



ST THERESE PARISH - WEST WOLLONGONG

2 Powell Street, West Wollongong NSW 2500

Parish Office: Phone: (02) 4243 9610
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am to 1.30pm
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Lani Perez
 Email: westwollongong@dow.org.au
 Website: www.sttherese.com.au
 Bulletin/Media Email: communications@sttherese.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Duane Fernandez Email: Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au
Deacon: Dn. Joseph Nguyen Email: joseph.vuongnguyen@dow.org.au

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."

SUNDAY 27 JULY 2025

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

| <u>ST THERESE WEST WOLLONGONG</u> | <u>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UNANDERRA</u> | <u>RECONCILIATION:</u> |
|---|---|--|
| <u>Weekend Masses</u> Sunday: 10am and 5pm | <u>Weekend Masses</u> Saturday: 5pm Sunday: 8am | St Therese - West Wollongong Saturday: 9.30am – 10.30am Wednesday: 4.30pm – 5.30pm Immaculate Conception – Unanderra Tuesday: 6.00pm – 7.00pm Thursday: 6.00pm – 7.00pm |
| <u>Weekday Masses</u> Wednesday: 5.30pm Friday: 7.45am Saturday: 9.00am | <u>Weekday Masses</u> Monday: 8.00am Tuesday: 5.30pm Thursday: 5.30pm | <u>BAPTISMS:</u> Notice period: 1 month 2 nd Sunday of month 12pm West Wollongong 4 th Sunday of month 12pm Unanderra |
| <u>Eucharistic Adoration:</u> Wednesday 4.30pm - 5.30pm | <u>Eucharistic Adoration:</u> Tuesday and Thursday 6pm - 7pm | <u>WEDDINGS:</u> Notice period: 6 months |

MODIFIED WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

Fr Duane is away for conferences and annual leave from Friday July 4th returning for Saturday Vigil Mass on 9 Saturday August at Unanderra. **During this time there will be no Monday morning Masses at Unanderra or Saturday morning Masses at West Wollongong.**

The weekday timetable across the two parishes will be as follows:

Tuesdays – Unanderra

5:30pm Mass at Unanderra
 Rosary and Adoration 6pm-7pm (no Reconciliation)

Wednesdays – West Wollongong

4:30pm Adoration at West Wollongong (no Reconciliation)
 5:30pm Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion (Deacon Joseph)

Thursdays – Unanderra

5:30pm Mass at Unanderra
 Rosary, Adoration and Reconciliation 6pm-7pm

Friday mornings – West Wollongong

7:45am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion (Deacon Joseph)

Rosary and Silent Prayer at Unanderra

Unanderra Church will be open for Rosary and quiet prayer on **Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8am to 9am** commencing Friday 4 July until Saturday 9 August inclusive

PRAYER FOR THE FIFTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 27 July 2025

'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2)

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!

Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time, animated by the hope that comes from You!

Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion.

Help us in this world, wounded by wars, to bring the hope of peace.

Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing, to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.

Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness.

Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You, the Hope of a new life that only You can give! For in You, Lord, nothing is lost

For in You, Lord, everything begins again! Amen

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE?

Check out upcoming formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events – too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see everything that is on around our Diocese!



RECENTLY DECEASED:

DECEASED FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED:

SICK: Kerrie Maidment, Lucila Montano, Rachael Wakely, Margaret Beamish, Daniel Hiew

ANNIVERSARIES OF PARISHIONERS: Charlotte McGoldrick, Laurence Cuskelly, Edward Munro, Adrian Hill, Ross MacDonald, Richard Oliver, Constance Comerford, Lucy McRae, William Wisbey, Richard Czubala, Kathlien Unwin, Bessie Piper, Joan Dives, Patricia McKinnon, Bruce McGuire, Jean Shipp, Ray Lange, Rev. Fr. Peter Quinn, Aubrey Remfry, Annie Bennis, John McDonald, Elsie Isedale, John Murphy, Christine Nolan, Elizabeth Roodenrys, Stanislaw Wrzos, Reginald Larkins

PARISH DINNER

8 August, 6pm

At Figtree Sports,
Make your booking by
contacting

Mary O'Rourke maryo42@optusnet.com.au

Barry Duggan ph: 0411 236 616



PARISH FINANCES

\$388 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund

\$283 Second Collection – Parish Expenses

\$235 Tap Point – Parish Donations

\$145 Planned Giving Envelopes

\$634 Direct Debits (weekly average for June)

Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Parishioners who wish to join the planned giving program via envelope or direct debit to assist with our parish expenses, please contact the parish office for further information



VINNIES NEWS

Thanks to parishioners who supported our recent morning tea for those we assist. It was an opportunity for social interaction as well as nourishment. Statistics indicate that 15% of Australians experience loneliness and that number is higher among those who are socially isolated by poverty, unemployment and mental illness. Reaching out to offer a hand up to our neighbours in need and listening to their stories are important actions of our Vinnies conference.



NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH FOR JULY & AUGUST

Please note that there will be no Eucharistic Adoration at Immaculate Conception Church, Unanderra during July & August whilst Fr Duane is on leave. Recommence 5 Sept

ENVIRONMENTAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This Friday at 5.30pm on the church grounds. Come along and pray for the earth and its people.

NEW YOUTH GROUP: "REVIVE YOUTH"

We are now taking registrations for our new parish youth group called "Revive Youth" – a joint initiative of West Wollongong and Unanderra parishes. Revive Youth will be meeting fortnightly on Fridays at St Therese Parish Centre from 7pm to 9pm, commencing Friday July 25th. All high school aged young people are welcome to attend, and there are permission forms available at the church tables, or else contact reviveyouth25@gmail.com for more information or a permission form.

2025 SIGNIFICANT MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS

If you are celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, we invite you to the celebration of Significant Marriage Anniversaries, to be celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on **Sunday 24 August 2025 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong**. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room. Please register online at <https://dow.sh/MA2025> by no later than Monday, 11 August 2025. Any enquiries please email Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au

ST THERESE JUSTICE, ECOLOGY AND PEACE GROUP.

On July 17th, the Catholic church of the Holy Family in Gaza was attacked by Israeli forces. Brother Hernan Santos wrote to us: 'With hearts broken and spirits shaken—but not silenced—I write to you in the wake of the unconscionable attack earlier today ... The direct military strike claimed the lives of Saad Issa Kostandi Salameh, Fomua Issa Latif Ayyad, and Najwa Abu Dawood, and injured many more, including Father Gabriel Romanelli, who has served the people of Gaza for nearly 30 years. These victims were among the hundreds—Christian and Muslim alike—who had sought shelter at the church, a place that should have remained sacred and safe.' 'Silence,' writes Br Hernan, 'is no longer acceptable. Prayers alone are not enough unless accompanied by bold and principled action.' We join Pope Leo and the parish of the Holy Family in their call for 'an immediate ceasefire'. The full text of Br Hernan's letter can be found on the resource table in the centre of the church.

SUMMIT NIGHT – AN EVENING WITH DR EDWARD SRI

When: Saturday, 30 August 2025, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Where: Xavier Conference Centre (adjacent to St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong)

Who: For young adults aged 18+

Cost: Free – donations gratefully accepted on the night

Young adults of the Diocese of Wollongong, this is our final Summit Night for 2025! We're inviting you to an unforgettable evening designed to challenge, inspire, and renew. At Summit Night, you'll join a vibrant community seeking truth, building faith, and growing closer to Christ.

This time, we will be joined by Dr Edward Sri

He is a renowned Catholic, author, theologian who presents to tens of thousands of people from around the world each year, including clergy, parish leaders, catechists and laity. He has written several best-selling books. He is also the presenter of several Ascension Press and the Augustine Institute faith formation film series.

CCD LEVEL 1 CATECHIST COURSE (TERM 3)

via Zoom starts on **Monday 4 August** for four Mondays.

Dates: Mondays, 4, 11, 18, 25 August (via Zoom)

Time: 9:30am - 1:30pm.

Beginning and experienced SRE Catechists are invited to register by following this link: [CCD Level 1 Course Aug 2025](#) or contact Sue Clark at support@ccdwoollongong.com.

Please note: The first day of the Level 1 course includes the Child Protection and Classroom Management training update that must be revisited by SRE Catechists every three years.

POSITIONS OPEN – DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL

The Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) is a vibrant team of lay people, clergy, and religious who serve as both an advisory body and implementation team to the Bishop for youth and young adult ministry in the Diocese of Wollongong. The Bishop is currently seeking to appoint four new members to the Council.

Applications are now open and will close on 4 August. To apply, visit: dow.sh/4ewllku

CHARIS MONTHLY MASS

Friday 8 August

Sacred Heart Chapel, Stewart St Wollongong

Praying for the Bishop's Vision

Join us for thirty minutes of charismatic praise to implement our Bishop's Vision for the Wollongong Diocese, followed by Holy Mass. There will also be an opportunity for individual healing prayer after Mass and cuppa. Everyone welcome.

7:00pm Praise and Worship.

7:30pm Holy Mass.

Info: Gabriella De Battista 0414 205 404

menALIVE REGIONAL WEEKEND – REGISTER NOW

9 – 10 August 2025, Xavier Conference Centre, Wollongong

Come along to our menALIVE weekend and be impacted by an encounter with the Gospel in the presence of other good men seeking to be renewed in faith and life.

For more information and to register

<https://menalive-weekend-2025>

COMPASS: “BUSH” FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND

Friday 5 – Sunday 7 September 2025 Guntawang - Wooglemai Catholic Camping Facility

We are excited to be returning for the second of our 2025 Catholic family camping weekends at Guntawang Catholic Youth Centre. This weekend is designed to bring together families of all ages, including couples with or without children, single parents with their children, and grandparents, to celebrate the incredible gift of family life.

Mark your calendars for a wonderful opportunity to connect with families from across the diocese in a laid-back setting. Enjoy shared meals, games, music, prayer, and Mass together. To secure your spot, register now.

dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend Cost: \$50 per adult or \$100 per family

RSVP: Friday 29 August 2025

A VOCATION VIEW

Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you.” Believe and act on Jesus’ promise. Pray for wisdom to discern God’s will. (Luke 11:1-13)

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



UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday 8 August 6pm | Parish Social |
| Figgys Sports Club | |
| First Fri. of month, Parish Grounds, 5.30pm | Environmental Stations of the Cross |
| Mondays, 5pm Parish Centre | Christian Meditation Group Monica Ph: 0418 172072 |
| Last Tue of month Parish Centre, 6.30pm | Parish Pastoral Council ppc@sttherese.com.au |
| 1 st and 3 rd Wed of month, 7.30pm Conference Parish Centre | West Wollongong Vinnies louise.pinson@vinnies.org.au |
| Saturdays, 8.30am St Therese Church | The Rosary |
| 2 nd Sat of month 10.00am Parish Centre | Ladies' cuppa and chat contact Elaine 0410692973 |

Revive Youth (12-18yrs)

NEW Combined Parish Youth Group

Meets every fortnight on Fridays *commencing 25 July*
7-9pm, Parish Centre

Contact reviveyouth25@gmail.com for more information & to obtain a permission form

STIC Young Adults (18-35yrs)

Meets each Thursday

Last Thursday Prayer & Pub
5.30pm Mass at Immaculate Conception + 6.45pm dinner at Collegians, Figtree

Other Thursdays 7pm Faith Studies and Fellowship
Parish Centre
Message us on FB or Insta (@sticyoungadults) to join our whatsapp for regular updates.

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again, Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will be only forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 137:1-3. 6-8

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes. **R.**

You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Romans 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it to him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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