

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
 Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
 Mobile: 0414 626 357

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

Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
 Email: Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au
 Mobile: 0421 463 871

Parish Pastoral Council President:
 Email:
 Mobile:

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 Secretary: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) – 15 JANUARY 2023

Parish Vision—We are a diverse community united by our love for Jesus and for one another, constantly seeking to grow in this love especially through the Eucharist. We welcome everyone and help each other to discover their unique gifts, joyfully working together as one to bring the overflowing love of Jesus to all people.

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Mon 16 Jan	Mass: 7am	
Tues 17 Jan <i>St Anthony, abbot</i>	Mass: 5:30pm Rosary 6pm Adoration: 6pm- 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 18 Jan	Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: 9:30am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 19 Jan	Rosary: 6pm Adoration: 6pm - 7pm Reconciliation 6pm- 6:50pm Mass: 7pm	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 20 Jan <i>St Fabian, pope, St Sebastian, martyr</i>	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 21 Jan <i>St Agnes</i>	Rosary: 7am Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:30am Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am—10:30am
Sun 22 Jan	Mass: 8am <i>Mass: 10am (Polish)</i>	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell
 Benedetto Forte

Prayers for the sick

Craig Battley, Francesca Quetcher
 Jackie Allen, Lesley Lloyd, Vera Cleary

Anniversaries

Frank Posavec, William C Butler,
 ABp Phillip Wilson, Gilbert Gollan,
 Roslyn Ann Lee



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

unanderra@dow.org.au / 4271 1068

Monday: 8:30am-3:30pm
 Tuesday: Closed
 Wednesday: 8:30am-3:30pm
 Thursday: Closed
 Friday: 8:30am-3pm

Message from Fr Duane

During recent weeks we have prayed together with Catholics throughout the world for the repose of the soul of Pope Benedict XVI. This week, we pray for the repose of the soul of Cardinal George Pell. Pope Francis shared these words of condolence and prayer, addressed no doubt in a special way to the Church in Australia:

"I offer sentiments of heartfelt condolence, remembering with a grateful heart his consistent and committed witness, his dedication to the Gospel and the Church, and particularly his diligent cooperation with the Holy See in the context of its recent economic reform, of which he laid the foundations with determination and wisdom. I raise prayers for the repose of this faithful servant, who unwaveringly followed his Lord with perseverance even in the hour of trial, that he may be received into the joy of heaven and receive the reward of eternal peace."

It is worth reflecting on words of Cardinal George Pell himself about what comes after death, put in his characteristic down-to-earth language, when he said "I have never had a problem with the doctrine that purification might be needed before we can be in God's presence or cope with his goodness. I have compared it to the discomfort we experience when woken by a sudden bright light." These words from the Cardinal brought to my mind the words of the Second Eucharistic Prayer as we pray for the dead: "welcome them into the light of your face". Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR VERA CLEARY AND FAMILY

Vera Cleary has given so generously of her many gifts in so many ways in our parish over many years – in spite of battling cancer for a long while. Vera's health has deteriorated considerably in recent times. We are ensuring that Vera can receive daily Communion still, as this was always important to her while she was able to attend daily Mass. Thank you to the parishioners and other priests for joining me on that roster. No matter how unwell she has been Vera has always been most grateful for Communion. Vera and her family are also deeply grateful for the prayers of the parish - thank you to all who have joined in prayer for Vera, especially during the Thursday 6pm Rosary. Our prayers have certainly been helping Vera, her family and the health professionals caring for Vera throughout this difficult time. Let us keep the prayers going.

ALPHA UPDATE:

We have a number of people signing up to Alpha – let's keep thinking about who we might invite along. A big thank you to those who have already volunteered to help with catering. The more volunteers we can get the better – it will be simple meals to prepare, all paid for by the parish, out of a lovely user-friendly well-stocked kitchen at the new Parish Centre. If you are able to help out even for just one night, please let us know as soon as you can by placing your details on the sign up sheet, or contacting the Parish Office, or simply see me after Mass. Together let's continue to do all we can to make the most of this opportunity to bring the love of Jesus to more people of our area.

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP:

This Friday 20th January, at 5:30pm, Pete Gilmore from the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation will be leading a workshop on improving our Parish Communications. Pete will share some best practices from other parishes, as well as communications tools that can be used via print and also social media. All are welcome to attend – either in-person or via zoom. If you have any gifts or interest in supporting the parish in this way (especially young people in relation to social media) please contact the parish office either to register to attend the workshop, or to get involved in other ways, as we seek to improve our communication strategy within the parish and beyond.

Fr Duane Fernandez

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

January	Church Washing	Barbara Farroway	
Sat 21 Jan	Church Cleaning	G Lord, L Zanetti, S Adams	
Sat 21 Jan	Lawns	H Fernandez, Milan Family, Broeckmann Family	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
6pm 21 Jan	Michelle Rodwell		
8am 22 Jan	C Walsh	A Kelly	School Holidays
Counters	A Kelly, B Farroway		

ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS



For any pastoral needs:
please contact



Fr Duane Fernandez - 0414 626 357
duane.fernandez@dow.org.au
Sr Kerry Gardiner - 0421 463 871
Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au

PARISH NEWS

Australia Day celebrations - 26 January

Come and join us for our Australia Day celebrations - starting with Mass at 8am.



Parishioners are then invited to a **free breakfast which will be served in the Church grounds**. All are welcome.

Curious about Faith - Try Alpha—8 Feb 2023

You're invited to **Alpha**, a place to explore the Christian faith in an easy and friendly environment.

Each session starts with dinner in small groups before watching a talk on a question of faith. Then there's plenty of time to share your thoughts - you can say anything you like, or nothing at all - question everything!!

There's no follow up, no charge and never any pressure. **Everyone's welcome**. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. So why not see where your curiosity takes you?

We'll be starting on **Wednesday 8th February at 7pm in the Parish Centre at St Therese Parish**, 2 Powell Street West Wollongong. To RSVP, for catering purposes only, please contact **Melissa on 0419 465 050**. We also have expression of interest forms out in the foyer.

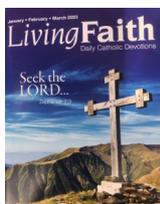
Parish Finances - week ending 8 January

\$603	First Collection	- Clergy Remuneration Fund
\$392	Second collection	- Parish expenses
\$170	Tap Point - Parish donations	
\$260	Planned giving envelopes	
\$549	Direct debits (weekly average from Dec).	

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Living Faith books—Jan, Feb and March 2023

The new Living Faith books have arrived. There is also a separate Living Faith Kids book - which includes daily reflections, prayers and activities. Cost is \$5.



Lay Carmelite meeting - 7 February

The first meeting for 2023 will be in the St Joseph's room on Saturday 7 February. All are welcome. Call Ann Baumber on 0427 235 955 for more information.

Lost property

Have you left something behind in the church? Our lost property box is located in the Confessional on the Northern side of the Church.

Recycling bins

Please save your recycling (cans, bottles and plastics) and donate to our Parish recycling bins. All proceeds go to the Parish. Our bins are located in the church car park.



Used stamps:

Please place your used stamps in the box located at the side door of the church.



THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME — AIRS SUNDAY 15 JANUARY 2023

On the Journey this week: The Gospel reflection by Fr Chris de Sousa on John the Baptist and ourselves being called to share the revelation of Jesus as Messiah. Mother Hilda's story on unexpected gifts from both people and God. Fr Dave Callaghan asks why Jesus was a Carpenter, Trish McCarthy says a daily examen helps us to get in touch spiritually with our physical experiences of life and God's presence and purpose for our lives, Fr Mike Delaney's tunes into the sounds of like going on around him, and more great music! Listen at jcr.org.au



A VOCATION VIEW

God's plan for the salvation of the Israelites comes to fruition with the birth of Christ. God continues to call men to the priesthood to bring about the completion of this salvation. (Isaiah 9:5-6) If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au



CALLING ALL WOMEN OF THE WORLD TO ROME

His Holiness, Pope Francis, has granted the women of the world, by an invitation from the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) an Audience with him at Paul VI Hall, the Vatican, at 11.30am on 13 May 2023. Mass will be celebrated, that afternoon, at St Peter's Basilica, by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

For Further Information contact: Catherine V McGrath DSG
Phone: +61 407 419 5002

Email: cvm2090@gmail.com

Booking for the Audience is not necessary.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

— MADE FOR MORE - EVENTS IN SYDNEY

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is proud to present the **'Made for More' events**, brought to you by the Theology of the Body Institute! Join Christopher West and the team as they creatively weave together dynamic presentations with live music, media, and sacred art for an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love, and human destiny. We hope that by attending you will come away with a faith-filled vision of hope that will instil in you sheer wonder and joy of being alive!

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfzzKONmUjQ&ab_channel=TheologyoftheBodyInstitute

The Made for More events in Sydney will be held at two locations on the following dates:

When: Friday, 20 January 2023

Where: St Mary's Cathedral Hall – St Mary's Road, Sydney

2nd Event

When: Saturday, 21 January 2023

Where: All Saints Catholic Parish Hall – 48 George Street, Liverpool

Tickets: General admission – \$25 Student/ Concession – \$10
Free entry for children 10 years and under. Adult supervision required for all children under 18 years.

Online booking: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/978896>

15 JAN - THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

First Reading - Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 *I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.
And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:
'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm - Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. R.
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. R.
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. R.
4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. R.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 *The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. Alleluia!

Gospel - John 1:29-34 *This is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

