

# St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting a traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



St Francis Xavier Church,  
Cnr Cherry & Crane Streets,  
Ballina

welcome

Holy Family Church,  
94 Ballina Street,  
Lennox Head.

12th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (A)

21st June, 2020

Parish Weekend Mass  
Times

St Francis Xavier Church  
Ballina (45 people)

Saturday Vigil — 5.00 pm  
Sunday — 9.00 am  
Sunday — 11.00 am

Holy Family Church  
Lennox Head (20 people)

Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm  
Sunday—7.30 am

PLEASE REGISTER AT  
PARISH OFFICE TO ATTEND  
a weekend Mass by phoning  
6681 1048

by Friday at 3.00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS:  
At St Francis Xavier Church  
TUESDAY to FRIDAY  
12 noon (45 people)  
Please register with Parish Office

RECONCILIATION  
9.00 am Saturday  
St Francis Xavier Church



Feasts

Sts John Fisher &  
Thomas Moore  
Monday

The Nativity of  
St John the Baptist  
Wednesday

## Living life to the full

Walking down a quiet street one evening, from the opposite direction I see the outline of a stranger approach. I can't make out his or her features, but I quickly cross the road to avoid the person. My heart starts to race, and I become more and more anxious. As I reach the other side of the road I check to see if I'm being followed. I also listen for the other person's footsteps.

But no footsteps can be heard. No one is nearby. Apart from the street lights and the occasional car going past I am alone in the darkness. There is nothing to be afraid of. While no one has been following me, for a few short minutes my body was racked with fear.

Fear is part and parcel of life. It is a typical and reasonable emotion that allows us to sense and respond to a potentially dangerous situation, but it can also overwhelm us to the point that it hinders rather than assists us. At its worst, we can become an anxious mess, trapped by our own harmful and irrational thoughts.

These negative episodes can occur when we encounter people who look, behave and talk differently to us; when we encounter mother nature at its most ferocious during a storm, a flood or a prolonged heatwave; or if we gaze into the mirror and ponder the fragility of life. We don't know what's around the corner. Life can be frightening.

In today's fast paced, digital media world,

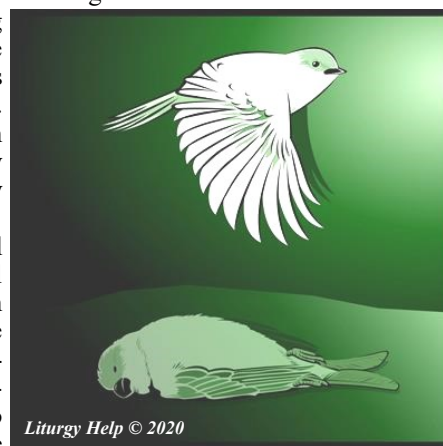
we can experience feelings of being left behind or thoughts of exclusion because we falsely believe we can't keep up with our colleagues. We may feel we're not as successful because our workmates may be younger and more proactive. Getting out of bed and facing another day in the office can sometimes be akin to climbing a mountain, the task almost insurmountable.

These emotions can be frightful and may cause us to consider hiding from the rest of the world. To hide from meeting new people; to hide from doing something new and life giving; to hide from a new and potentially grace filled experience provided by family, friends, complete strangers. Even God.

But that is not what God intends for us. God wants us to live full and productive lives and not to hide away. "For everything that is now covered will be uncovered and everything now hidden will be made clear." (Matthew 10:26-33)

God is continually reshaping the world, both in the natural environment and in the people around us. God made a beautiful world. It is a world we should embrace with full abundance each day as we are all blessed by God's grace and unending love for us.

Mark Chia CSsR  
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Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.

**Catholics from the Diocese of Lismore are dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.**

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

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

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

Library available to parishioners Mon to Fri 9 am - 4 pm;

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Maria Potter, George Paden, Marie Daley, Sandra Mankowsky,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Richard Nagle,

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

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** Reanna Mulholland (*Dubai*), Corazon Accon, Nola Johnson, Kath Young, Barbara Perry, Michael Patch, Gloria Greguric, Pauline McLachlan, Bill Colenso, Michael Daley, Chanice Wills, Julie Benton, Arthur Potter, Shokat Forghani & family, Margaret Murphy, Robert Sullivan, Terry Moore, Margaret Pyne, Kathleen Campbell, Kaia Randall, Darcy Martin, Charlie Clements, Charlie Scotcher, (*Aunt*) Julia Paden, Rev Ray Fishwick, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Kay Harth, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Ousby (*2 yrs*), Jeanie Marie Curry, Fay Kerslake, Darryl Simpkins, Betty Albertini, Hilda Carter, Rosemary Russell, John Moreland, Dympna Sheehy, Greg Shore, John McNamara, Yvonne & Peter Thurtell, Mal Gillies, Cecelia Waldron, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Moore, Smith, McCowan-Dann, Webber Families, Layton family, Fitch family, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Mick O'Brien, Graham Robertson, Gregory Thomas, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Leo Lane, Mary Topham, Bob Grant, Leisa Wotton, Michael Everson, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Samantha Anderson, Tony Lannan, Kim del-Signore, *Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.* (*Due to privacy laws, names are only placed on this list when requested, for six weeks*)

### **THE SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH**

**BAPTISMS:** Will be held on Saturday's at 11.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church. A week's notice prior to the preferred Baptism is essential for preparation and notification to the Priest. Under the current restrictions a maximum of 45 people can be in the Church at any time. Please contact Parish Admin 6681 1048.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** TBA

**CONFIRMATION:** TBA

**RECONCILIATION:** TBA.

**WEDDINGS:** In either church. Arrange an appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please contact the Parish Office if anointing is required.

**HOSPITAL:** If you have a loved one in hospital and require a priest, please contact the parish office 6681 1048.

### **GUIDELINES WHEN ATTENDING MASS IN BOTH OUR PARISH CHURCHES.**

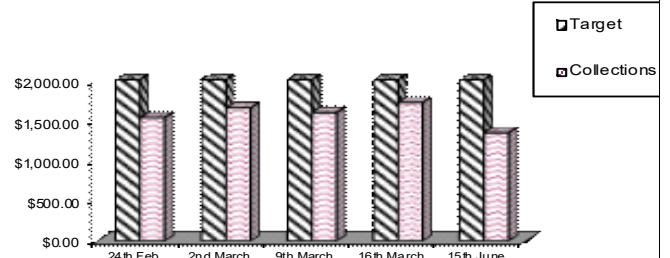
- Ensure you have registered prior to attending Mass by ringing the parish office 6681 1048.
  - Your name is marked off our daily list before entering the Church.
  - Use hand sanitiser provided at entrance and exit doors.
- Sit where a **X** is allocated to comply with the required social distancing rules — two people to a pew (*families can sit together*).
- 45 people maximum in Ballina Church and 20 people maximum at Lennox Head church at one time.
  - 5 x weekend Masses and 4 x weekday Masses are celebrated each week in our parish.
- Our churches are open for private prayer Monday to Friday, please sign the sheet provided when visiting.
  - You are very welcome to our places of worship.

**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese (1<sup>st</sup> collection).

Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter and Father Anselm**

### **THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 496.00
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 107.00
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,340.70
<b>Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target</b>		<b>\$ 2,009.00</b>



### **DIF PAYS 1.10% PER ANNUM**

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

**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 at the Parish Administration Office. Your details will be processed and a tracking number provided. 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.

# Parish Notices



**BAPTISM:** This week the parish warmly welcomes **Charlee Carolina and Dane John Mazzaracca** children of Brayden and Sara. We look forward to seeing the newly baptised and their family worshipping with us each weekend.



## BISHOP GREG'S SUNDAY MASS ON YOUTUBE LIVE

You are invited to view the Sunday Mass live and on demand from your devices. You can access the livestream by following the link from [lismorediocese.org](http://lismorediocese.org), or by going straight to the 'Lismore Diocese' channel on YouTube, or by pointing the camera on your smart device to this digital code:  
**Time of Live Streaming: Sunday ~ 8.00 am**



**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR** are now available for collection at the back of the Church in **alphabetical order**. Please notify the Parish Office if there are changes to any of your details or if you would like to contribute to the Planned Giving Program by Direct Debit.

If you are new to the parish please consider asking for envelopes. Talk to a priest after Mass or the staff at the Parish Administration Office.



## SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our parish extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Maria Potter** who has passed away during the week. A private funeral is to be held.

**REFLECTION:** The demands of discipleship can be very difficult. The strength that is needed to continue on the chosen path despite its hardships can come only from God. We live in a world that desperately needs to hear the call to conversion, but it is a world that is subject to the death that entered it through the sin of Adam. Those who answer the call of God may have to face the hostility of this world, because their values and their commitment to righteousness threaten its moorings. To commit oneself to the reign of God is to challenge the reign of the world, and this can make one very unpopular. In the midst of this suffering we can find strength in the promises of God, and we believe that God is faithful to these promises.

Only half of today's picture is bleak. The other half is radiant with hope. Paul assures us that the gracious gift that God offers us is far greater than the transgressions brought on by sin. This gracious gift is Jesus Christ himself. The gift exceeds anything for which we might have hoped. He is the comfort that will carry us through our disappointments. He is the strength that will enable us to endure the misunderstanding and hardship that come with discipleship. We are called to acknowledge him before the world, and we are promised that if we do, he will acknowledge us before God. There is light even in the midst of darkness. There is hope even in the midst of suffering.

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**THE TRUTH WILL SET US FREE:** Authentic spirituality is always on some level or in some way about *letting go*. In a consumer society, however, we have little training in how to let go of anything. Rather, *more* is usually considered better. Jesus said, "the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). Once we truly see what traps us and keeps us from freedom, we should see the need to let it go. As Meister Eckhart said, "*the spiritual life is more about subtraction than it is addition.*" But capitalist societies make everything into addition.

The freedom Jesus promises involves letting go of our small self, our cultural biases, and even our fear of loss and death. Freedom is letting go of wanting more and better things; it is letting go of our need to control and manipulate God and others. It is even letting go of our need to know and our need to be right—which we only discover with maturity. We become ever more free as we let go of our three primary motivations: our need for power and control, our need for safety and security, and our need for affection and esteem.

Healthy spirituality leads us to true liberation by naming what's real, what's true, and what works—now and in the long run. This Ultimate Reality, the way things really work, is quite simply described as *love*. The wise ones recognize that without a certain degree of inner freedom, we cannot and will not truly love. Spirituality is about finding that freedom. Jesus even commanded it (John 13:34)—though I'm not sure that we really can order or demand love—to show us how central it is.

Most of us didn't grow up thinking of religion as a path of freedom. Instead, we were taught a set of prescriptions, dos and don'ts, musts, oughts, and shoulds—against which we pushed back, like children always do. When we're young, we think rebellion is the only path to freedom! Some amount of structure is important, but it is first-level growth. Far too much religion stays right there, "milk instead of meat," as Paul puts it (1 Corinthians 3:2).

Authentic spirituality, as opposed to mere rebellion, is about finding true freedom. It offers us freedom from our smaller selves as a reference point for everything or anything. This is the necessary Copernican Revolution wherein we change reference points. We discover that we are not the centre of the universe any more than the Earth is. We no longer feel the need to place our own thoughts and feelings in the centre of every conversation or difficulty.

Although we have to start with self at the centre to build a necessary "ego structure," we must then move beyond it. The big and full world does not circle around any one of us. Yet so many refuse to undergo this foundational enlightenment, which leaves them much less free than they want to be.

Richard Rohr Mediations

Centre for Action and Contemplation <[Meditations@cac.org](mailto:Meditations@cac.org)>

**Prayer of the Church:** will resume this **Saturday 27th June 9.00 am** St Francis Xavier Church

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

**Ballina CCR Intercession Mondays** from 10.45 to 11.45 am in the Anawim Room.

**Prayer Meeting:** Mondays 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room.

**Cenacle, Marian Movement of Priests** ~ Ballina Cenacle meets every Monday at 11.00 am until 12.15 pm in the Mother Teresa Room, Parish Admin Centre, Ballina.

Books are available to assist with the prayers. For further information phone 6681 1048.

All welcome to pray for our priests of the Lismore Diocese.



**First Reading: Jer 20:10-13;***A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,  
 "Terror from every side!  
 Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
 All those who used to be my friends  
 watched for my downfall,  
 "Perhaps he will be seduced into error.  
 Then we will master him  
 and take our revenge!"  
 But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;  
 my opponents will stumble, mastered,  
 confounded by their failure;  
 everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.  
 But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,  
 who scrutinise the loins and heart,  
 let me see the vengeance you will take on them,  
 for I have committed my cause to you.  
 Sing to the Lord,  
 praise the Lord,  
 for he has delivered the soul of the needy  
 from the hands of evil men.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm****(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
 that shame covers my face,  
 that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
 an alien to my own mother's sons.  
 I burn with zeal for your house  
 and taunts against you fall on me. **(R.)**
2. This is my prayer to you,  
 my prayer for your favour.  
 In your great love, answer me, O God,  
 with your help that never fails:  
 Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
 in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**
3. The poor when they see it will be glad  
 and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
 for the Lord listens to the needy  
 and does not spurn his servants in their chains.  
 Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,  
 the sea and all its living creatures. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15;***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was law-breaking, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,  
 and you also will be my witnesses.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. [melbournecatholic.org.au](http://melbournecatholic.org.au)

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS**

**Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information.**

- **By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- **By making an EFTPOS donation—  
 1st Collection to Ballina Presbyterium  
 BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: your name  
 2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish  
 BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218 Please ensure you use your Planed Giving number as reference**
- **By completing a form that allows your bank to deduct your gift from your account into the account of the Parish, available from the Parish Office or, place your envelopes in the baskets provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience. Thank you**

**Invest** with peace of mind[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) 1800 802 516

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.