



# 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.**

### 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

**20th July, 2025**

#### 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 THIS WEEK TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 12.00 noon Ballina

**ADORATION FRIDAY**  
11.00 am to 11.45 am



**RECONCILIATION**  
9.00 am Saturday  
St Francis Xavier Church

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**Feast Days**  
**St Lawrence**  
Monday

**St Mary Magdalene**  
Tuesday

**St Bridget**  
Wednesday

**St James Apostle**  
Friday

**Sts Joachim and Anne**  
Saturday

*We invite everyone to our faith community.*

#### PARISH NOTICES

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025:** Our parish children will receive Confirmation on Thursday 14th August. If you know of a child eligible (year 3 and above) for this Sacrament and does not attend our catholic schools please contact the Parish Office 6681 1048.

**THE BIBLE FROM CREATION TO JESUS Weekly Sessions**  
Next Monday 28<sup>TH</sup> July – Monday 22<sup>ND</sup> September— 5:30–7:00 pm Mother Teresa Room, Parish Administration Centre.  
Register Parish Office 6681 1048  
More information contact Richard Goss 0418 356 527



#### CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS IN JULY LUNCHEON THIS Thursday 24th July 2025

12.30 to 3.30 pm ~ Crowley Activity Centre.

\$45.00 pp ~ BYO Drinks

*Bookings closed.*

*For all enquiries regarding Crowley Care Auxiliary  
Please contact Margaret Savage, President, on 0411 573 770*



#### CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

meeting will be held **NEXT Monday 28th July at 3.00 pm** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. If you are considering assisting the Aged Care please call Margaret on 0411 573 770. *You will be most welcome at any of the Auxiliary meetings.*

#### BEACHSIDE MEDITATION TAIZÉ IN LENNOX HEAD

**Come rest a while, listen to the waves' heartbeat,  
and sit in stillness with Jesus.**

**Join us for a twilight TAIZÉ gathering at  
Holy Family Catholic Church, Lennox Head.**

**All are welcome, including young people  
from primary and secondary schools.**

**Date Thursday 7th August ~ Time: 7.00 pm**

**Contact Bern on 0422 211 224 if you require transport.**



'A little gem by sea'



**St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.** St Francis Xavier Conference of St Vincent de Paul continues their Winter Appeal in our Parish. Please use the envelopes provided in the pews or at the back of the church, and place your donations on any of the collection plates, or to the Parish Office or Vinnies Shop. **Thank you** very much for continuing to support us in this important work.

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

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

**Administrator of Ballina Parish:** Father Peter Padsungay

**Assistant Priest:** Father Erick Quinteros

**Deacon:** Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

**Pastoral Associates:** email: [pastoralassociate@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:pastoralassociate@sfxballina.org.au)

**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Kailani Tiernan Email: [ktiernan@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:ktiernan@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**

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

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

**PARISH LIBRARY:**  
**SCHOOLS:**

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

St Francis Xavier Primary: Principal: Mr Tony Hunter - 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina

Holy Family Primary: Principal: Mr Murray Deeps - 6687 5311- 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Xavier Catholic College: Principal: Mr Lee MacMaster - 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head

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

**AGED CARE:**

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

**17th Sunday Year C: 26th/27th July 2025**  
**Readings: Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 137; Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13**

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
<b>Readers</b>	John Jarzynski Yvonne Head	Damien Kennedy Jean Mackay	Julie McKinnon Kailani Tiernan	Clare McKendry Mary McKendry
<b>EMOHC</b>	Katrina Miles Phil Chapman	Maddy Pride	Oanh Hong Letran Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			Ron Hughes Joan Hollingsworth	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Maureen Borthistle (*Dalby*), Anne Louise Dillon (*Bendigo*), Eris Hackett (*Grafton*) Peter Kearns, Dymrna Sheehy, Father Michael Brady, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME:** Ted Jarzynski, Honor Brown, Victoria Kennedy, Bill Anderson, Coralie Moreland

**AND ALSO FOR:** Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Margaret Moreland, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Bill & Jean Shay, Cecilia & Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all the faithful departed.

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL:** Mary Howard, Vince Newman, Paddy Mulgrew (*Northern Ireland*), Joy Schneider, Loretta Gardiman (*Sydney*), Alisha Nobbs (*Brisbane*), Severina Nady Verdeflor, Gloria Greguric, Steven Kennessey & family, Kevin Sullivan, Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Daphne Sweeney (*mother of Sr Kathryn*), Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David LeFeve (*London*), Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlback & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care,*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025**

<b>21st July</b>	<b>Monday 10.30 am</b>	<b>Marian Cenacle Anawim Room</b>
<b>22nd July</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>Devotion to the Holy Face L H</b>
<b>22nd July</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>23rd July</b>	<b>Wednesday 8.00 am</b>	<b>menAlive Lennox Head</b>
<b>24th July</b>	<b>Thursday 2.00 pm</b>	<b>Season 4 The Chosen MTR</b>
<b>24th July</b>	<b>Thursday 12.30 to 3.30 pm</b>	 <b>Christmas in July Crowley Care Auxiliary</b>
<b>28th July</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Taizé SFX Church</b>
<b>28th July</b>	<b>Mondays 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm</b>	<b>Bible timeline Adam to Jesus</b>
<b>28th July</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Auxiliary Meeting</b>
<b>2nd August</b>	<b>Saturday 2.00 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon with Bishop Greg plus a 'cuppa'</b>
<b>3rd August</b>	<b>Sunday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Charismatic Healing Mass</b>

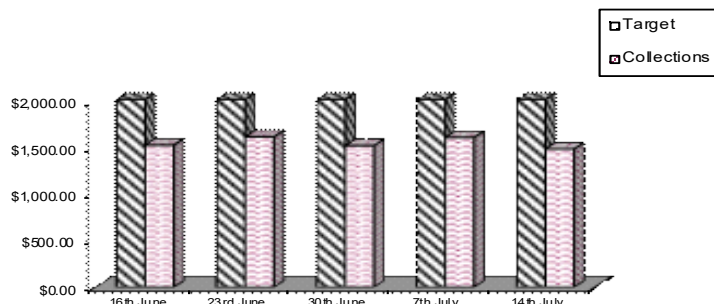
**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterian collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter and Father Erick**

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ \*\*1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COLLECTED SEPARTELY AT MASS 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 use your Planned Giving number as reference.**

**DIF PAYS 3.90% 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 or online [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au)

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,269.15
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 281.85
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,472.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00





## Living in God's presence

The Responsorial Psalm begins with an important question; "Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?" One of the main themes of the Old Testament was determining how human beings, separated from God's holiness due to sin, can once again "live in the presence of the Lord."

In the Second Reading, we have the answer. In the words of St Paul, "The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory." By this, Paul means the risen Jesus, the one true God in the flesh, is alive in every believer. As a result, what is true of Jesus also applies to all of us. Jesus' relationship with the Father, one in which they are constantly present to each other, is true also for us.

In this week's readings, we learn more about what it means to live in God's presence and commune with him.

The First Reading describes how "The Lord appeared to Abraham" with the arrival of three men. Ancient Christian tradition identified these three strangers, sometimes described as one person and sometimes as three, as a manifestation of the Trinity. When the men arrive, Abraham recognises his God's presence right away and welcomes them with an immense showing of hospitality.

But the gospel account of Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary takes this understanding of what it means to dwell in God's presence to a whole new level.

To be clear, Jesus does not criticise Martha for her working and serving. Indeed, Martha follows the Old Testament example of hospitality demonstrated in the First Reading by Abraham and Sarah. Martha's kind of service is what we call a 'corporal work of mercy', where we demonstrate the love of God through serving another's physical needs. However, as St Augustine explains in his commentary on the gospel, "Our Lord does not then forbid hospitality, but the troubling about many things, that is to say, hurry and anxiety."

Jesus, in the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:14), cautions that worries, much like thorns, might stifle a person's responsiveness to his word. Even though Martha was trying to serve God through her labours, being so concerned about serving him was actually a barrier to communing and being in the presence of the one she loved. Mary, instead, seizes this unique moment and places herself in God's presence to take in everything that Jesus wants to give her.

While we live on this earth, we have a duty to attend to the physical and care for others. But we should never let our worries and anxieties take our focus away from the more important, that is, the eternal things that will 'not be taken from us.' Union with God through prayer is vital for every Christian. The love, peace and wisdom that we receive from spending time with Jesus overflows into all of our activities so that we become the kind of person, described in the Responsorial Psalm, who dwells in the presence of God.

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### ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONNECT NEWSLETTER

Do not forget to pick up your **FREE** copy of the parish 'CONNECT' from our Churches or download from the Parish website. Keep up to date with all our Parish activities.

**PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS 2024/25** Tax receipts are now available for collection from the parish office. administration office ~ Opening hours 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR THE 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR** are now available for collection from the Parish Office.



### FEAST OF STS ANNE AND JOACHIM This Saturday 26th July

Our parish would like to acknowledge Narelle Dewhurst and her staff at St Anne's for their ongoing care and education of so many young children within our community.

We are privileged to have such a well run facility in our parish.

**'HAPPY FEAST DAY'**  
**ST ANNES LONG DAY CARE CENTRE**



### VOCATIONS MINISTRY UPDATE

Thank you to all who have volunteered as Vocations Prayer Champions. At 9.00am we have 77 people at prayer and at 6.00pm we have 39 people.

You can sign up to be a Vocations Prayer Champion at [vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au). Pray one Glory Be, one Hail Mary and one Our

Father for an increase in priestly vocations. This month ask someone if they have considered a vocation as a priest, deacon or religious.

Ask them to contact

Vocations Ministry Lismore via the email below or phone 6681 1048

You can register at [vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au) or phone 02 6681 1048. Leave your first name, parish and your chosen time.

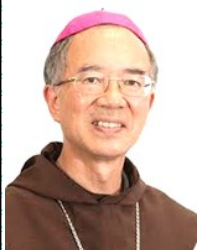
*Deacon Anthony Gooley, Director of Vocations.*

**AN AFTERNOON WITH BISHOP GREG**  
**Be inspired as Bishop Greg shares spiritual wisdom and insights from his deep Carmelite spirituality and experience as a retreat director.**

**Saturday 2nd August at 2.00 pm.**  
**St Francis Xavier Church Ballina**

All parishioners and your friends are very welcome to come and enjoy the wisdom of Bishop Greg.

**Afternoon tea will be provided for all to share to conclude the afternoon.**



### LISMORE CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

2.00 pm ~ **next** Sunday 27th July, 2025

Celebrant ~ Father Erick Quinteros

St Mary's Chapel behind St Carthage's Cathedral, Leicester Street, Lismore. Contact: Valarie 0400 750 072



**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS** Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Family Church Lennox Head.

**TAIZÉ MONDAY 28TH JULY 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANICS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

*Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart through Meditation, Music and Silence*

**The CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale following each weekend Mass. \$2.00 each**



## 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 CDFP 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: Genesis 18:1-10***A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue. **(R.)**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Colossians 1:24-28***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians*

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

*The Word of the Lord.***Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Luke 10:38-42***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****Tuesday 22nd July, 2025 ~ FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said to Mary Magdalene: Go to my brothers and tell them: I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.

**Communion Antiphon:** The love of Christ impels us, so that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and was raised.

**Wednesday 23rd July & Thursday 24th July ~ 2025**

**Entrance Antiphon:** See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

**Friday 25th July, 2025 ~ FEAST OF ST JAMES, APOSTLE**

**Entrance Antiphon:** As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother mending their nets and he called them.

**Communion Antiphon:** They drank the chalice of the Lord, and became the friends of God.

**PRAYER GROUPS IN OUR PARISH**

**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.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday.

**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am Ballina

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

**Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus** Tuesdays 10.00 am

Holy Family Church Lennox Head.

**Taizé:** Every second Monday at 12.00 noon

**Marian Cenacle:** Monday 10.30 am Anawim Room.

**Parish Youth Group:** 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm in the Upper Room Parish Admin Building **Sunday evenings.**

**menAlive** every second Wednesday 8.00 am Lennox Head Contact Murry Parr 0414 399 658

**Ladies Rosary:** 1st Tuesday of the month 1.30 pm phn Pauline 0438435 566

**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office:** Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please contact the Safeguarding Office 6621 9444 or email [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au). Procedures are in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or vulnerable people at risk.

