliation, Scripture, teaching and quiet reflection, followed by food and fellowship with other young adults.

For enquiries contact Georgia georgia.farrugia@dow.org.au or **4222 2427** or check *Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong* on Facebook.

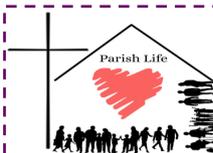


HOLY SPIRIT COLLEGE

A Catholic Co-educational Secondary College
Enrolments are now open for Year 7 2022
(ie current Year 5 students)

Applications close Thursday 9 April 2020
Limited places available for Year 7 2021
(ie current Year 6 students)

Phone **4285 2877** or go to www.hscdow.catholic.edu.au



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

CORONAVIRUS PRECAUTIONS

"With the wellbeing of all parishioners of our diocese in mind, I am issuing the following directives to all clergy, religious and the lay faithful in the Diocese of Wollongong:

- In those parishes and communities in the diocese where holy Communion is distributed under both kinds, this practice will cease. 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 sanitiser** 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."

Bishop Brian Mascord

A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus gives Living Water to those who come to Him in their need. Bring your weakness to Him, that His strength may help with your continued conversion of life. (*John 4:14*)

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



MESSY CHURCH—EASTER EDITION!

Little children and families love this, but all ages are welcome! This **Friday 20 March** at St Therese school hall **from 4.30pm**. Come join us!

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.**



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2020 –

This week on the Journey, we dive into week 3 of Lent. Great Gospel reflection and inputs from Sr Anastasia Reeves and Mother Hilda Scott; as well as some of Australia's best Catholic speakers.



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

ENCOUNTER TIMOR LESTE WITH PALMS

13-25 September 2020

On this 13-day tour you will experience the diversity of our close neighbour, from bustling Dili to its remoter communities, where dedicated organisations and Palms personnel are building self-reliance and sustainability together. Gain a deeper understanding through new sights, smells, sounds, tastes, textures and experiences, challenging old ideas. It might even inspire you to join Palms and work overseas yourself. We are also offering an Encounter on the Thai-Myanmar in November.



For more information call Robert at Palms on **02 9560 5333** or via email at robert@palms.org.au

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



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT DAY

Notre Dame Broadway — Saturday 4 April 2020 9am-4pm

The day will include Mass, time for reflection and reconciliation, and will be guided by Fr Edmond Travers msc. *Lunch and morning tea included.* The retreat will take place at The University of Notre Dame Australia on Broadway campus. Event is FREE, however **registration essential:**

sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au or (02) 8204 4189 or Trybooking.com/BIJFM



LENTEN PROGRAMMES

On sale now
Located on the middle pew of the church
\$5.00 each

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PROJECT COMPASSION



Father of four, Barry, embodies resilience and strength. Growing up in a tough environment, he had to look inside himself to make the right choices for himself and his family. Barry, and others like him, were able to take part in a cultural healing program called Red Dust Healing. This program encourages participants to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within, addressing family and personal relationships and what may be life-long patterns of violence, abuse and neglect. Today, thanks to the Caritas support, he's an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

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**



THREE-DAY CURSILLO WEEKEND

Jesus often called His disciples to come away to a quiet place to reflect on what He was teaching them. Take time in your busy life to do the same. Please join us at Hartzer Park, Bowral **between 7pm on 14 May 2020 to the afternoon of 17 May 2020** to reflect on where life is taking you.

Please phone Steve on **0466 115 900** or Denise on **0438 254 139** for more details.



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 15 MARCH 2020 — THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

First Reading — Exodus 17:3-7 — *Give us water to drink.*

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?'. Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!'. The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'.


Responsorial Psalm — *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. R.
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us, for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. R.
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R.

Second Reading — Romans 5:1-2,5-8 — *The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.*

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation — John 4:42,15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel — John 4:5-42 — *The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.*

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?'. Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.'

'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her. 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or 'Why are you talking to her?'. The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people, 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?'. This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him. Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat'; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?'. But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'