

Parish and Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Unanderra

48 Princes Highway Post Office Box 14 Unanderra NSW 2526

Parish Priest

Fr Graham Schmitzer

Polish Chaplain

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& Catechist Co-ordinator

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Parish School

Saint Pius X School
Hargreaves & Cummins Streets
PO Box 358, Unanderra, NSW - 2526
Ph: 4271 3550 | Fax: 4272 2954

School Principal

Mr Philip Moore

Parish Secretary

Mrs Agnes Jerald



Parish Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday: 9:30am—4:00pm
Phone: 4271 1068 | Fax: 4271 1298
Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
Parish website: www.unanderraparish.org.au

PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK

Monday	July 10	Mass: 5:30pm

Tuesday	July 11	Mass: 7:00am
Saint BENEDICT		

Wednesday	July 12	NO MASS

Thursday	July 13	Adoration: 4:30pm-5:30pm (Reconciliation available) Mass: 5:30pm

Friday	July 14	Mass: 9:30am
Saint CAMILLUS		

Saturday	July 15	Mass: 7:30am Reconciliation 5pm-5:30pm Vigil Mass: 6:00pm

Sunday	July 16	15th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Masses: 7:00am, 9:00am 10:45am (Polish)

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

9th JULY 2017

READINGS: ZECH 9:9-10; ROM 8:9, 11-13; MT 11:25-30

The future Messiah is portrayed, not as a proud warrior, but as a humble and gentle champion of peace for all peoples (First Reading).



St Paul contrasts life 'in the spirit' with 'life in the flesh' (Second Reading).

Jesus reveals the Father to those who are 'little', and lightens the burdens of those who are humble (Gospel).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Recently Deceased: Agnes OGGERO, Douglas GILL

Anniversaries: Concetta CIGNARELLA

Andre VAN DER LINDEN, Jason MOU, Jacob Marie SMITH, Hans LAMBERT, Arthur WILLIAMS

Pray for the sick and those unable to get to Mass

Rosters of next weekend

Sat 15 th	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, H Hobbs	
	Acolytes	Lectors	Welcomers
Vigil 6pm	A Carlotto	M Mohr-Peters	M Mohr-Peters
Sun 16 th 7am	G Attard	C Walsh	L Harper, A Campbell
9am	L Haywood	R Green	E Walker, P Cundy
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, A McQueen, M Winner		
Children's Liturgy	<i>Not held during the school holidays</i>		

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women's League: 2nd Thursday of the month, 10.30am

St Joseph's room. New members welcome.

Contact: Jan 42714051 or Margaret 42715804

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: Tues, 7.30pm St. Joseph's room

Parish Pastoral Council: 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm

St Joseph's room

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

Refreshments after the Vigil Mass and 9am Mass on 1st weekend of the month. (*Due to the colder weather, it has been decided to cancel Morning Tea on the first Sunday of the month during winter. Monthly Morning Tea will resume in September.*)

LIVING FAITH

Daily meditations—July to September
based on the Mass Readings of the day.

There are two editions—for adults, and for children.

Only \$4.

Catholic Women's League

Monthly meeting will be held at 10.30am on Thursday,
13th July in St Joseph's Room.

Everyone is most welcome. We especially look forward to
meeting all those who expressed interest in becoming
members at our recent promotion of CWL.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Lord said to me, 'Come to me.'
But I said, 'I'm not worthy.'
'Come to me,' He repeated. And I said, 'I'm afraid.'
'Come to me,' 'I'm too proud.'
'Come to me,' 'But I've no appointment.'
'Come to me,' 'But I can't afford the time right now.'
'Come to me,' With that I fell silent.
Then He said,
'Come...sit down...take the load off your feet.'
'Sit here as in the shade of a tree.'
'Refresh yourself as at a running stream.'
'Here you will find rest. Here you will find peace.'
'And your yoke will become easy,
and your burden light.'



St Vincent de Paul Society

Unanderra Conference

Last financial year Unanderra Conference spent \$12,426.73 within our parish assisting families and single people in need. Our income for the year was \$7,571.68 leaving short fall of \$4,855.05 to be funded from elsewhere.

Of this the poor box contributed a total of \$359.55. A total of \$2,253.35 was placed in the poor box being donations to St Vincent de Paul Society and payments for the Catholic Weekly (at a cost of \$1,893.80) giving \$359.55 towards the needy this year.

We would like to thank our parishioners who continue to support our conference. Conference meetings are held every Tuesday at 7.30pm in St. Joseph's room. All are very welcome to attend.

PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, UNANDERRA SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM, 2017

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

The Sacrament of Penance is celebrated in the third term of the school year.

ENROLMENT DATES: Sunday 25th June and 1st & 2nd July

Enrolment forms will be available at all Masses on these dates. Parents are asked to collect a form from the table at the Sacred Heart Altar and return it to the Collecting Box by 15th and 16th July.

PARENT MEETING: Parents need to attend this meeting. There will be two sessions and child minding will be available at both sessions.

Session 1 Wednesday 26th July, at 4pm *or*

Session 2 Wednesday 26th July at 7:30pm



“Find happiness
in making others happy.”
St. Mary of the Cross 1889

HOW GREAT IS THE HOPE TO WHICH WE ARE CALLED

Have you ever stopped to ask why can't things be different? God has called you to make a difference, to be a witness for hope in our world. Not sure where to start? Contact Fr Richard Healey, Vocations Director, on 0401 621 591 or priesthood@dow.org.au

CATHOLIC CARE STRENGTHEN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

Just Released: Parenting workshops available from July now taking bookings. To build on your parenting skills and strengthen your family relationships go to the calendar at www.catholiccare.dow.org.au or give CatholicCare a call on 4227 1122.

St Mary Star of the Sea College

Invites ex-students & staff to our Decades Reunion Morning Tea. Alumnae celebrating 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 years and beyond are especially invited to attend **Saturday 19 August 2017 10.30am to 12.30pm in the College's SGN Hall Harbour Street, Wollongong**. RSVP Maree McCarthy by Friday August 11th Phone 02 4228 6011 or email maree.mccarthy@stmarys.nsw.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2017

In SYDNEY from 7-9 DECEMBER 2017

It is with great excitement that the registration for ACYF in Sydney from 7-9 December 2017 has been launched! Groups and Individuals are encouraged to register early to secure their spot at the Festival. As an added incentive groups of ten or more who register before 31 May 2017 will receive a complimentary registrations for their group leaders. Early bird registration closes on 18 August 2017. The Festival registration process can be found online at www.acyf.org.au.

TAKE A RISK AND GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH

In our parish there is a team of volunteers that take a risk and step out in faith. State Government schools do not provide lessons that teach the basic message about Jesus, our faith and the great adventure that life can be with God. We were all given our gift of faith by someone, someone stepped-up for us so that we would know Jesus. Each week of the school year Catechists present 30-minute lessons using a step-by-step lesson plan that helps Catholic children understand their faith, grow in love and maturity and learn what it means to be Catholic. Take a risk and give the gift of faith. Become a Catechist teacher or helper today! For more information, please call 4222 2416 or ask our parish priest for more information.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 9 July 2017

This week on the Journey Nick Weir reads the Gospel of Matthew. Sr Hilda inspires us with her Wisdom from the Abbey about Love, Our very own Trish McCarthy encourages us to “Go and make Disciples” in her Milk and Honey segment and Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy reminds us to “Be Persistent in Humble Prayer”. Our music this week is such a great compliment to our program, helping us to create a show for you that is all about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

2017 SIGNIFICANT MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS

If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50 or 60 years of marriage this year and would like an invitation to the Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Peter Ingham at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow on Sunday, 13 August 2017 at 2.00pm, please contact Helen Bennett 4222 2403 or email helen.bennett@dow.org.au at the Office of the Bishop by Monday 10 July and an invitation will be sent to you.

WOMEN'S PRAYER WEEKEND

“The Call of Beauty” 21 - 23 July 2017 Presented by Michelle Vass & Pauline Compton fdnsc

This retreat explores how a deeper awareness of beauty can bring you in touch with your God and be a powerful antidote to the rush and superficiality of busy lives. Includes daily Eucharist and the Sacraments of Anointing and Reconciliation. Rest in the silence and beauty of St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park.

Enquiries: Ph:4630 0233 e: towersretreat@bigpond.com

FAITH CIRCLES WEEKLY RESOURCE FOR SMALL GROUPS

Small faith-sharing groups are a fun way to build relationships. They provide a place where each person can grow in their faith journey. They focus on the ways in which the Spirit is calling us to live a more active, loving and joyful relationship with God, our Church and our World. Weekly free small group resource called Faith Circles is available based on the Sunday Gospels with two reflections (including one by Pope Francis) as well as accompanying questions and prayer points. It is available to download at www.faithcircles.dow.org.au or have it sent to you each month via email subscription. Click the website link to subscribe to the Faith Circles email list.

CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS

A great range of excellent quality religious gifts are available from Cathedral Books and Gifts.

A beautiful selection of bibles, books, missals, rosaries, plaques, crucifixes, medals, statues and greeting cards, candles, etc. perfect to commemorate Confirmation, Communion and Baptism.

Enter the store via Crown St, Xavier Centre, Wollongong. Enquiries phone 4222 2484.

My dear people,

"I am shocked to learn of the harrowing plight facing millions of people in a number of countries in East Africa", Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, said recently.

"Sadly, there has been little coverage in Australia of this emerging tragedy. I am lending my voice and that of the Catholic Church in Australia to urge you to help if possible. Prolonged drought is causing widespread hunger across East African countries. Somalia, South Sudan and parts of Ethiopia and Kenya are the worst affected. The United Nations estimates that 23 million people are now on the brink of famine in South Sudan and other areas of East Africa and Yemen where 1.4 million children could die, in what could be the worst famine in decades. In South Sudan alone, 40% of the population is in urgent need of food, with more than 270,00 children now severely malnourished and 100,000 people facing starvation."

Pope Francis has made a worldwide call for assistance to these people. Bishop Ingham has added his voice, asking that the Diocese conduct an appeal throughout July.

An article in THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD during the week reported that only one third of Australians seemed aware of the crisis. An audit of the public's perception and attitudes towards the disaster showed disappointing negativity. It seems many fallacies exist:

- * **Over population is the cause of famine.** This is quite wrong. The reasons are civil war, drought, and economic collapse. "Send them a box of condoms instead of food. They only know how to breed nonstop and then beg for food" one comment was made on social media. Sadly, it attracted many likes.
- * **Domestic issues are more important than providing aid to other countries.** This is hardly a Christian response or even a human response. Despite overseeing massive cuts (sadly) to the foreign aid program, the Turnbull Government has pledged \$68 million towards the crisis.
- * **The money never gets to those who need it.** In the reign of Pope John Paul the Catholic Church developed its own aid process—**CARITAS INTERNATIONAL**. There is a branch of CARITAS in every country in which the Church is present, so aid can be quickly directed from one Church agency to another without going through other agencies. CARITAS is directed by the Bishops in each Country.
- * **People affected by famine deserve it.** This hardly warrants a response.
- * **Islam is to blame for the crisis.** This is one of the most pernicious fallacies. In point of fact, three of the four most affected counties—South Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya—are Christian majority countries. (Ethiopia has had the Faith since the time of Apostles.) Yemen is the only predominantly Muslim nation among those hardest hit.

United Nations efforts to raise at least \$4.4 billion in humanitarian aid from wealthy nations have fallen embarrassingly short as the world has remained preoccupied with Donald Trump, terrorism, political instability, Middle East turmoil and North Korea. This crisis may well be worse than the famine in Ethiopia in the 1980's.

You will find envelopes in the seats of the church this weekend. CARITAS are asking that you would take them home and post off your donation yourself. Or you can donate online www.caritas.org.au/foodcrisis or by calling 1800 024 413.



Photo credit: Caritas Internationalis

Fr Graham Schmitzer

Fr Graham Schmitzer
Parish Priest

BE LOVED: BE RESPONSIBLE AND EARNEST IN PRAYER. ABOVE ALL MAINTAIN CONSTANT CHARITY TOWARDS EACH OTHER, BECAUSE CHARITY DOES AWAY WITH A MULTITUDE OF SINS.