

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/



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 Mobile: 0410 225 975

Parish Assistant: Sr Kerry Gardiner
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Parish Pastoral Council President:
 Email:
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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 Secretary: Mrs Melissa Bridges (Mon/Wed/Fri)

Parish Office: Email: unanderra@dow.org.au
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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR C) – 29 MAY 2022

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 30 May	Mass: 7am	
Tues 31 May <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass: 5.30pm	Mass: 7:45am
Wed 1 June <i>St Justin, martyr</i>	Mass: 9:30am	Adoration: 4:30pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm
Thurs 2 June	Mass: 11am (Polish) Adoration: 4:30pm—5:15pm Reconciliation: 4:30pm—5:15pm Rosary: 5:15pm Mass: 5:30pm 	Mass: 7:45am
Fri 3 June <i>Saints Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs</i>	Mass: 7am	Mass: 9:30am
Sat 4 June	Rosary: 7:10am Mass: 7:30am  Mass: 11am (Polish) Reconciliation: 5pm - 5:30pm Mass: 6pm	Rosary: 8:40am  Mass: 9am Reconciliation: 9:30am
Sun 5 June	Mass: 8am Mass: 10am (Polish)	Mass: 10am Mass: 5pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased

Anna Dubowska, Jean Piper,
Elizabeth Jamiro

Anniversaries

Mavis Scott, Anthony Potts
Peter Joseph.



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

Last week's "**Community Fun Day**" was a truly blessed occasion. From the window of good weather in the midst of the otherwise constant rain, to the wonderful turnout (estimated at 200 people), it was an important step in rebuilding community for the people of our two parishes and beyond. There was a real sense of welcome, belonging, and joy throughout the day, and events like this are an important part of helping all people in our community (parishioners or not) to know that our parish is a place for them. Special thanks to the Community Co-ordination Team across the two parishes – Andrew Thornberry, Maria Matos, Fiona Fernandez and Emma Parrish – for all their work in preparing and leading the day; to Judith Hurley for all her work in giving us access to Edmund Rice College and setting up the BBQ and hall perfectly; to all the welcomers and helpers, to St Pius Primary School and St Therese Primary School for their support and of course thank you to every single person who came.

During the past week over 100 children received their **First Reconciliation** in both parishes. Thank you to the Sacramental Team across the two parishes, and to the parents who are the most important teachers of their children for their faithfulness in the preparation of their children.

This past week (and this Sunday 29th May) we celebrate **Fr Jerzy on his 40th Anniversary of Ordination**. Fr Jerzy has served faithfully since 2019 as Polish Chaplain, also celebrating weekday Mass and Reconciliation at Unanderra and occasionally at West Wollongong. Thank you and congratulations Fr Jerzy!

This coming week we observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and National Reconciliation Week. As we celebrate the Feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, the culmination of the Easter Season, let us pray that the risen Lord, by the Gift of the Holy Spirit, will bring about a deeper unity amongst all his disciples, as well as healing and reconciliation for our nation and its first peoples.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL – NEXT WEEKEND JUNE 4-5

Next week we will have our annual opportunity to hear more about Catholic Mission and respond with prayerful and financial support to this vital work of service to those most in need throughout the world. You may wish to bring money to donate to this worthy cause next weekend.

Fr Duane Fernandez — Parish Priest

Message from Sr Kerry

My dad literally dropped dead. The morning of his death we shared a conversation. Dad left the room and died. The shock was something I hadn't experienced before. I felt it was just a bad dream and I would wake up and discover that is what it was.... a bad dream. It took me three months to come to the realisation that my dad had died. I had to accept reality. Life would never be quite the same again. It wasn't easy.

The sense I experienced I imagine the apostles experienced something similar at the Ascension. Shock. Disbelief. Grief. Tears. Lost.

Life does go on, but differently.

As I have said before, "**The hands of Jesus in our world today can be found at the end of our own arms.**"

Are you courageous and daring enough to be the presence of Jesus for others?

You are invited to attend a one day workshop on **Eucharist. The Sacrifice we Offer.**

Where: Xavier Conference centre, 38 Harbour St Wollongong.

When: Saturday 11th June

Time: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Lunch and morning tea will be provided.

There is no cost but a donation towards the costs would be appreciated.

Registration is via the Diocesan website or contact Anthony Rewak on 02 42222465 or anthonyrewak@dow.org.au

Sr Kerry Gardiner

ROSTER – NEXT WEEKEND

May	Church Washing	Fiona Fernandez	
Sat 4 June	Church Cleaning	W & J Rodgers, J Andersson	
Sat 4 June	Lawns	No Lawn mowing this week	
	Lectors	Welcomers	Children's liturgy
Sat 4 June 6pm Mass	D Nugent	Vera Cleary & Cindy	
Sun 5 June 6pm Mass	C Walsh	Fiona Carolan	Kirra Calvert and Alicia Sanchez-Levine
Counters	M Murphy (FH), C Stratton, M Winner		

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

Fr Jerzy's 40th anniversary of Ordination

On Wednesday 25 May Fr Jerzy celebrated his 40th anniversary of Ordination. Fr Duane celebrated 9:30am Mass with Fr Jerzy and afterwards the Catholic Women's League served morning tea in the St Joseph's room.



Bishop Brian Mascord will celebrate 10am Mass with Fr Jerzy this Sunday at Immaculate Conception. All are welcome to attend.

Faith Enrichment Evenings—Thursday 2 June

All are most welcome to our next gathering in this wonderful series by Bishop Robert Barron, on "Catholicism". We commence with sharing a light meal at 7pm followed by the video screening at 7:30pm, in the St Joseph's room. This week's video is "*The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church*".

Silver Circle results

1st - Number 37 - L Urquart
2nd - Number 8 - S Hajduk

Life in the spirit

The CCR Prayer Group have organised a Life in the Spirit program 'Journey to Pentecost' to be held in the St Joseph's Room on four consecutive Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 8.30pm. **On 1 June the topic is: Baptised in the Spirit.** To help with organisation, please confirm your attendance by emailing vincefitz7@yahoo.com.au

Walking group

Our next walk is planned for **Thursday 2nd June**. We will gather at the shops on Derribong Drive, Cordeaux Heights at 9.30am. There is plenty of parking. The walk will be up Cordeaux Road to Mt Kembla. After the walk, everyone is invited to enjoy morning tea together at the Cordeaux Café. If you are unable to join us for the walk, you may like to join us for morning tea around 11.00am. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there.

Children's liturgy

Children's liturgy is back every Sunday 8am Mass.

LIVE LOCAL

LIVE LOCAL Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong (CYMW) has arrived in the Illawarra! LIVE Local is a Regional Youth Group run by the CYMW and NET Team which runs **every Friday night during school term from 7 - 9pm, at St Therese West Wollongong school hall.**



For more details on youth groups, visit <https://www.dow.org.au/cymw/>

RECLAIMING EVANGELISATION WITH FR MIKE SCHMITZ

TOPIC: WHY MAKE DISCIPLES? WHAT OUR TRADITION TELLS US ABOUT CALLING AND FORMING DISCIPLES

Location: St Patrick's Parish, Port Kembla, Parish Centre
Address: 42 O'Donnell St, Port Kembla
Time: Morning Tea from 9:30am, talk from 10:00am.

Join us on **Saturday 28 May at 9:30am** in the St Patrick's Parish Centre with Morning Tea on arrival for a LIVE Zoom with Fr Mike Schmitz (10:00am-11:30am) who is speaking to the Church in Australia on 'Why Make Disciples? What our Tradition tells us about calling and forming disciples'. All welcome!

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMME – AIRS SUNDAY 29 MAY 2022

On the Journey this week: Fr Paul O'Neill's Gospel reflection on Jesus' presence in the world today (We remember Fr Paul's first anniversary on 28 May. This reflection recorded in 2019). Mother Hilda's tip on how to start a conversation with God. Fr Anthony Crook on being open to new possibilities, particularly post-COVID. Trish McCarthy on personal growth by facing our fears. Listen at jcr.org.au



VOCATION NEWS

Jesus promised his disciples that they would be clothed in power from God. As a follower of Jesus, you are also given that same promise. Pray for the grace to be a faithful witness. (Luke 24:46-53)



If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au

DISCOVERING GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIVES: DOW VOCATIONS EVENT

You are invited to join with vibrant people from around the Diocese including an expert panel, addressing all 4 Vocations, with the opportunity for Q and A. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn how to hear, discern and respond to God's call in our lives. To book your spot, follow the links below but in the meantime, if anyone would like to discuss their vocation with Fr Duane, Vocations Director, email vocations@dow.org.au

DATE: Sunday 19 June

TIME: Light refreshments 1:30pm for 2pm start

PLACE: Xavier Centre, St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Wgong,

RSVP: <https://www.dow.org.au/events/>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL UNANDERRA CONFERENCE

Can you hear the cry of the poor?
Are you willing to respond?



Please call **Jo on 0425 236 214** to find out more about the work of Vinnies.

EUCHARIST - THE SACRIFICE WE OFFER

Join Bishop Mascord and people from across the Diocese for a Workshop on **Saturday 11 June 2022 Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong (38 Harbour St), 9:30am - 2:30pm**, presented by Sr Carmel Pilcher RSJ, PhD.

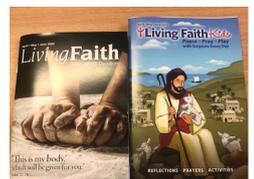
Lunch and Morning Tea provided. An opportunity to make a donation to assist in covering costs will be provided.

At this workshop we will seek to understand what the early church understood by priestly participation in the liturgy. Namely that each of us, together with our sisters and brothers in Christ, bring to the celebration the joys and hopes, grief and anxieties of our week. Ritually we place these on the Eucharistic table along with bread and wine to become the mystery of Christ's sacrifice.

Register by Tuesday 7 June 2022: dow.org.au/events.

LIVING FAITH BOOKS

Living Faith books for children and adults (Apr, May and June) are now available in the church. **Cost is \$5 each.**



29 MAY 2022 - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR C)

First Reading- Acts 1: 1-11 *Why are you standing there looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord!

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. R.
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. R.
3. God is king of all the earth, sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. R.

Second Reading — Ephesians 1:17-23 *He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel — Luke 24:46-53 *While blessing them, he was taken to heaven*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.'

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.