

# 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.**

### 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

**11th August, 2024**

#### 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

**At St Francis Xavier Church**  
**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**12.00 noon**

**ADORATION FRIDAY**  
 11.00 am to 11.45 am



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

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Feast Days

**St Maximilian Mary Kolbe,**  
*Wednesday*

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
*Thursday*

**Holy Day of Obligation**  
**8.30 am Mass**  
 &  
**12.00 noon Mass**

*We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.*

#### PARISH NOTICES

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**THIS THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST**  
**MASS 8.30 AM AND 12.00 NOON**  
**ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH**



*Holy Day of Obligation*



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:  
**Marley Jack Costaganna** son of James and Amber.  
 'Welcome' to the Catholic Church  
**Emerson White** daughter of Tony and Shauna.

#### WELCOME' 2024 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

This week the focus for our parish candidates for Confirmation is:  
 'Life in the Spirit':



Candidates art work will be displayed in the our two churches.  
*We welcome each candidate and their family to our weekend Masses.*  
**The Sacrament of Confirmation will be THIS Thursday**  
**15th August in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.**  
**Please gather at 5.00 pm to be seated by 5.15 pm**  
**Bishop Greg will begin at 5.30 pm**



**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **John Heaton** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass was held **on Friday 9th August.**

#### ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH WOMEN'S REFLECTION DAY

*Finding Peace ~ Franciscan Spirituality* with Caroline Thompson

**Sunday 18th August, 2024 10.00 am to 3.00 pm**  
**in St Francis Xavier Primary School Hall**

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

**To register please contact the Parish Office**  
**6681 1048 by \*THIS Monday 12th August\***

Go to: <https://bit.ly/SFXWRD24> or scan the QR code

**LADIES OF OUR PARISH IF YOU ARE ATTENDING PLEASE BRING A PLATE TO SHARE FOR MORNING TEA.**

*Thank you.*



**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS TUESDAY 10.00 AM**  
**AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD.**

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 Anselm Okeke  
**Deacon:** Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley  
**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney Email: [john@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:john@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:**

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

**SCHOOLS:**

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

**AGED CARE:**

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

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 17th/18th August, 2024**  
**Readings: Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 33; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58**

	<b>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil</b>	<b>7.30 am Lennox Head</b>	<b>9.00 am Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00 am Ballina</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Pauline Fingleton Kristie Coster</i>	<i>Jean Mackay Jack McKenzie</i>	<i>Richard Goss Gemma Duffy</i>	<i>Maxine Cole John Jarzynski</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Trish Bazar</i>	<i>Murray Deeps</i>	<i>Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Mary Goss Ron Hughes</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Margaret Moreland, Ethelene Yuke, John Heaton, Fred Flick, Judy Murray, Father John Kelly, Honor Brown, Nola Cummings,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS**

**TIME:** Anzac Cummins, Ambrosia Ibarrientos, Charlie Clements, Alan Hay, Frederick Hitchins, Yvonne de Signore  
**AND ALSO FOR:** *Aurelia Gardiman, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerlake, 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:**

Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (Ireland), Semmens family (Tas), Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (Dalby), Peter Groom (Dalby), David Le'Fevre (London), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (Syd), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (infant), Lynette Holland (Tas), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (Inverell), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (Syd), David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Maree Doolan, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Please advise if a*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024**

<b>12th August</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>12th August Holy Family Church</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00am</b>	<b>Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus</b>
<b>14th &amp; 28th August</b>	<b>Wednesday 8.00 am</b>	<b>menALIVE Lennox Head</b>
<b>to 18th September</b>	<b>Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am</b>	<b>Quick Journey through the Bible</b>
<b>15th August</b>	<b>Thursday 5.30 pm</b>	<b>Parish Confirmation</b>
<b>18th August</b>	<b>Sunday 10.00 am</b>	<b>Women's Reflection Day</b>
<b>19th August &amp; 2nd Sept</b>	<b>TAIZE 12.00 noon</b>	<b>SFX Church 45 min of simple praise, meditation &amp; music</b>
<b>26th August</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Auxiliary Meeting</b>
<b>31st Aug</b>	<b>Saturday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Parish Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club</b>

Quote: "Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything." *St Teresa Of Avila*

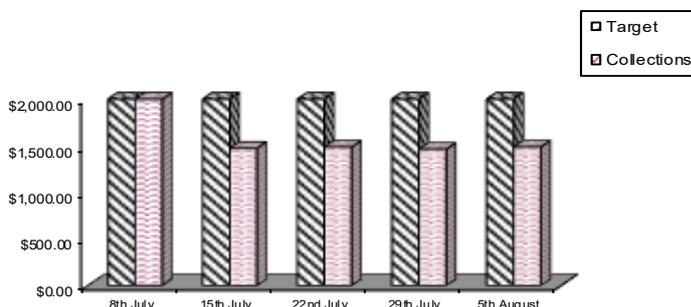
**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father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

**DIF PAYS 4.15% PER ANNUM**  
**BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker 87-89 River St Ballina 6686 2711 -**

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 858.75
<b>Second Collection</b>	Loose Plate	\$ 442.75
<i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,485.75
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## OPENING OURSELVES UP TO GOD

Get yourself a life coach says an online ad and you can 'turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.' At some point in our lives, it may serve a purpose but contrast it with a local parish which decided to have a weekly meal for anyone who wished to come along.

On the first occasion they had nine guests and eleven helpers, and they responded to this potential embarrassment by everyone eating together. "It was coming together and a blessing I felt," said one of the organisers.

We can see here how the ordinary stuff of our lives, eating together, can be the context for something quite unexpected to happen. The life coach ad invites us to take control of our lives and make it happen, whereas in the parish setting, something else happened.

It relates to what we hear in the first reading. The prophet Elijah is in a dark place, alone and hungry, wanting to die. In the midst of his desolation, he is fed by an angel, and comes to understand God is present in what he's living through. In doing so he discovers a renewed purpose. The food he's given enables him to make the long journey to Mt Horeb (Sinai), the holy mountain, where God speaks to him. Desolation, the gift of food, the long journey = in the ordinariness of our lives, quite unexpectedly, we may come to discover the presence of God.

Again, in Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he speaks of our daily commitment to loving one another as Jesus loves us; learning to befriend each other whatever our differences; avoiding the petty behaviours which bring us undone. Our learning to love in this way is enabled by the Holy Spirit, who reveals the unending love of the Father and Son. We're slowly learning to open ourselves to a God who loves us, come what may.

In the gospel, when Jesus says, "I am the bread from heaven," the authorities are shocked. They insist he's not from heaven, he's a local boy, we know his father. In other words, he's too ordinary. Then, amid their complaints, Jesus speaks of his divine origins and reminds us, this is God's initiative, to which we're invited to respond.

We're asked to let go of our securities and our prejudices and open ourselves to a bigger God, a loving God. A little like the moment at the parish meal when they decided to eat together. This is the God who draws us into Christ and into unending life, through our eating together with him. Jesus gives us his life and invites us to do the same – to give of our lives.

Before the parish meal, with everyone's agreement, they prayed, and concluded their prayer with these words: 'Thank you Lord for the blessings you have given us in our lives, especially one another. Amen.' Often, we may yearn for a special experience of God, only to miss the presence of God here, in our lives.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2024



### ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH LUNCH

**Saturday 31st August, 2024 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm**

**Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina**

**Main meal, sweets, tea/coffee in ticket price, drinks can be purchased from the bar.**

**Lucky Door Prize**

**Numbers limited to 100 with 10 tables of 10 people seated.**

**Tickets available at Parish Office \$25 each, please purchase your ticket by 25th August.**



*The Catenians*  
Faith-based friendship

**CATENIANS ARE COMING:** The Catenians, a Catholic laymen's association, has received the blessing of Bishop Greg, to form a new group, based in Alstonville, to further serve the Lismore Diocese and the Catholic men in our Diocese.

**Their motto is Faith based Friendship - Connect with Catenians.**

**Members of the Catenian Association will be visiting our parish next weekend of 17th and 18th August.** At the end of Masses a brief presentation will be made, registrations of interest taken and invitations extended to attend the information session to be held on Sunday 18 August, 6.45pm at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Hall, Alstonville. For more information please contact: [graham.m.short@gmail.com](mailto:graham.m.short@gmail.com) or go to <https://thecatenians.org.au/>



**CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY** meeting will be held on **Monday 26th August at 3.00 pm** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre. *You will be very welcome.*



**Support women to lift themselves, their families and communities out of poverty.**

When Memory was growing up in Malawi, her family lived in extreme poverty – she often walked to school barefooted. A lot of girls from low-income families have no choice but to drop out of school, and the opportunity for vocational training is rare for women. These circumstances threaten a lifetime of poverty – so Memory feared for her future.

With the help of our partner, the Catholic Development Commission (CADECOM), generous people like YOU supported Memory with vocational training – helping her to create history becoming the first female carpenter from her village.

Other women and girls need the same support to lift themselves out of poverty – you can be a partner in compassion and make this a reality.

**Donate** online at: [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)



**TAIZÉ MONDAY 19TH AUGUST 12.00 NOON  
IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

**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.

**Taizé:** Every second Monday SFX Church from 12.00 noon.

**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.

**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.**

*You are welcome to our prayer gatherings.*



# 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.

**First Reading: 1Kings 19:4-8;***A reading from the first book of Kings*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

2. Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **(R.)**

3. Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. **(R.)**

4. The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2;***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

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

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: John 6:41-51***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John*

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

*'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day.*

*It is written in the prophets:  
They will all be taught by God,  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it,  
is to come to me.*

*Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.*

*I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.  
I am the bread of life.*

*Your fathers ate the manna in the desert  
and they are dead;*

*but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.*

*I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.*

*Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'*

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 13th AUGUST, AND FRIDAY 16TH AUGUST**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

**Communion Antiphon:** O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

**WEDNESDAY 14th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST MAXIMILIAN MARY KOLBE**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord. Amen I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for me.

**Communion Antiphon:** Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.

**THURSDAY 15th AUGUST~ THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

**Communion Antiphon:** All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

**DID YOU KNOW?** \*The Gospel of John contains several 'I am' sayings. When God revealed his name to Moses at the burning bush he called himself 'I am who am'. Jesus' use of this term is a pointer to his true identity as Son of God.

\*The 'manna' of the desert experience is indeed a real phenomenon. It is a highly nutritious substance which forms in the early morning possibly from the secretions of beetles which feed on the tamarisk plant.

**MAKING CONNECTIONS:** Do some extra spiritual or religious reading this week to help you 'hear the teaching of the Father' and come closer to Jesus.

- Share a story of a time when you were strengthened or nourished by another person? What were your needs at that time? How did this person help fill them?
- Use today's Psalm response this week: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*



**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office:** Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please speak to your priest or the Safeguarding Office (02) 6621 9444. There are procedures in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk.