



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 (C)

10th August, 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 Clare
Monday

St Maximilian Mary Kolbe
Thursday

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

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Mass 8.30 am
12.00 noon

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:
Thomas Lee Elliott Hatchard
son of Philip and Natalie.

'WELCOME' 2025 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

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

*We welcome each candidate and their family to our weekend Masses.
The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated THIS
Thursday 14th August in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.
Please gather from 5.00 pm Bishop Greg will begin at 5.30 pm.*

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



Holy Day of Obligation

PARISH YOUTH MASS

TODAY Sunday 10th August our parish will celebrate a Youth Mass at 5.00 pm in St Francis Xavier Church. Youth aged from 12 to 17 years are welcome to celebrate and encourage their families and friends to come to this Mass and celebrate with the faith filled youth of our parish.



'WELCOME'
**INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH CANDIDATES OF THE RCIYP**
All parishioners are welcome to attend this Sunday Mass.

'THANK YOU'

To all who assisted with welcoming Bishop Greg to our Parish last Saturday.
To our parish hospitality committee 'thank you' for the delicious afternoon tea enjoyed by all who attended.

**TAIZÉ MONDAY 11TH AUGUST 12.00 NOON IN
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart

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 **PHN: 0438 196 944**
Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

Pastoral Associates: email: pastoralassociate@sfxballina.org.au

Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

**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

20th Sunday Year C: 16th/17th August 2025
Readings: Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10; Psalm 39; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Yvonne Head Peter Fear	Courtney Hyde Michael Piccoli	Annette Reen Gary Reen	Warwick Manning Tony Hunter
EMOHC	John Jarzynski Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony Murray Deeps	Tony Nilon Cathy Campbell	Cheryl Bowen
Offertory Procession			Amy Derrick Frank	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Mary Howard, Vince Newman, Jeanette Mossop, Maureen Borthistle, Anne Louise Dillon, Eris Hackett,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Lee-anne Jarzynski, Margaret Moreland, John Heaton, Anzac Cummins, Charlie Clements, Alan Hay, Frederick Hitchins, Yvonne del Signore

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: Nate Doolan, Joy Long (Sydney), 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 Kohlbach & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson,

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

10th August	Sunday 5.00 pm	Youth Mass
11th August	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
11th August	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation</i>
11th August	Monday 5.30 pm	Bible timeline Adam to Jesus
12th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face L H
12th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
14th August	Thursday 5.30 pm	Parish Confirmation
25th August	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting



RCIA Program Starting Wednesday 20 August

Are you, or someone you know, interested in becoming fully initiated into the Catholic faith?

For more information or to sign up, contact Parish Office 66 81 1048

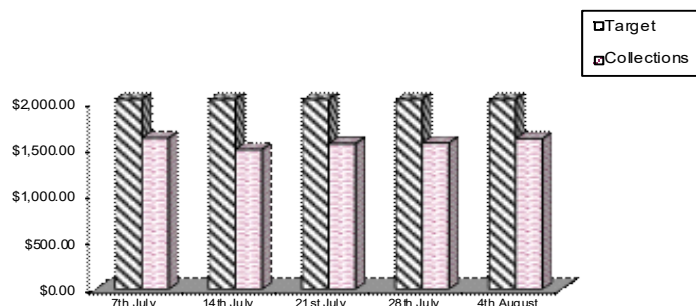
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterian collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,479.00
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 233.60
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,586.50
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



To Be Human Is To Be Blessed

This week we hear Jesus offer a stinging warning. Be vigilant! Live your life like servants awaiting the return of their master! But do not be afraid, he says, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom. In the midst of it, Jesus repeats a word three times. Did you catch it? It is also in the responsorial psalm. The word is blessed. You could say blessed is one of Jesus' favourite words. In his great charter for the definitive way to be human, the Sermon on the Mount, he awards the status of blessed to those who don't appear very blessed at all (the persecuted, the peacemakers, the meek, the mourning, the poor in spirit...).

In Catholic life blessed is probably most often repeated in the Hail Mary: 'blessed art thou among women...' Priests bless the people with the sign of the cross. Parents *bless* their child when she is sick or when dropping her off at school. When someone sneezes, people say, 'God *bless* you!' or just '*Bless* you!' What are we saying when we say *blessed*? More importantly, what was Jesus saying when he did?

We've established that blessed is everywhere in our spiritual and ordinary lives and that the same was true for Jesus himself. The word, quite literally, goes back to the very beginning. On the first pages of Scripture, in Genesis, God creates the world by separating light from darkness, water from land, and so on. You are probably not surprised that our word is there. It appears precisely three times. (God loves that number; He also likes *seven*, which is three doubled + one, with the one signifying abundance, surplus, blessing, just as three is two + one, surplus, blessing...) God blesses the birds and fish on day five and humanity on day six: so creatures of the sky, the sea, and the land are *blessed*. But what are they blessed with?

The story is plain: fruitfulness, abundance, the capacity to fill the creation with life. Humans, who are a kind of a unifying bridge joining the sky and sea on the land, are given a special blessing on top of abundance and life: they are blessed with rule or dominion. On day six, humans are themselves presented as a +, a more, a teeming abundance beyond what God has already created.

Sky, sea, and finally, those peculiar land creatures are blessed with the energies of abundance, life, and then rule. The final act of blessing occurs on the seventh day, when God rests from his work. The creation tale establishes the meaning of our word for the entire story to follow that culminates in Jesus. Blessed means to be given a share in God's power of abundance, life, and ultimately rule.

And that is what Jesus offers us. It is what rest signifies in Genesis and what Kingdom means in the gospel. Blessed means to be truly, fully and definitively human, in accord with God's original and final purpose.

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IGNITE CONFERENCE 25 NATIONAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

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CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY:

The next Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held **Monday 25th 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 most Welcome.**

YOU'RE INVITED



Join us for an **Alpha Taster Evening**

Good food, a short video and friendly conversation.

Date: Thursday 18th September

Time: 5.30 to 7.30 pm

Location: St Francis Xavier Parish Admin
John C: 'I came because I was looking for something to do on a Thursday night. Found it magnificent.'

ASPIRE

Next Aspire - Monday 18th August, 5.30pm-6.30pm in the Farrelly Room, Doyle House.

Young Adults Spiritual Formation with Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD for 18-35 years old. Come and join the ASPIRE Young Adult Spiritual Direction.

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

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.

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



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: Wisdom 18:6-9*A reading from the book Wisdom*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:*****(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. **(R.)**

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-2,8-12*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

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

Be watchful and ready:
You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Luke 12:32-48***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 12th 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 13th 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.

THURSDAY 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.

FRIDAY 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.

The August edition of the Safeguarding newsletter is now available from the Safeguarding stand at the back of the Church.



Our Parish supports and commits to embedding the;

**NSW
Child Safe Standards
& the
National Catholic Safeguarding
Standards**



**Office of the
Children's Guardian**

