

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.

16th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)

19th July, 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

St Mary Magdalene
Wednesday

St James, apostle
Saturday

Justice and mercy

In our human way of seeing things, we are inclined to see justice and mercy as opposed values. At the very least, we give priority to legal rights and human justice as the very basis for a workable society. We think qualities like empathy, compassion, forgiveness and mercy might have a secondary place, but justice is surely the abiding social principle.

Even the Church presents us with principles of “social justice” rather than speaking of “social mercy”!

Today’s readings present us with the image of a God in whom justice and mercy meet. Furthermore, the writer of Wisdom suggests to us that divine mercy is at the very heart of divine justice: “You are mild in judgment and govern us with great lenience ...

and yet you never judge unjustly”. God, it seems, cannot act justly towards us without also acting mercifully – with tenderness, love and forgiveness.

Elsewhere in the Scriptures (2 Samuel), the problem with ‘merciless justice’ is evident in the account of King David. When confronted with the story of a rich man stealing a poor man’s sheep, David was outraged to the point of saying “he must die!”. To this, the prophet Nathan replies: “You are the man!”. Nathan reminds David of his sins, including murder and adultery. Now David’s commitment to ‘cold and unfeeling justice’ for others is replaced by his cry for

forgiveness and mercy for himself. David repents, knowing his need for God’s ‘merciful justice’.

Mercy is also highlighted in the life and preaching of Jesus shown in the parable of the sower who was blighted with dandelion and weeds being sown among the wheat. What is he to do? If he pulls out the weedy dandelion, he will also lose a lot of good wheat. He

decides to allow the wheat and weeds to grow together and then, at harvest time, it will be easier to separate the two.

The parable suggests that God knows the reality of the human heart: each of us is a mixture of good and evil. No matter how much we may demand justice for the world, like David, we are all capable of being blind

to our own unjust treatment of others. Jesus is asking us to look at ourselves to realise we are all a “mixed crop”; and to recognise the coming reign of God does not depend on human powers but on divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In the words of St John Paul II – so often repeated by Pope Francis – “the mercy of God is the mission of the Church”. Yes, this includes our commitment to justice, but it does so with the tender-hearted love of parents for their children. God’s justice is ever merciful.

Gerard Hall SM
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Liturgy Help © 2020

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

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: Geoff Stanborough (*Warialda*), Thea Harper, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Bill Shay, Hilary Dwyer, Nora Buckley, Anne Moreland, Bonnie Donnelly,

AND ALSO FOR: *Deidre Cox, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, George Paden, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, 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: Greg Campbell, June Ianna, John Heaton, Cheryl Felsch, 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, (*Aunty*) 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, *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 on or between the two crosses (X) allocated in the pew** to comply with the required social distancing rules – two people to a pew (*families can sit together*). Please **do not** sit at the end of pews.
- 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.

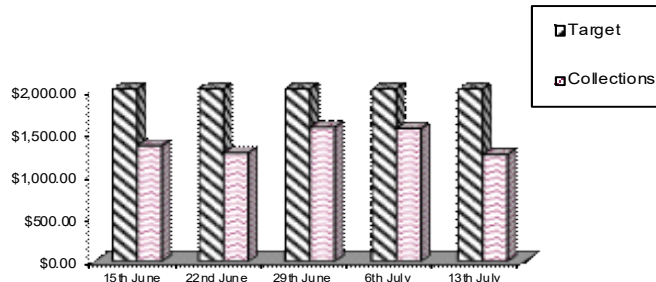
RESPECT is required at all times for ALL people attending our Church THANK YOU

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 (1st collection).

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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 245.85
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 60.80
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,238.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



DIF PAYS 0.90% PER ANNUM AS OF 15TH JULY, 2020

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

PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS 2019/20 Tax receipts are now available for collection from the parish administration office ~ 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.
2020/2021 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES Envelopes that have not been collected from the back of the Church are now available from the Parish Reception Office.



****CHANGE OF DATE****
CATECHISTS MEETING:
Upper Room, Parish Administration Building
Tuesday 11th August - 10.00 am.
All Catechists and helpers are encouraged to attend.
Morning tea available.



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, 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

Quote: We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story: each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is. *Pope Francis*

ST MARY MAGDALENE

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.



Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed women, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples.

Mary likely watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away

and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His resurrection.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22nd. She is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, sexual temptation, pharmacists, tanners and women, and many other places and causes.

www.catholic.org/

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

WHEN WORDS FAIL

One loves someone so much – a child, a parent, a spouse or partner – yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. **Stop!** Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. **Stop!** Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Perhaps accentuated by the constant messaging of social media, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come.

We could pause for a moment to relax and to allow the Spirit to express our plea in a way which could never be put into words.

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Liturgic Help

Prayer of the Church: is held every Saturday at **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 if you would like to join this prayer group

Please contact the Parish Administration Office for further details 6681 1048



First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.

You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **(R.)**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **(R.)**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who

knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30 (shorter version)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, 'Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?' 'Some enemy has done this' he answered. And the servants said, 'Do you want us to go and weed it out?' But he said, 'No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'



Google image

Tares - Darnel

Wheat

The Gospel of the Lord.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

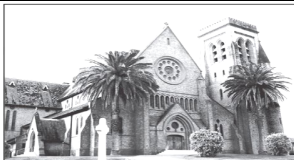
My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me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



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 Planned 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 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.