

# St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting a traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina

Holy Family Church, Lennox Head

## 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

13th August, 2017

*St Maximilian Mary Kolbe*  
Monday

*The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
*Holy Day of Obligation*  
Tuesday



### THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:22-33

### PSALM RESPONSE

*Lord show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.*

*Alleluia!*

## Calming Seas

In the last few weeks I have relaxed at the beach. On certain winter mornings, the ocean is a beautiful sapphire colour and calm. Just perfect for swimming, if but a tad cold. In the afternoons, the wind picks up and the water loses its sapphire colour.

The water becomes choppy and swimming is hard work. When a storm develops, the sea becomes wild and the waves smash against the rocks with great intensity and frightening power. In today's world, where fortunately there are sophisticated search and rescue facilities, the sea can still be a place that causes much fear and consternation. And if the sea itself doesn't frighten people, what lurks beneath causes trepidation among many.

For people living in Jesus' time, the combination of sea and storms was considered destructive and chaotic, which threatened human existence while in some ancient cultures, people actually believed storms were gods.

But today's gospel says that Jesus walked on stormy seas and calmed them. So, the

story is not really about some spectacular miracle that Jesus performed. Rather, it is about someone who has the power of the destructive forces of our world, shown symbolically by Jesus walking on the water. Instead of being consumed and lost to

the raging sea, he calms the water upon which he walks.

Jesus has power over mother nature and its destructive forces. By inviting Peter to come to him over the water, Jesus is calling us to believe that if we have faith we will also be preserved and protected from the things that will destroy us as human beings.

What could this mean for us? The most destructive force we face is death.

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus overcame the power of death. Instead

of being the end of everything, thanks to Jesus and his death and resurrection, death is now the pathway to eternal life.

Life throws up all sorts of trials and tribulations. There are situations and events that we find difficult to cope with, and fear they might destroy us. Marriage breakups, death of a loved one, being jobless or a seriously ill child can be a traumatic event for anyone.

*(Continued on Page 4)*



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

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[@BallinaCatholic](https://twitter.com/BallinaCatholic)

**PRESBYTERY:** Phone: 6686 2042

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

**SCHOOLS:**

**AGED CARE:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Nilon

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Alexander Munyao - Email: [mutualex2015@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:mutualex2015@sfxballina.org.au)

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Kathryn Sweeney rsj, Email: [kathryn@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:kathryn@sfxballina.org.au)  
Email: [parishcouncil@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:parishcouncil@sfxballina.org.au)

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; Email: [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:admin@sfxballina.org.au)

Mon to Fri 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - 53-57 Cherry Street - **Postal Address: PO Box 46 Ballina 2478**

Library available to parishioners Mon to Fri 9 am - 4 pm; Library Assistant available: Tues & Thurs 10 am to 12 noon; Library located in Parish Admin Building

St Francis Xavier Primary: 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina

Holy Family Primary: 6687 5311 - 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Xavier Catholic College: 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre: 6687 5961 - 42 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Crowley Care Services: 1300 139 099 - 154 Cherry St, Ballina

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

**ROSTER: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 19th/20th August, 2017**  
**Readings: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Psalm 66; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28**

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Offertory Procession
<b>Readers</b>	Narelle Dewhurst Pauline Shay	Steve Seymour Eliza Martin	Nicole Sullivan Mark Biddle	9.00 am ~ Ballina  John and Kay Hayward
<b>Ext. Ministers Holy Communion</b>	Trish Bazar Yvonne Head Michael Shay Phil Chapman	Kevin Sullivan	Michael McNamara Mary Steenson Maxine Cole Cathy Campbell	
<b>Sacristan</b>	Monica Anderson	Vanessa	Yvonne Doherty	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Ari Slattery Ruby Slattery Lila Giacomini	Rose Radburn Grace Kennedy	Sophie Sullivan Bailey Sullivan Clare Lynch Riley Rampling	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Vanessa Cain Courtney Wells	Nicole Sullivan Adam Sullivan	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Betty Faye, Barry Piebald, Des Smith, Roy Shirvington, Don McAnelly, Francis Karam

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Aurelia Gardiman

**AND ALSO FOR:** C & S Hosie, Gwynne & Mick Waugh, Armando Bordin, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, Jean Shay, Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Thama Walker, Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all faithful departed.

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL:** Gloria Greguric, Desmond Fripp, Michael Howley, Don Hains, Barry Kelly, Joseph Cross, Suzanne Monti, Michael Flatley, Michael Harris, Debbie Fraser, Joyce Eyles, Patricia Hall, Charles Cuthbert, Travis Reynolds (Wollongong), Sr Rosemary Kerlin CSB, Mary & William Topham, Mary Kearney, John Heaton, Louise Griffiths, Margaret Burmingham, John Duncan, Judith Grosse, Len Allison, Alice Bruce, Margaret Pyne, Nathan Bull, Mary Thompson, Barry Cook, Tristin Zichy, Monsignor Frank Coorey, Bill Shay, Peter Albertini, Julie Benton, Bob Grant, Kevin Doherty, Leisa Wotton, Robyn Hancock, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Michael Everson, John & Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolbach, Crena Hemmings, Samantha Anderson, Joan Shumack, Moore, Smith, McCowan-Dann, Webber Families, Layton family, Jonothan Paden, Gregory Thomas, Tony Lannan, Max Crosswell, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Yvonne del-Signore (*Aunty Ponnie*), Kim del-Signore, *Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.*

**THE SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH**

**BAPTISMS:** on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month at St Francis Xavier's at 10.15 am. A baptism can only be requested by parents of the child to be baptised. It is compulsory for both parents preferably, (or at least one of them) attend a preparation night, which is held in the Parish Admin Building on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. The date for the baptism is tentative until attendance at the preparation night. Bookings for the preparation evening are essential and made through Parish Admin 6681 1048.

**CONFIRMATION:** Friday 22nd June, 2018. Parent Meeting TBA

**RECONCILIATION:** Wednesday 6th September, 2017. Parent meeting Wednesday 2nd August, 2017.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Sunday 18th March 2018. Parent Meeting Wed 14th February 2018

**WEDDINGS:** by appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** during Mass on dates to be advertised during the year, and on request; and at regular intervals at the hospital and aged care facilities.

**MUSIC:** According to the Church's 2000 year tradition and our understanding of the prayer-based nature of funerals and weddings, the only music possible at both liturgies (whether Mass or Prayers) is either hymns or suitable instrumental music. No secular music! There are no exceptions.

**FUNERALS:** Whether held with Requiem Mass or Prayers – either in the church or elsewhere – funerals always follow the Church's Liturgy. E.G.: hymns only (see details in Music section); 1 (one) only tribute to the deceased (known in secular funerals as eulogies) of 3-5 minutes (maximum). The personal tribute (eulogy) is always optional.

**HOSPITALS:** Parishioners in Ballina Hospital, including the new Rehab Unit, are visited by a member of the Parish Team each week. We only know of those patients who are on the list we are shown. If you want to ensure that we know that you or a family member is in hospital you are welcome to let us know so we can see them when we visit.

**DIF PAYS 2.15% PER ANNUM AT CALL**

**BALLINA AGENTS:** Michael Shay, L J Hooker 87-89 River St Ballina 6686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS		
<b>First Collection</b>	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 1,344.05
<b>Second Collection</b> Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 626.30
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,573.70
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 1,527.00

Date	Target	Collections
10th July	\$1,527.00	\$1,600.00
17th July	\$1,527.00	\$1,600.00
24th July	\$1,527.00	\$1,600.00
31st July	\$1,527.00	\$1,600.00
7th August	\$1,527.00	\$1,600.00

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA - PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:** If you are a new parishioner to Ballina or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, cards are available for completion in the foyer of the Church. Please complete your details and place on the collection plate in the envelope provided, or contact SFX Parish Admin office on 6681 1048 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm. For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution.

## From the Parish Priest

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF B.V.M.:** This Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August, is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**. There are only two of these 'holy days' left in Australia. The other one is Christmas. Other such feasts have been transferred to the nearest Sundays. Mass times for the Assumption are listed elsewhere in this bulletin.

**EUTHANASIA BILL FOR N.S.W. UPPER HOUSE:** The news at present is filled with largely one-sided talk of the upcoming postal plebiscite on so-called 'same sex marriage'. However, there is a more pressing parliamentary Bill that demands our attention first, and it is a State matter. There has been some media coverage of a similar move in the Victorian Parliament, but the proposal here is just as dangerous to the lives of our seniors and others.

It is expected that a Bill will soon be introduced to the Legislative Council (Upper House) of the N.S.W. Parliament to allow 'assisted suicide', which means **euthanasia**. Euthanasia involves the **conscious and deliberate killing** of another human being. The law in this state has traditionally upheld respect for human life. The passing of a law that codifies and legalises assisted suicide would fundamentally undermine that respect and radically change the nature of the doctor-patient relationship. Such legislation poses a **serious danger** to the frail, aged, sick, mentally impaired, vulnerable and disabled people in our state. It also allows human beings 'legally' to assume the role of God in choosing the time of death of a person.

Palliative care is the primary means through which end of life care is delivered. Ongoing work must continue to ensure that high quality palliative care is available across the state.

**Please sign the petition** that is available at the doors of our two churches. The petition is addressed to the President and Members of the Legislative Council. On each petition there is an explanation of what we are signing. Please read through it first if you wish. Bishop Gregory Homeming has given his endorsement to this petition. We will have the petition available for two weekends and then we need to send it to Sydney.

Father Michael Nilon, Parish Priest  
pp@sfxballina.org.au

## Parish Notices



### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

*This Tuesday 15th August  
~ Holy Day of Obligation ~*

**MASS TIMES BALLINA**  
**8.00 am,**  
**12.00 noon**  
**5.20 pm**



**CONGRATULATIONS Hamish Valentine** who will be inducted this weekend as a **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** for the parish.

### SFX CHURCH BALLINA ROSTERS

for Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Offertory Procession are available at the back of the church in alphabetical order.

### 1st RECONCILIATION

This week the children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, will focus on coming together as God's people and continue to explore the Sacrament.



The theme for week two is:  
**Choices —Loving Choices**  
**Poor Choices**

**1st Reconciliation Wednesday 6th September at 6.00 pm**

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION** for Australia and New Zealand are 15th August (Assumption) and 25th December (Christmas). The importance of a day in the liturgical calendar is determined by its rank (*solemnity, feast, memorial*); a Holy Day is simply a solemnity celebrated like a Sunday, that is, with obligation.

*(ORDO 2017, Celebration of Eucharist and Liturgy of the Hours)*

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL MASS** this Thursday 17th August at 9.30 am. **No** 8.00 am Mass on this day.



**CLAIM THE DATE SATURDAY**  
**7th OCTOBER, 2017**

**WOMEN'S REFLECTION DAY**  
with Sr Maureen McDermott rsj

*further details will soon be available*



**SFX CHURCH 'CUPPA'**  
**Next Sunday 20th August, 2017**  
after the 9.00 am Mass at SFX Church, Ballina.  
**Everyone is Welcome.**

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL PIETY SHOP

operates in the foyer of St. Francis Xavier Church. Open before & after 6.00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass & 9.00 am Sunday Mass.

**Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** gift ideas are available.

**PAST NURSES REUNION** - Former nurses from St Vincent's Private Hospital Lismore will hold their 63rd Annual Reunion with Mass in the Hospital Chapel on Saturday 26th August 2017 at 11.00 am. The celebrant will be Fr Peter Slack. Lunch will follow at East Lismore Bowling Club. RSVP by Wednesday 16th August to Sue Felsch. (*Numbers essential for seating*) Phone 0427 834 336 / 6624 4336 or email susanfelsch@gmail.com

(Continued from page 1) Whatever it is that challenges and fills us with fear, today's gospel is calling on people to believe these things will not destroy us. Faith in Jesus means we will not only be able to face calamities in our lives, but get through them and find a new way of 'being and living'. Jesus says the same thing to us as he did to the disciples in the boat: "Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid". And if we feel like we are sinking under the burdens of life, his hand is there for us to take. Always!

John Hill CSsR

### AS GENTLE AS SILENCE

(Estelle White)

Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence,  
of all that I love here on earth.  
All the beauty I see, He has given to me.  
And His giving is gentle as silence.

Every day, every hour, every moment,  
has been blessed by the strength of His love.  
At the turn of each tide, He is there at my side,  
And His giving is as gentle as silence.

There've been times when I've turned from His presence,  
and I've walked other paths, other ways.  
But I've called on His name, in the dark of my shame,  
And His mercy was gentle as silence.



### CROWLEY VILLAGE AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary will meet at **3.00 pm**

**Monday 28th August**

in the Education Centre

Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.

**ALL WELCOME!**

### MORNING PRAYER

O Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary I offer you all the prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Divine Heart. Amen.

### POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS AUGUST 2017

**Universal: Arts:** This month's intention is for artists: "That artists of our time, though their creativity, may <https://www.popesprayer.net/>

**Christian Meditation Group** is held every Saturday at 9.30 am in Anawim Room.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday mornings from 10.30 to 11.45 am at SFX Church Ballina (except when there is a funeral that day)

**Ballina CCR Intercession** Monday from 10.45 to 11.45 am in Anawim Room. **Prayer meeting:** Wednesday 7.30 to 9.30 pm Anawim Room.

**Parish Youth Group:** Saturday 6.00 pm Mass then to St Francis Xavier School Hall, Crane Street.

**Sisterhood: Monday at 10.00 am** in the Saint Teresa Room, Parish Admin.

**Prayer of the Church and Rosary** Saturday at 8.15 am SFX Ballina.

**Everyone Welcome!**

### NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting** will precede the bi-monthly meeting **Thursday 24th August** Sacred Heart Room at 8.45 am. All positions will be declared vacant and new office bearers will be elected. *Members of our Lennox Head community are encouraged to nominate if they have a little spare time to meet every second month for an hour. Our vibrant community group needs your support to continue our good works within our parish and local community.*

**Everyone Welcome to attend.**

### PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS 2016/17

Tax receipts are now available for collection from the parish administration office ~ 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

### SISTERHOOD -

**'girls doing life together'** - meet every Monday in the Saint Teresa Room in the Parish Administration building at **10.00 am**. All ladies of our parish are **most welcome** to share and grow in our Catholic faith. *Sisterhood is a network of women of all ages, walks and stages of life that seeks to support everyday women doing everyday life together.*

### MASS TIMES

St Francis Xavier Church  
Ballina

Holy  
Family  
Church  
Lennox  
Head

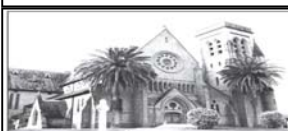
SATURDAY	6.00 pm	
SUNDAY	9.00 am	7.30 am
MONDAY	8.00 am	
TUESDAY Feast Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary	8.00 am 12.00 noon 5.20 pm	
WEDNESDAY	10.00 am Crowley Village Activity Centre	
THURSDAY	9.30 am Holy Family School Mass	
FRIDAY	12.00 noon	

### OTHER CEREMONIES THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY		8.00 am Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
FRIDAY	10.30 to 11.45 am Exposition	
SATURDAY	8.15 am Prayer of the Church and Rosary	

### RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY	9.00—10.00 am Also on request	
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