

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

4th Sunday of Easter
(B)

22nd April, 2018

Alleluia



Anzac Day
Wednesday

St Mark
Thursday

St Peter Chanel
Saturday

**THIS WEEKEND'S
READINGS**

Acts 4:8-12;
1 John 3:1-2;
John 10:11-18

PSALM RESPONSE

*The stone rejected by the
builders has become
the corner stone*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!

*I am the Good Shepherd
says the Lord;
I know my sheep and mine
know me.
Alleluia!*

Equal in God's eyes

How times have changed! Sheep on an outback station today are often rounded up by someone on a motor-bike. So, it is perhaps a little difficult to appreciate the significance of the image in ages past of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the lowly Jewish shepherd 2000 years ago for whom each sheep was 'family'.

I came a closer to understanding this reality during a recent visit to an organic pig farm. The farm, known as WWOOFers (Willing Workers On Organic Farms) is setting high standards for the humane treatment of animals. The farm has incorporated a holistic approach in its rearing of pigs, horses and chicken and has great respect for the 'interrelatedness' of nature.

I was touched by the farmer's devotion to each animal; whether the pigs were kept for breeding, destined for relatively short lives or to enjoy the farm into old age. I learnt the horses' 'pecking order' and the reasons for their names, and I loved how the farmer would leave one egg for the broody hen.

This same wisdom can be found in the Book of Genesis. To acknowledge that all of life comes from God, and therefore is sacred, requires humility. However, Jesus' image of the good shepherd is intended to give even deeper insight into the divine-human relationship. It is an insight that demands of us an even greater degree of



humility, the kind of humility only available through Christ.

Genesis highlights the privileged position and role of humanity in creation. But we know all too well, as did the prophets, that humanity has "gone astray" (Isaiah 53:6). It is only because of Christ

that we can so joyfully celebrate "the great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

And is not Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection for all of humanity? If so, is not all of humanity equally "children of God"? Jesus insists that this destiny is also for those in other "folds". "These I have to lead as well," he says. All who live in Christ are destined for union with God.

(Continued page 4)

www.sfxballina.org.au

Twitter
[@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

Deacon: Rev Wilber Tobe

Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney rsj, Email: kathryn@sfxballina.org.au
Email: parishcouncil@sfxballina.org.au

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; Email: 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: 5th Sunday of Easter, Year B: 28th/29th April, 2018
Readings: Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 21; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Offertory Procession
Readers	Sr Kathryn Yvonne Head	Eliza Martin Louise Martin	Warwick Manning Nicole Sullivan	9.00 am ~ Ballina <i>Michael & Lois McNamara</i>
Ext. Ministers Holy Communion	Dan Gubby Karen Sanderson Mick Vella Phil Chapman	Murray Deeps	Cathy Andrews Gemma Duffy Bill Duffy Cathy Campbell	
Sacristan	Phil Chapman	Marie /Jeannie	Monica Anderson	
Altar Servers	<i>John Kearney Allira Bateman Grace Quinn</i>	<i>Tom White Ben White</i>	<i>Elijah Tay Bayden Tay Ruby Hicks</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joe Bonaventura, Bobby Martin-Huxley, Leonard Twohill, Raymond Maloy (*Werris Creek*), Peter O'Connor

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Danny Sheahan, Neville Butler, Arthur Robert Townsend, John Condon, Jach & Marie Flood, Bishop John Satterthwaite (4th Bishop of Lismore)

AND ALSO FOR: *Todd Sheahan, Marie Butler, Mick O'Brien, Eric Hetherington, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Armando Bordin, Cath Waddell, James & Mary Rogers, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Jean Shay, Cecilia & 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: John Heaton, Yvonne Doherty, Andrew Charteris, Helen Johnston, Rebecca & Francis Raikadroka, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Fr Frank Coorey, Moore, Smith, McCowan-Dann, Webber Families, Layton family, Margaret Grant, Max Crosswell, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Len Rix, Mick O'Brien, Mark Harris, Josephine Huxley, Noeleen Gillies, Graham Robertson, Marie Williams, Justin Connellan, Neville Johnston, Rose Norris, Colleen Connellan, Joan Flew, Gregory Thomas, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Catherine (Kitty) Gorton, Carolina Bordin, Leonard White, Gloria Bordin, Joan Schumack, Rita Shipman, Ruth Anderson, Dympna Sheehy, Leo Lane, Mira Paden (*Croatia*), Debbie Fraser, Mary Topham, Margaret Pyne, Bill Shay, Peter Albertini, Julie Benton, Bob Grant, Leisa Wotton, Robyn Hancock, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Michael Everson, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Crena Hemmings, Samantha Anderson, Jonothan Paden, Tony Lannan, Yvonne del-Signore (*Aunty Ponnice*), Kim del-Signore, *Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life 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) to 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: Wednesday **8th August, 2018.** Parent Meeting Wednesday 23rd May, 2018.

RECONCILIATION: Wednesday **19th September, 2018.** Parent Meeting Thursday 16th August, 2018

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday **17th March 2019.** Parent Meeting Wednesday 13th February 2019

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.

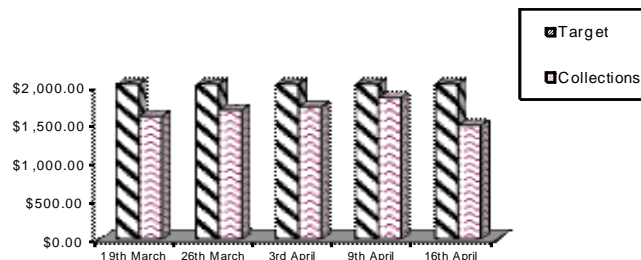
FUNERALS: Whether held with Requiem Mass or Prayers – either in the church or elsewhere – funerals always follow the Church's Liturgy. E.G.: hymns only (see details in Music section); 1 (one) only tribute to the deceased (known in secular funerals as eulogies) of 3-5 minutes (maximum). The personal tribute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

HOSPITAL: Catholic patients in Ballina Hospital are visited by a member of the parish team on a regular basis. Given the difficulty we have in obtaining names of those in hospital, a visit is made to **those who tell us** they are in the hospital. We will only know someone is in the hospital if we are told by family or friends. This is due to the Privacy laws that govern our nation.

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		
First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,251.35
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 500.70
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,469.30
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



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

From the Parish Priest

WELCOME TO FATHER MARC REEVES, S.J.: Father Marc will be with us for almost a month. He is leading the Spiritual Exercises retreat that we've been advertising for the past month or so. He is a Jesuit priest from the United States and is in Australia doing the Jesuit tertianship program, the third and final stage of formal Jesuit formation. His full-time ministry in the USA is in tertiary education at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California where he is currently a Lecturer in Sacramental and Liturgical Theology, Director of the Catholic Studies Program, and Chaplain at the university. He will be celebrating some of the Masses in the parish while he is here. He is very welcome and I know you will extend that welcome to him during his stay.

CENTENARY OF LAST YEAR OF WORLD WAR I: When we celebrate our ANZAC Mass at 8.00 am on Anzac Day, (also 10.00 am at Crowley) we will remember especially those brave young men from our own district who served in the terrible campaigns of World War I, along with the brave women who served as nurses and often gave their lives too. For the past few years, since 2014, we have been moving through the various campaigns of that first of the two world wars with centenary commemorations. The battle for Villers-Brettonneux which took place largely during April 1918, was one of the decisive battles on the Western Front and one that initiated a lasting friendship between the French and Australian people. It is one of the many battles we commemorate during 2018.

From Wikipedia: "The town's mayor spoke of the Australian troops on 14 July 1919 when unveiling a memorial in their honour:

"The first inhabitants of Villers-Brettonneux to re-establish themselves in the ruins of what was once a flourishing little town have, by means of donations, shown a desire to thank the valorous Australian Armies, who with the spontaneous enthusiasm and characteristic dash of their race, in a few hours drove out an enemy ten times their number...They offer a memorial tablet, a gift which is but the least expression of their gratitude, compared with the brilliant feat which was accomplished by the sons of Australia...Soldiers of Australia, whose brothers lie here in French soil, be assured that your memory will always be kept alive, and that the burial places of your dead will always be respected and cared for....The school in Villers-Brettonneux was rebuilt using donations from school children of Victoria, Australia (many of whom had relatives perish in the town's liberation) and above every blackboard is the inscription, "N'oublions jamais l'Australie"(Let us never forget Australia)

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



Parish Notices



ANZAC DAY MASS
this WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL
8.00 am
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
BALLINA

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL
This Sunday 22nd April.

This appeal is for the education of future priests of our Diocese. Envelopes will be available on the seats of the churches. These can be placed on the collection plates at any of the Masses or can be returned next weekend.



SFX CHURCH 'CUPPA'
This Sunday 22nd April,
after the 9.00 am Mass at SFX Church, Ballina.
Helpers on the day would be greatly appreciated.
Everyone is Welcome.



CROWLEY AUXILIARY
MOTHERS' DAY LUNCHEON
DATE: WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY
PLACE: CROWLEY ACTIVITY CENTRE
TIME: 12.00 noon



COST: \$28.00 per person ~ BYO
'HEADLINERS' will present a special performance for your enjoyment.

RSVP: Please book and pay at Crowley Reception by Wednesday 2nd May.
Phone 1300 139 099 for all enquiries.

CATECHISTS MEETING~ Saint Teresa Room ~ Tuesday 8th May ~ 9.30 am.
All Catechists and helpers are encouraged to attend. Morning Tea provided.



CROWLEY VILLAGE AUXILIARY
The next Auxiliary meeting will be **at 3.00 pm Monday 23rd April** in Crowley Education Centre. Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre. **WELCOME!**



COFFEE CRAWL ~ 'The Wharf' Fawcett St, Ballina.
Monday 30th April at 10.00 am. All Welcome
Come along for a chat and good company.

EASTER DUES ARE BEING RECEIVED AT THIS TIME

The Easter offering is an offering to the Bishop and clergy of the diocese. In the same way as all in receipt of an income have an obligation to support the works of the Church through the Planned Giving Program, it is a responsibility of all of us to support the clergy, keeping in mind that they need to eat too. We offer this support by giving to the 1st collection on Sundays and through the Christmas and 'Easter Dues'. Those with Planned Giving envelopes will find a special envelope in the box, and others could place an offering in an envelope and write 'Easter Dues' on the outside. Thanks for your support. The offering does not go to individual priests, but is added to the overall Clergy Fund collections for the whole year for the whole diocese.

(Continued from page 1) Indeed, St Paul tells us the whole of creation “is groaning,” labouring to be free to share the glory of God’s children (Rom 8:22). We too, I our own life journey, know these birth pangs, interconnected as we are with all creation.

In our life journey, we can rely on the wisdom of Psalm 118: “It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in mortals.” Christ is “the stone the builders rejected which has become the cornerstone”, the one who is unsurpassed in humility, the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for his sheep, who unites all humanity and creation with God.

How blessed are we to know the Good Shepherd and to be called to work for unity with the Good Shepherd as our model.

Bet Green

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~ FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES RETREAT ~
Daily prayer at a time of your choosing and one weekly spiritual conversation (at a time to be negotiated) between 23rd April–19th May 2018

Last chance to take up this great opportunity. You are invited to take time out:

- For reflection about life and its many challenges
- To allow God’s word to sink more deeply into your inner self to nourish and restore you.

First meeting this Monday 23rd April, 7.00 pm Parish Upper Room.



Brochure and registration forms are at the back of our two churches or go to the parish website. For further details contact SFX Admin Office on 6681 1048

SAVE THE DATE **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST with BISHOP GREGORY HOMEMING**
 Tuesday, 25th September, 2018
 Activity Centre, Crowley Village

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH ~ LENNOX HEAD
‘APRIL BIRTHDAY MORNING TEA’
 Next Sunday 29th April following the 7.30 am Mass
You are most welcome.



BALLINA PARISH YOUTH GROUP
 is in recess and will resume Saturday 5th May.

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.
Cenacle Marian Movement of Priests: Monday 11.00 am–12.15 pm at 3/21 Swift Street, Ballina.
Prayer of the Church and Rosary Saturday at 8.15 am SFX Ballina.
Parish Youth Group: Saturday 6.00 pm - Mass then to St Francis Xavier School Hall, Crane Street.
Sisterhood: Monday at 10.00 am In Recess until 7th May
Everyone Welcome!



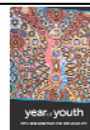
YEAR OF YOUTH

Come Holy Spirit of this Great Southland. Inspire the entire Church as we discern new horizons for spreading joy in the lives and communities of the People of God.

Come Holy Spirit of Youth. Fill the hearts of young people with the hope and love of Jesus Christ; enliven our community with the creativity, energy and joy of youth.

Come Holy Spirit of Faith. Walk with us, as we blaze new trails of discipleship; accompanying young people as we renew the Church together.

Come Holy Spirit of Vocation. Stir within young people an awareness of the Father’s call. Guide us all in finding our place and raising our voices to build a civilisation of love and justice.



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting** will precede the bi-monthly meeting this **Thursday 26th April** 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.***

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 <i>Liturgy with Holy Communion</i>	
TUESDAY	5.20 pm	
WEDNESDAY <i>Anzac Day</i>	8.00 am 10.00 am <i>Crowley Village Activity Centre</i>	
THURSDAY		8.00 am
FRIDAY	12 Noon	

OTHER CEREMONIES THIS WEEK

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

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY	9.00—10.00 am Also on request	
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The Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF) is not subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001 nor has it been examined or approved by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Deposits with the DIF are guaranteed by CDPF Limited, a company established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference for this purpose. We welcome your investment with the DIF rather than with a profit oriented commercial organisation as a conscious commitment by you to support the Charitable, Religious and Educational works of the Catholic Church. Neither the DIF nor the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore are prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority; contributions to the DIF do not obtain the benefit of the depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959; the DIF is designed for investors who wish to promote the charitable purposes of the DIF.