

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/



Parish Priest: Fr Duane Fernandez
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Polish Chaplain: Fr Jerzy Slowinski
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Parish Pastoral Council President: Mark Walsh
 Email: Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com
 Mobile: 0407 604 498

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/Thu)
 Mrs Sue Briscoe (Fri)

Parish Office: Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
 Website: www.unanderraparish.org.au
 Phone: 4271 1068
 Fax: 4271 1298

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) — SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020

**Registrations ESSENTIAL for ALL Masses — via Unanderra Parish Office:
unanderra@dow.org.au or 4271 1068**

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 30 November St Andrew	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 1 December	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 2 December	Mass: 9.30am	*Adoration: 4.30pm Mass: 5.30pm *Only those registered for 5.30pm Mass may attend Adoration at 4.30pm.
Thursday 3 December St Francis Xavier	Mass: 11am (Polish) * Adoration: 4.30pm Mass: 5.30pm *Only those registered for 5.30pm Mass may attend Adoration at 4.30pm.	Mass: 7.45am
Friday 4 December	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9.30am
Saturday 5 December	Rosary: 7.15am Mass: 7.30am Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am
Sunday 6 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm (also streamed online)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Rosario DOMINGO
 John ROBERTI
 Wendy HOUGHTON



Anniversaries

Ellen Kathleen WALSH
 Bill MARMONT
 Nelson MANDELA

Please also pray for the sick and those unable to attend Mass

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068

Monday: 11am-3pm (Magda)
 Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday: Closed
 Thursday: 9am-3pm (Magda)
 Friday: 8am-12noon (Sue)

Message from Fr Duane

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2020

Thank you once again to the Parish Pastoral Councils for their wonderful work in preparing the plans for Christmas Masses across Unanderra and West Wollongong. Please see the flyer for the Christmas Mass timetable, as well as the link to book your spot at Mass, given the limited numbers available. For Christmas Masses only we are using the TryBooking website, as it is the most efficient way to do this: www.trybooking.com/BMUUVZ

Note: for anyone who has difficulty registering online there will be hard copies of registration forms available at the two churches during these coming weeks – simply fill out a form and return it to either Parish office during office hours, or place it in the exit collection baskets. Alternatively if these options don't work for you, you may also call the Parish office to register.

You will notice in the Christmas Mass timetable that all three West Wollongong Masses will take place in TIGS Hall (where St Therese Parish has customarily celebrated the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass). This is because TIGS Hall is much larger than both of our churches, and TIGS school generously offered us the possibility of celebrating more than one ceremony there this year, thereby allowing hundreds more to attend Christmas Mass than would have been possible in St Therese church. We are also live streaming the 6pm Christmas Eve Mass only, and this stream will be shown live in St Therese Church itself, with Communion brought to those gathered there.

You will also note in the timetable that Fr Paul Gurr will be celebrating both the Christmas Eve and Christmas morning Masses at Immaculate Conception Church, Unanderra, as I will need to be present at TIGS Masses to manage logistical challenges there. I am very grateful to Fr Paul for his generosity to our community this Christmas.

Those who can't attend Christmas Mass in person for whatever reason can access the live stream of Christmas Eve Mass from home at 6pm on Christmas Eve, or any time afterwards, through our usual Facebook pages and YouTube channel.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

During these next two Sundays, 86 children will be receiving their First Holy Communion across the Parishes of Unanderra and West Wollongong. This will take place in 4 separate Masses at the Edmund Rice College Hall, since it is much larger than our churches, and enables more guests to attend with their children given the Covid capacity limitations. I wish to thank Judith Hurley and the Edmund Rice school community for their support during this time, and the Sacramental Team across both of our parishes for their tireless work throughout this difficult year. I also wish to thank Fr Paul Gurr who will celebrate the Vigil Mass at Unanderra this week, and Fr David O'Brien who will celebrate the 8am and 10am Masses both this weekend and next weekend, as this will greatly help me to have the energy needed for these special First Communion celebrations. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

REGISTRATION PROCESS - BOTH UNANDERRA & WEST WOLLONGONG

Registrations are ESSENTIAL for ALL Masses at both Unanderra and West Wollongong — ALL registrations must be via the Unanderra Parish Office: unanderra@dow.org.au or 4271 1068 (please only call during office hours, shown in pink box on front page of bulletin). Please include the name of all family members who will be attending, contact phone number, email address and the day/time/church of your preferred Mass(es), both weekday and weekend. For weekend Masses, please await a confirmation email from Fr Duane approximately 24 hours prior to the Mass time, before attending the church.

ROSTER — NEXT WEEKEND

December	Church Washing	Helen Murphy
Sat 5 Dec	Church Cleaning	J Allen, J Haywood, L Salways
	Lectors	Lawns — Sat 5 Dec
Sat 5 Dec 6pm Mass	D Ferrer	B Mannix, W Brown,
Sun 6 Dec 8am Mass	M Walsh	F Caruana, R Murphy

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS

For any pastoral needs:

please contact

Fr Duane Fernandez

0414 626 357

duane.fernandez@dow.org.au



CHURCH MINISTRIES ROSTERS - 2021

As this year has been quite unusual, many of the ministries have had to stop for the time being. Thank you to all those who have been able to continue in their ministries – your commitment is greatly appreciated. It is now time to look at our rosters for next year. **Are you able to give some of your time to assist with any of the following four ministries?**

MINISTRIES

LECTORS/READERS – If you attend either 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday or 8am Mass on Sunday and would like to read at Mass, you would be most welcome to be on the Lector roster.

CHURCH CLEANING – At present our volunteers clean the church on Saturday morning at around 8am (however, cleaning can be done at any time suitable to volunteers). It takes approximately one hour and there are currently five groups. There is, however, an URGENT need for more volunteers as some of our amazing cleaners have moved or are no longer able to continue in this ministry. Please give serious consideration to assisting.

LAWNS – A band of volunteers gathers on a Saturday Morning to keep our grounds looking neat and tidy.

CHURCH WASHING – This requires the washing of finger towels, purifiers, etc for only one calendar month at a time.

New volunteers will be shown the ropes for all ministries. If you are able to continue in your ministry or would like to be a new volunteer for one of the four ministries listed above, could you please email Sue & Magda in the Parish Office unanderra@dow.org.au naming the ministry, your name, phone number and email.

IMMACULATA MISSION SCHOOL

Immaculata Mission School 2021:
Made for Heaven!

Start the New Year by going deeper in faith through awesome talks, friendship & fellowship, daily Mass & prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, praise & worship & lots more!

When: 1-5 January 2021

Where: St James Catholic College, Cygnet Tasmania
Cost per person: \$220 (with basic shared accommodation), \$170 (with no accommodation) - includes food, speakers, activities and youth and children's ministry

Speakers: Archbishop Julian Porteous, Fr Rob Galea, James Parker, Paul Elarde, Sisters of the Immaculata & lay community. All Ages and Families Welcome!

For more info/to register:

www.sistersoftheimmaculata.org.au/ims or 0406 372 608



ADVENT BOOKLET

This year's Advent booklet — 'Adore' — is now available for purchase in the church (located on the middle pew) for only \$3.



ADVENT PROGRAMME

Come and join our group this year to prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas. We'll aim to meet in St Joseph's room **each Thursday evening at 7.15pm** on 3, 10, 17 Dec. St Joseph's room has a limit of 15 people, so if interested numbers exceed this we'll need to find another venue. Please contact Mark Walsh (call or text) to register on 0407 604 498 – or see me in person. **Registrations essential.**

THE JOURNEY

CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME

– AIRS SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020 –



On the Journey this week, Fr Chris Sarkis reminds us that Advent is about arrival, new birth or new beginning and helps us move focus away from secular trimmings to a new beginning, ever ready for the coming of the Messiah; Darren McDowell gives the four non-negotiables for parish teamwork; and Fr Dave Callaghan asks how do we see God – like Santa or like a personal trainer? Plus, great Advent music! The Journey is available from Friday every week for free download at www.jcr.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree has been placed in the church and has tags for children's toys and Christmas food. The gifts received from this tree are used to distribute approximately 40 hampers and toys for about 60 children to those in need in our parish.

Gifts are required to be placed under the Giving Tree by **Sunday 20 December** as hampers and toys will be distributed on Tuesday 22 December.



The generosity you provide the Unanderra St Vinnies conference is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference to needy families at Christmas.

Christmas cards and calendars are also available for purchase — cards \$6 a pack and calendars \$10 each.

Thank you for your support!

REFLECTION/RETREAT DAY

Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in coming to our reflection day on **8 December**. If you would like to avail yourself of this wonderful opportunity for quiet reflection and input, please contact Sr Kerry on 0421 463 871.

The day commences at 9am and concludes at 3pm.

Due to restricted numbers we can only cater for 14 participants on this day.

If you require more information please do not hesitate to direct any questions to Sr Kerry.



MONTHLY PARISH WALKING GROUP

Last week we welcomed three new walkers to our monthly walking group. Our final walk for this year will be on **Thursday 10 December** at **9.30am**. We will meet at Aish's Seafood Shop at Berkeley. After the walk everyone is welcome to bring a picnic lunch or buy fish and chips from Aish's and enjoy lunch together. All abilities are catered for, as the walks chosen are always on flat and even ground.

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020 — FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

First Reading — Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8 — *Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.

Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm — *Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.*

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help.

R.

2. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help.

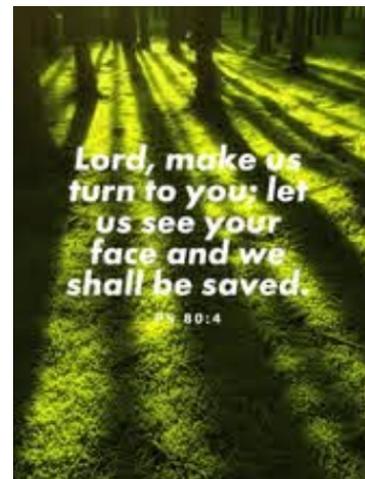
R.

3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again;

give us life that we may call upon your name.

R.



Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 — *The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel — Mark 13:33-37 — *Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come.

It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



BAPTISMS AND RECONCILIATION

The Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation are available again, by appointment with Fr Duane.

NB: There are no set times for either of these Sacraments at this point, and appointments for Reconciliation should be made away from Mass times, so as not to complicate the monitoring system for Masses. Please contact Fr Duane: duane.fernandez@dow.org.au or 0414 626 357.