

# PARISH AND SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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

[www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/](https://www.facebook.com/Immaculate-Conception-Unanderra-Parish-102440924742769/)



**Parish Priest:** Fr Duane Fernandez  
 Email: [Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au](mailto:Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au)  
 Mobile: 0414 626 357

**Polish Chaplain:** Fr Jerzy Slowinski  
 Email: [slowinski54@gmail.com](mailto:slowinski54@gmail.com)  
 Mobile: 0410 225 975

**Parish Assistant:** Sr Kerry Gardiner  
 Email: [Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au](mailto:Kerry.Gardiner@sosj.org.au)  
 Mobile: 0421 463 871

**Parish Pastoral Council President:** Mark Walsh  
 Email: [Mark.Walsh@bluescopesteel.com](mailto: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 Melissa Bridges (Wed, Fri)

**Parish Office:** Email: [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)  
 Website: [www.unanderraparish.org.au](http://www.unanderraparish.org.au)  
 Phone: 4271 1068  
 Fax: 4271 1298

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR B) – SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021

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

Weekly Programme	Immaculate Conception UNANDERRA	St Therese WEST WOLLONGONG
Monday 4 January	Mass: 7am	
Tuesday 5 January	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7.45am
Wednesday 6 January	Mass: 9.30am	Adoration: 4.30pm Reconciliation: 4.30pm-5.15pm Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday 7 January	Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Friday 8 January	Mass: 7am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 9:30am
Saturday 9 January	Rosary: 7.15am Mass: 7.30am Reconciliation: 5pm-5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6pm	Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9.30am-10.30am
Sunday 10 January <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm (also streamed online)

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### Recently Deceased

*Elias Gregoriou*

#### Anniversaries

*Phyllis Staniforth*

*Frank Grech*

*Roland Stubbs*

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

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

[unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au) / 4271 1068

Monday: 11am-3pm (Magda)

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 8:30am—1:30pm (Melissa)

Thursday: 9am-3pm (Magda)

Friday: 8:30am-1:30pm (Melissa)

# Message from Fr Duane

Happy new year! It seems a safe bet to hope that 2021 will be a better year than 2020! But let's not be tempted to throw 2020 away as a complete write-off. In the face of so many challenges, there were also many blessings – sometimes precisely because of the challenges. The Gospel of John (from 31st December) tells us that Jesus was the true light, “a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower”. Indeed the light of Christ has carried us through very dark times, and has shone even more brightly in many ways precisely in the midst of the darkness.

We give thanks for the light of Christ shining through our many monitors – mostly young parishioners who were in the “low risk” group and stepped up to give so generously of themselves to enable Masses to begin again safely. We give thanks for the light of Christ shining through so many people who reached out to the elderly and isolated behind the scenes in creative ways. We give thanks for the light of Christ shining through those who shared their technical know-how and gave so generously to build community online, including the live stream Masses, and our new social media presence. Most recently I found this especially in the outpouring of generosity and co-operation among the Pastoral Councils and so many parishioners from both Unanderra and West Wollongong parishes working together to make Christmas Masses possible for everyone who wanted to come, in spite of the tightening of restrictions just a few days out from Christmas. And in many more ways, the light of Christ shone through you all - and the darkness did not overcome it!

Much more could be – and will be – said about 2020 in the years to come, but one thing that we can be sure of – it won't be quickly forgotten. I pray that, like Mary who we regularly hear “pondered these things in her heart”, that we will continue to ponder in our hearts what God might be teaching us through this most challenging year just passed.

As for the year ahead, I am excited! The generosity and energy of so many parishioners that got us through the many challenges of 2020 will now, I'm confident, take us to a whole new level of renewal in our parishes, especially as Covid restrictions ease. I pray that God will abundantly bless each and every one of you, your loved ones, and our parish communities throughout 2021!

**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

	<b>Church Washing</b>	Jackie Allen
Sat 9 Jan	<b>Church Cleaning</b>	J Allen, J Haywood, L Salway
	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Lawns — Sat 2 Jan</b>
Sat 9 Jan 6pm Mass	V Cleary	No Lawn mowing
Sun 3 Jan 8am Mass	C Walsh	

## ALL YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS

For any pastoral needs:

please contact

**Fr Duane Fernandez**

**0414 626 357**

**duane.fernandez@dow.org.au**



## SPIRITUAL AND PASTORAL CARE TRAINING

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs are being offered in Campbelltown in 2021 for those interested in providing holistic spiritual and pastoral care to others.



An Introductory (40-hour) course will commence on **Monday, 22 February 2021** and comprise of 6 online sessions, followed, for those who are interested, by a Foundational (400-hour) Unit in April. For more information contact Carmen Karauda at [ckarauda@gmail.com](mailto:ckarauda@gmail.com) or phone: 0419 430 676

## SUMMER NIGHTS 21

Summer Nights 21 happening at Varroville in January 2021 - for 16-35 year olds.

There are two options (retreat running twice during the week):

**Monday 11 - Wednesday 13 January (3pm to 9pm)**

**Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 January (3pm to 9pm)**

COVID safe dinner is provided each day

The retreat will feature excellent quality talks and teaching, night sessions with praise and worship, drama, preaching, testimonies, and prayer. Mass and adoration is available each day.

## A VOCATION VIEW

### January 3, 2021 Epiphany

God's glory continues to shine in our world. Where do you need to carry the light of Christ? Consider being a light for the world as a Church minister. (Isaiah 60:1-6)



### January 10, 2021 Baptism of the Lord

Delight in God's call to you in baptism. What grace do you need to strengthen your commitment? Remember, God has set you as a covenant to the people.

(Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)

If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

## PARISH WALKING GROUP

Prior to Christmas, 12 members of our walking group joined together for an enjoyable walk around the lake from the sailing club to the yacht club. After the walk we all had a delicious seafood lunch by the lake watching the pelicans.



Our next walk will be on **Friday 5 February** so mark that date in your calendar. More details in the New Year.

## CHURCH ROSTERS

Thank you to all those generous people who have volunteered their time to assist in the various Church Ministries. Your help is appreciated. The rosters are now being compiled and you will receive them by email this week

HOWEVER we are still in urgent need of more church cleaners and lawn mowers to lighten the load for those who have already volunteered. If you are able to give a little of your time, it would be appreciated. Please email Melissa or Magda at [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au)



## FORMED

Would you like to nurture your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting [darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au](mailto:darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au) or [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au)

## ADORATION

CYMW is holding Holy Hour **every Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM to 7:30PM** for an hour of Adoration at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. There will be time for silence and reflection before the Lord and is a great time to quiet our hearts to listen to Him more closely. We hope to see to you there!



## SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021 — THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR B)

### First Reading — Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full;

since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm — Lord every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. R.
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. R.
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute.  
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.  
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. R.
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. R.

### Second Reading — Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

### Gospel — Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held on the 2nd Sunday of every month at West Wollongong (12noon) and the 4th Sunday of every month at Unanderra (12noon). Please email [westwollongong@dow.org.au](mailto:westwollongong@dow.org.au) or [unanderra@dow.org.au](mailto:unanderra@dow.org.au) to ask for a Baptism Enquiry Form to be sent to you.