

St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land—past, present and future, the Bundjalung people.



**St Francis Xavier Church,
47 Cherry Street, Ballina**

welcome

**Holy Family Church,
94 Ballina Street, Lennox Head.**

**13th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

2nd July, 2023

*National Aboriginal & Torres
Strait Islander Sunday*



**Weekend
Mass Times
Ballina**

**St Francis Xavier Church
Saturday Vigil— 5.30 pm**

Sunday — 9.00 am

Sunday — 11.00 am

Lennox Head

Holy Family Church

Sunday—7.30 am

WEEKDAY MASS

**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon**

RECONCILIATION

**9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina
St Francis Xavier Church**

Feast Days

**St Thomas, apostle,
Monday**

**St Elizabeth of Portugal
Tuesday**

**St Maria Goretti
Thursday**

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

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



BAPTISM: Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Camilla Evie, Isaac Ali, Chloe Matisse and Olive Margot Mitchell** children of Sam and Rose; **Annabel Quinn, and Ruby Lucille Kilcline** children of Bradford and Jessica; **Jet Mitchell Ortega** son of Adam and Jessica

PARISH 'CUPPA'

**THIS Sunday 2nd July following the 9.00 am Mass.
Hosted by SVdP members. Everyone is very welcome.**



**BALLINA CONFERENCE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
2023 WINTER APPEAL ~THIS WEEKEND 1st/2nd JULY**
Please give generously Envelopes are available in the Church pews. Every dollar can make a difference.

**Online details: BSB: 062 000, Account No: 1988 9862,
Ref No : 43450.** Donations can also be left at the Vinnies Shop 7 Martin Street, Ballina or at Parish Admin Office. Thinking of becoming a Ballina SVdP Conference Volunteer, phn Rosette Leo (co-ordinator) 0490 258 139. **Thank you.**

A NEW LIFE IN CHRIST: UNITING AS ONE PEOPLE ON ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY: Each year, Catholics from all corners of Australia gather on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday to celebrate the unique gifts and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. This year's theme, '*A New Life in Christ*' reflects the hope and promise of a brighter future, rooted in unity and shared commitment to positive change.

As we commemorate this special day on the Liturgical Calendar, we invite you to listen to our voices and walk along side us on our journey towards progress. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday symbolizes our unity as one people in Christ, and we urge both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Catholics to come together across this great Southern land.

Natsicc Liturgy Team 2023



XCC IMMERSION TEAM: A team of 15 students and staff are in Timor Leste between June 28th to July 12th. Please pray for their safety as they travel, and for their connection to their sister school to be strengthened as they share life and faith together for two weeks.

ST ANNE'S LONG DAY CARE CENTRE, SKENNARS HEAD URGENTLY

seeking Early Childhood Educators to work full time or part-time.

Please contact Narelle Dewhurst –
6687 5961 or email: narelle@stannesldcc.org.au



PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042
AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay (long service leave)

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke (acting parish administrator)

Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

Pastoral Associate: John Kearney Email: john@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

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

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

ROSTER: 14th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year A: 8th/9th July, 2023
Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 144; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Dan Gubby Mick Vella	Emma McFadden Marie Sullivan	Mark Biddle Richard Goss	Maxine Cole Leanne Robbins
EMOHC	Tamara Gubby	Sue Hetherington	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Maurice Gahan
Offertory Procession			Greg & Katie	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Paolo Micallef (*Italy*), Inez Susanne Jones, Marj Hobbins, John Moreland, Judy Conson, Elizabeth Walsh (*Ireland*),

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: George Saaib, Betty McNiff, Sharon Lee McNiff-Parkes, Margaret Grant, Anne Moreland, John Timmins,

AND ALSO FOR: Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, 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: Bill Duffy, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windall, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Aoife Stephenson (*Brisbane*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

4th July	Tuesday 10.00 am	Cherry Coffee Club
5th July	Wednesday 7.00 to 8.30 pm	Journey through the Bible St Teresa Room
2nd July	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa' (SVdP to host)
2nd to 9th July	Naidoc Week	'For our Elders'
23rd July	Sunday 10.00 am - 3.00 pm	Women's Reflection Day 'Finding God in the chaos of life'
29th July	Saturday 6.30 pm	Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox
10th September	Sunday 12.00 noon	Parish Spring Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club

Quote: 'When life knocks you to your knees ... and it will, isn't that the best position from which to pray?'

Anonymous

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

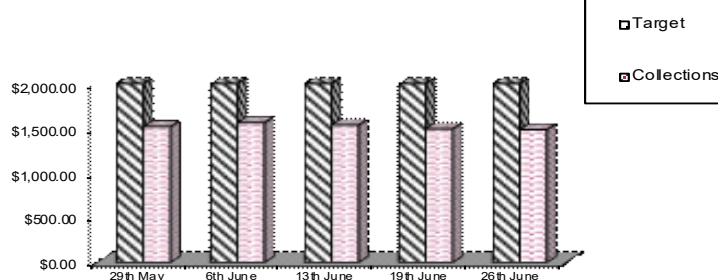
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COMBINED IN THE ONE COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information.

- 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**, place your envelopes in the collection boxes provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience.

DIF PAYS 3.70% PER ANNUM ~ EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST JULY 2023
BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, **L J Hooker** 87-89 River St Ballina 6686 2711 -
Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 754.75
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 379.25
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,484.50
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



NOT AN EASY LIFE



One of St Paul's proudest boasts was that he had worked harder, travelled further and suffered a great deal more than any of the other apostles (1 Cor 15:9-10). In 2 Corinthians (6:3-13; 11:23-33) he catalogues the trials and tribulations he had experienced for the sake of his "children" (6:13), which included "far more imprisonments, far worse beatings, and numerous brushes with death" (11:23).

What made this even more remarkable is Paul's age. Paul would have been close to sixty years of age when he was evangelising the cities of the Aegean Basin. By the time he wrote Romans, from which we derive our second reading today, he would have been in his mid-60s.

As implied by his list of troubles in 2 Corinthians, Paul's career was anything but a "cake walk"; nor was it a career that involved a well-deserved retirement in his twilight years. He was beheaded in Rome

around the year 64 CE, along with many other Christians who died at the behest of the Emperor Nero.

Paul stands as a clear example of one who chose the "good life" over a "comfortable life". He stood up for what he believed. He stood out by travelling, writing, and building up Christianity. But, in doing so, his life was far from comfortable.

Matthew's Jesus similarly warns his disciples that choosing to follow him will involve tough decisions. The irony of the biblical record is that the immediate "reward" for all of those who chose to live a good life is all-too-often hardship, misunderstanding, persecution and even death at the hands of their persecutors. Sometimes, these difficulties will even be visited upon us from within our family circle.

This passage in Matthew will reverberate throughout the rest of the gospel, most notably for our purposes in Matthew 13:54-58, where Jesus returns to his hometown. He enters the Synagogue expecting a ready welcome from his former neighbours and friends, only to encounter misunderstanding and disbelief. Jesus observes that "Prophets are not without honour except in their own country and in their own house" (Mt 13:57).

We might think of this episode as a first century Judaeon form of the Australian "tall poppy syndrome" – the tendency to discredit rising stars whom the mob believes are too "full of themselves" or "take themselves too seriously".

The fear of ridicule and misunderstanding may tempt us to forego making the tough decisions or the right choices in life. We don't want to stand out or stand up for fear of being knocked down, especially in matters of public faith-practice. But as Paul and Jesus testify, standing up and standing out is the only real path to the good life – that is, a life built on purpose and meaning.

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SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Marj Hobbins** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass was held on Thursday 29th June, in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.



New for the Parish: All are welcome to share in **Taizé** at St Francis Xavier's Church every fortnight on Mondays at 12 midday, from 10th July. Sharing the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation, through prayerful Meditation, Music and Silence. Come as you are.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH WOMEN'S REFLECTION DAY
'Finding God in the Chaos of Life' with the Missionary of God's Love Sisters
Sunday 23rd July, 2023 in St Francis Xavier Primary School Hall after celebrating 9.00 am Mass.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

To register please contact the Parish Office 6681 1048 by Wednesday 19th July or scan the QR code to register your attendance.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH SPRING LUNCH

When: Sunday 10th September, 2023

Where: Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina

Time: 12.00 for 12.30 pm

Cost: \$20.00 pp Tickets on sale soon

Menu: Roast Meal, sweets, tea/coffee, drinks from the bar.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for the 2023/24 Financial Year are now available for collection at the back of the both Churches in alphabetical order.

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office. If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: **safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au**

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048

Marian Cenacle: Every Monday at 11.00 am—Anawim Room, Parish Admin Centre, Narelle King Phn 6681 1048

Taizé: Beginning Monday 10th July SFX Church 12.00 noon every fortnight following

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00 am Friday
Sisterhood: Monday 11.00 am St Teresa Room Parish Admin Centre.

Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church.

Ballina CCR : Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

Welcome to our prayer gatherings.



Invest with peace of mind

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.

First Reading: 2Kings 45:8-11;*A reading from the second book of the Kings*

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:**(R.)** *Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **(R.)**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss. **(R.)**

3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11;*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Matt 10:37-42***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me.

Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 4th ~ WEDNESDAY 5th, ~ THURSDAY 6th ~ FRIDAY 7th July****Entrance Antiphon:** All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!**Communion Antiphon:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL****DID YOU KNOW?**

- At the time Matthew's Gospel was being written, Jewish families were being literally split by those who were making the decision to move away from traditional Jewish beliefs and follow Christ.
- Even though family relationships are vitally important, 'the first vocation of a Christian is to follow Christ'.

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

- Share with each other stories about a time when you were made to feel welcome or you offered hospitality to someone else.
- How welcome do you feel in this journey?
- Have some people reacted badly to your decision to approach the Catholic Church?
- What does it mean to lose your life so you can find it?
- This week make a special effort to be open and welcoming in your interaction with others, even if it is only online.

Repeat this often as a mantra this week:

*Lord, as you welcome me,
may I be open to welcome others.*