

St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



St Francis Xavier Church,
47 Cherry Street,
Ballina

welcome

Holy Family Church,
94 Ballina Street,
Lennox Head.

1st Sunday in Lent
(A)

26th February, 2023



Weekend Mass Times
Ballina

St Francis Xavier Church

Saturday Vigil — 6.00 pm

Sunday — 9.00 am

Sunday — 11.00 am

Lennox Head

Holy Family Church

Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm

Sunday—7.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
at St Francis Xavier Church

Tuesday to Friday
12.00 noon

RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina
St Francis Xavier Church

THIS WEEK
Autumn Ember Day
Friday

Christ's love touches us all

The ancient texts in the book of Genesis, which speak to us of creation and then our fall from grace, provide us with the most marvellous insights into our nature and the nature of the world about us. Creationists who insist only on a literal interpretation of such biblical texts do themselves and us a great disservice, precisely because they fail to grasp the depth of meaning that lies within them.

We believe that the whole of the bible was written under the inspiration of God and has been preserved so that we can grow in knowledge and understanding and deepen our relationship with the Lord. Thus, we are told at the end of today's first reading: "Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked."

The temptation of our first parents that left them exposed was not simply a matter of disobedience, eating some fruit which they had been told not to eat. The temptation was presented by the serpent in these terms: "No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil."

We can put this another way: human beings have certainly discovered the difference between good and evil, but tragically we continue to create chaos in our own lives

and in the lives of those around us by being proud enough to think that this is our world and we can do what we like with it. Doesn't this sum up perfectly the source of all sin and the very nature of sin? The first eleven chapters of Genesis give us a graphic description of the chaos that ensues once human beings try to wrest the world from God. Fascinatingly, the message of salvation begins in chapter 12 with the promise to Abraham of a saviour, and the rest of the Old Testament is the up and down story of the people through whom that saviour would come into the world. On this First Sunday of Lent, the Church is inviting us once again to take stock and recognise that it is possible to heal the hurt of sin, so that we individually and the whole of creation, can be redeemed.



© Liturgy Help

St Paul shows us how the new Adam, Christ, conquers death, the consequence of sin, and offers us new life. And as we listen to the temptations in Matthew's Gospel, we see how Jesus refuses to be lured into the misuse of power and control. He has come to set us free, so that we, who have been created in the image of God, can learn to love again.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR
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We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay
Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke
Pastoral Associate: John Kearney **Email:** john@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 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
Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

ROSTER: 2nd Sunday of Lent Year A: 4th/5th March, 2023
Readings: Genesis 12:7-9; 1-4; Psalm 32; Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Pauline Fingleton John Jarzynski</i>	<i>Wendy Hughes Margaret Tay</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Leanne Robbins</i>
EMHC	<i>Lucy Grant</i>	<i>Julie MckKinnon Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
	Lennox Head 5.00 pm Vigil Mass	Lennox Head Sunday 7.30 am	 
Readers	<i>Murray Deeps Amanda Deeps</i>	<i>Marie Sullivan</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Deirdre Hourigan (Sydney), Patricia Evans, Kevin Daley, Fay Biddle, Michael Harris, Richard Patterson,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Catherine Deidre Cox, Guerrino Gardiman

AND ALSO FOR: Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, 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: Abby Barri (Tasmania) Mark Skimming, Tanya White, Kathryn Nomchong, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long (infant Brisbane), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (Sydney), Virginia Kohlbach and family, Aoife Stephenson 1 yr (Brisbane), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John Moreland, John and Conchita Schroder, 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 name is to be removed if good health has been restored).

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

3rd March	Friday	5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
27th February	Monday	3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting
28th February	Tuesday	10.00am	'Cherry Coffee Club'
		<i>Morning Tea</i>	
2nd March	Thursday	10.00 to 11.00 am	'Presence' The Mystery of the Eucharist
		5.30 to 6.30 pm	
3rd March	Friday	9.30 am	World Day of Prayer
5th March	Sunday	9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa'

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Thursday 30th March ~ 5.30 pm
St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 23rd May

5.00 pm St Francis Xavier Church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 20th August 9.00 am
St Francis Xavier Church

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.

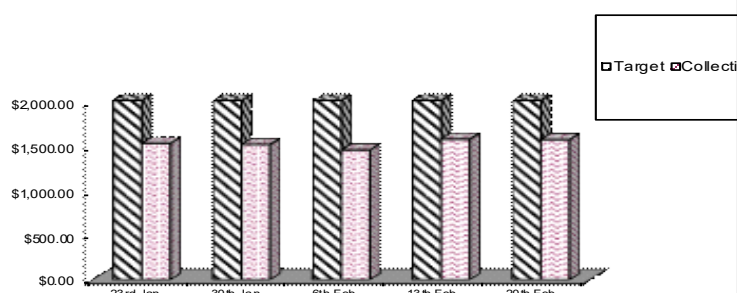
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218
- Please ensure you **use your Planed Giving number as reference**, place your envelopes in the collection boxes provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience.

DIF PAYS 3.20% PER ANNUM ~ AS OF 1ST MARCH 2023

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>	\$ 1,060.20
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 607.25
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,562.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Parish Notices

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



BAPTISM: Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Harlow Rose Craven** daughter of Matthew and Adele



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday's during Lent at **5.30 pm**
St Francis Xavier Church



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
THIS FRIDAY 3rd MARCH, 2023
'I have heard about your faith?'

Prepared by the Taiwanese
WDP Committee



St Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Ballina.
9.30 am

followed by morning tea.
Parishioners attending, a plate of slice or cake would be very much appreciated
Everyone is most welcome.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ~ AGM
The first Crowley Auxiliary meeting for 2023 will be held **THIS Monday 27th February 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!**



All welcome to 'CHERRY COFFEE CLUB'
Ladies of our parish you are invited to gather for morning tea.

10.00 am THIS Tuesday ~ 28th February 2023
Cherry Street Bowling Club. No booking required.



'PRESENCE' The Mystery of the Eucharist

Join a Pilgrimage to Holy Thursday.
Beginning this week 2nd March at the Parish Admin Centre from 10.00 to 11.00 am or 5.30 to 6.30 pm.
Phn 6681 1048 if you would like to join this pilgrimage.
'Inspiring and Insightful'



Catholic Mission is standing in solidarity with the Church to provide pastoral and practical support to the people of Turkey and Syria. Your generous donation can make a real difference.
catholicmission.org.au/earthquake-appeal

PARISH 'CUPPA'
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church
Next Sunday 5th March, 2023
following the 9.00 am Mass.
Everyone is very welcome.



PARISH YOUTH GROUP DONATION BOX AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

Our St Francis Xavier Parish Youth Ministry is a growing, thriving youth group that relies on your generous support. Your donations can help support initiatives such as: Materials for our regular youth events ~ Food, items and other resources for our activities ~ Financial support for youth in need ~ Materials needed for conferences, youth camps, World Youth Day and other events. **If using electronic transfer please direct your donation to St Francis Xavier Parish ~ Ref 'Youth' ~ BSB 082 522 ~ A/c 50960 3218 Thank you.**

BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALK

THE SPIRITUALITY OF ST TERESA OF AVILA

This great 16th Century mystic helps us to understand ourselves and shows us how to pray. Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Thursdays and will begin at 6.00 pm at St Carthage's Cathedral **2nd March and 16th March.**

It will be available to view on the You Tube channel the next day. <https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

SONG OF THE CROSS

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Refrain

**Love lifted on the cross
for me
My Lord, my God, my
salvation
Love lifted high to set me
free
My Lord, my God, my
salvation.**

1. Behold the wood of the cross
Behold the lamb that was slain
Behold your king comes victorious
Behold he has risen again. /R

2. O be exalted, O God
Above the heavens and the earth
For by your cross and resurrection
You have redeemed the world. /R

3. Give glory to the Father
Give glory to the Son
Give glory to the Holy Spirit
Give glory to the Holy One
/R



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT COMPASSION
2023
First Sunday of Lent
25th & 26th February

After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.
For All Future Generations.



You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office:

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone 6621 9444 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

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
Sisterhood: Monday 11.00 am St Teresa Room Parish Admin.
Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am SFX

Church
Parish Youth Group: 7.00 pm Saturday evening, Upper Room Parish Admin Centre
Ballina CCR : Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029
Welcome to our prayer gatherings.

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7;*A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:**(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**

3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Romans 5:12, 17-19;*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!***

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**Gospel: Mt 4:1-11,***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

FOR THIS WEEK'S MIDDAY MASS—PLEASE PRAY TOGETHER

TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY ~ Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation; from age to age, you are.

Communion Antiphon: When I called, the God of justice gave me answer; from anguish you released me; have mercy, O Lord, and hear my prayer!

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH ~ Entrance Antiphon: Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old.

Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

Communion Antiphon: All who take refuge in you shall be glad, O Lord, and ever cry out their joy, and you shall dwell among them.

THURSDAY 2ND MARCH ~ Entrance Antiphon: To my words give ear, O Lord; give heed to my sighs. Attend to the sound of my cry, my King and my God.

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

FRIDAY 3RD MARCH ~ Entrance Antiphon: Set me free from my distress, O Lord. See my lowliness and suffering, and take away all my sins.

Communion Antiphon: As I live, says the Lord, I do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn back and live.



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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 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.