



# 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.**

**17th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (C)**

**27th July, 2025**

**WORLD DAY FOR  
GRANDPARENTS  
& THE ELDERLY**

**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  
WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY  
12.00 noon Ballina**

**NO 12.00 NOON MASS  
THIS TUESDAY**

**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 Ignatius of Loyola**  
Thursday

**St Alphonsus Liguori**  
Friday

*We invite everyone to our faith community.*

### PARISH NOTICES

**\*\*NO 12.00 NOON MASS THIS TUESDAY 29TH JULY\*\***



**FUNERAL NOTICE:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Vincent Newman** who has sadly passed away.  
**A Requiem Mass will be held this Tuesday 29th July 2025 at 10.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church Ballina.**

**THE BIBLE FROM CREATION TO JESUS Weekly Sessions**  
**THIS 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 :** meeting will be held  
**THIS 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.*

**Everyone is Welcome**  
**Afternoon tea with Bishop Greg**

**Spend the afternoon with  
Bishop Greg as he shares  
insights with us in this  
Jubilee Year of Hope.**

**Saturday, 2nd August 2pm – 4pm**  
**St Francis Xavier Church Ballina.**



**HOLY  
SPIRIT  
COME**

**Charismatic Healing Mass**  
**3.00 pm ~ Sunday ~ 3rd August, 2025**  
**Celebrant Father Erick Quinteros**  
**St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.**

**TAIZÉ ~ THIS MONDAY 28TH JULY 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA ~ Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart through Meditation, Music and Silence**

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

**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

**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

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

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

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

18th Sunday Year C: 2nd/3rd August 2025  
Readings: Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23; Psalm 89; Colossians 3:1-5,9-11 Luke 12:13-21

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Bryan Marriott Kristie Coster	Murray Deeps Amanda Deeps	Margaret Tay Wendy Hughes	Maxine Cole Warwick Manning
EMOHC	Peter Fear Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony .....	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Peter Bowen
Offertory Procession			Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor	

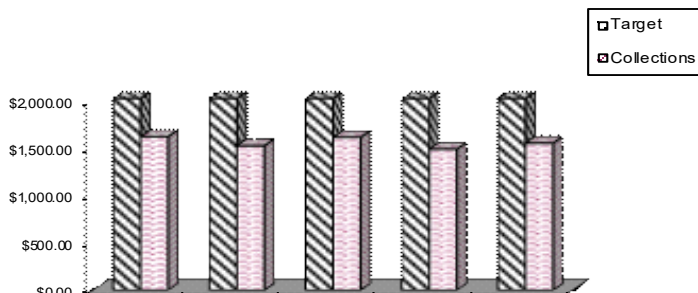
<p><b>PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:</b> Vince Newman, Jeanette Mossop (<i>Brisbane</i>), Maureen Borthistle, Anne Louise Dillon, Eris Hackett, Peter Kearns, Dympna Sheehy, <b>THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS,</b> <b>TIME:</b> Thomas Borthistle, Father John Kelly, Gerry Mergan, Jeremy Warwarek, John O'Lachlan, <b>AND ALSO FOR:</b> <i>Pietro Georgescu, Phillip Dykes, Marj &amp; Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Margaret Moreland, Ted Murphy, James &amp; Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C &amp; S Hosie, Mick &amp; Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Rina, Charlie &amp; James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Bill &amp; Jean Shay, Cecilia &amp; Bill Condon Snr, Stan &amp; Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference &amp; Auxiliary &amp; for all the faithful departed.</i> <b>AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL:</b> Joy Long (<i>Sydney</i>), Mary Howard, Paddy Mulgrew (<i>Northern Ireland</i>), Joy Schneider, Loretta Gardiman (<i>Sydney</i>), Alisha Nobbs (<i>Brisbane</i>), Severina Nady Verdeflor, Gloria Greguric, Steven Kennessey &amp; family, Kevin Sullivan, Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Daphne Sweeney (<i>mother of Sr Kathryn</i>), Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (<i>Ireland</i>), Semmens family (<i>Tas</i>), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (<i>Dalby</i>), David LeFeve (<i>London</i>), Hallie Butler (<i>infant</i>), Lynette Holland (<i>Tas</i>), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham., Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (<i>Inverell</i>), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach &amp; family, Ronald Windle, Jones &amp; Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Jocelyn O'Brien, <i>unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care,</i></p>	<b>UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025</b>		
	28th July	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
	28th July	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation</i>
	28th July	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
	28th July	Mondays 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm	Bible timeline Adam to Jesus
	29th July	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face <i>L H</i>
	29th July	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
	31st July	Thursday 2.00 pm	Season 4 The Chosen <i>MTR</i>
	2nd August	Saturday 2.00 pm	Afternoon with Bishop Greg
	3rd August	Sunday 9.45 am & 11.45 am	Parish Cuppa Church Grounds
	3rd August	Sunday 3.00 pm	Charismatic Healing Mass
	7th August	Thursday 7.00 pm	Taizé Holy Family Church
	10th August	Sunday 5.00 pm	Youth Mass

**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 3.65% PER ANNUM (from 1st August 2025) - 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		
First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 1,183.30
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 306.80
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,534.10
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Date	Target	Collections
23rd June	\$2,009.00	\$1,183.30
30th June	\$2,009.00	\$306.80
7th July	\$2,009.00	\$1,534.10
14th July	\$2,009.00	\$1,534.10
21st July	\$2,009.00	\$1,534.10



### ***Praying and not always receiving***

There are two versions of the Lord's Prayer in the gospels. The shorter version is Luke 11:1-4, and the longer version is Matthew 6:9-11. The two versions are addressed to different ethnic groups. Luke is writing for Gentile Christians who had not learned to pray like their Jewish counterparts whom Matthew addresses in his Gospel.

The Lord's Prayer is Jewish in structure and content and there are similar texts that observant Jews pray daily. An early Christian text from the mid to late first century, called the 'Didache' or 'Teaching of the Apostles', is a compendium of Christian practices which encourages Christians to pray the Lord's Prayer three times a day.

Luke presents Jesus at prayer more than any other evangelist, so it is not surprising that one of his disciples asks the Lord to teach them how to pray. Jesus obliges and the prayer he teaches is composed of five petitions. Praise of God, openness to the fullness of the kingdom of God, a request for daily nourishment, forgiveness from God and by one another, and seeking God's protection in challenging times.

The parable of the insistent friend reminds us of the need for persistence in prayer. However, persistence does not guarantee our desired outcome, so how do we respond when God does not give us what we want. The challenge in persistent prayer is to pray with hope and expectation rather than presumption. The Lord always responds to our prayer but not necessarily in the way that we hope.

Moses prayed that he would enter the promised land with the people he had led for forty years, but this did not eventuate. King David prayed and fasted for seven days that his son would live, but he died. Jeremiah prayed that Jerusalem would not be destroyed but it was. The apostle Paul prayed for the removal of an affliction he called "a thorn in his side" but it never went away.

These biblical examples are reminders that God is not like some cosmic vending machine where we put in our request and our selection appears as we wish. God is not someone we can manipulate, but a loving God who sees beyond our immediate needs and gives us the strength to continue in good and difficult times.

The response to the psalm of the day is, "Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me." Let us imitate the psalmist by not only asking for what we desire but also by giving thanks to God for what has happened in our lives and how God's response has "increased the strength of my soul."

The overall emphasis of the different sections of the gospel is on continuing to grow in our relationship with God who can be understood as a loving and caring parent who always wants what is best for us even if it is not always what is on our wish list.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2025



**PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of  
St Francis Xavier Church,  
Sunday 3rd August,  
following the 9.00 am Mass and  
the 11.00 am Mass.  
*Everyone is very welcome***

**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.



### **BEACHSIDE MEDITATION ~ TAIZÉ IN LENNOX HEAD**

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



'A little gem by sea'

**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.**

### **WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY TODAY SUNDAY 27TH JULY 2025**



For the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly established by Pope Francis and celebrated this year on July 27th, Pope Leo XIV has issued a message of hope to the elderly.

At the beginning of his message, the Holy Father evoked the Jubilee Year to remind the faithful that "hope is a constant source of joy, whatever our age."

He cited some elderly biblical figures, such as Abraham and Sarah, Moses, and Zechariah, whom the Lord surprised in "an act of saving power": "God repeatedly demonstrates his providential care by turning to people in their later years," he explained.

The pontiff noted that by making these choices, "God thus teaches us that, in his eyes, old age is a time of blessing and grace, and that the elderly are, for him, the first witnesses of hope."

He then emphasized that the increasing number of elderly people "is a sign of the times that we are called to discern, in order to properly interpret this moment of history."

The Holy Father noted that "embracing the elderly helps us to understand that life is more than just the present moment, and should not be wasted in superficial encounters and fleeting relationships. Instead, life is constantly pointing us toward the future."

He also emphasized that "if it is true that the weakness of the elderly needs the strength of the young, it is equally true that the inexperience of the young needs the witness of the elderly in order to build the future with wisdom."

"How often our grandparents have been for us examples of faith and devotion, civic virtue and social commitment, memory and perseverance amid trials! The precious legacy that they have handed down to us with hope and love will always be a source of gratitude and a summons to perseverance," he said.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/>



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

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



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[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) 1800 802 516

**dif**  
DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

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 18:20-32***A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:*****(R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.***

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
Before the angels I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
Though I walk in the midst of affliction  
you give me life and frustrate my foes. **(R.)**
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,  
your hand will do all things for me.  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians*

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

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

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

***Alleluia!*****Gospel: Luke 11:1-13***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

*"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."*

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****WEDNESDAY 30th July, 2025**

**Entrance Antiphon:** God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**Communion Antiphon:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

**THURSDAY 31st JULY 2025 ~ FEAST OF ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA**

**Entrance Antiphon:** At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Communion Antiphon:** Thus says the Lord: I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were kindled!

**FRIDAY 1st AUGUST 2025 ~ FEAST OF ST ALPHONUS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** I will look after my sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God

**Communion Antiphon:** It was not you who chose me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last

**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.

