

# 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.**

### 1st Sunday of Lent (C)

**9th March, 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**  
**At St Francis Xavier Church**  
**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**12.00 noon MASS**

**ADORATION FRIDAY**  
**11.00 am to 11.45 am**



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

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We invite everyone to our faith community.

#### PARISH NOTICES



## Training Invitation

Ballina & Surrounding Parish

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> March**  
**9:30 - 12:00pm**

St Francis Xavier Parish,  
Cherry Street, Ballina

For all Church personnel, volunteers, parishioners

#### Agenda:

**Safeguarding Awareness: 9.30-10.45**  
 Learn all about the Diocese Code of Conduct and our culture of safeguarding

**Mandatory Reporting & Reportable Conduct: 11.00 - 11.45**  
 For those who are required to hold a WWCC for their role within the church

Bishop Greg encourages your attendance at the session with the Diocese Safeguarding Office.

Come along in support of the Diocese, as we build a strong safeguarding culture.

MORNING TEA AND A CUPPA WILL BE PROVIDED



**RSVP:**  
 Bernadette at the Parish Office or  
 Christine at the Diocese Safeguarding Office:  
 Phone: 02 6621 9444 (Chancery)  
 Email: cthompson@lismore.catholic.org.au



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will take place *each Friday during Lent* at **5.30 pm** in St Francis Xavier Church.

**The CATHOLIC WEEKLY** on sale following each weekend Mass.  
**\$2.00 a copy (weather permitting for this weekend!)**

**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS** Tuesday at 10.00 am 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  
**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**

**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

**2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C: 15th/16th March 2025**  
**Readings: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Psalm 26; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36**

	<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>John Jarzynski Yvonne Head</i>	<i>Emma McFadden Marie Sullivan</i>	<i>Gemma Duffy Nicole Sullivan</i>	<i>Richard Goss Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Peter Fear Phil Chapman</i>	<i>Sue Hetherington</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony (front) Adam Sullivan (centre) Cathy Campbell (centre)</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Greg, Katie and family</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Gordan Albany (*Sydney*), Graham Smith (*Coraki*), Michael Lyons (*Sydney*),

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** *Peter Tiernan, Felisitas Baraquio, Carolina Bordin, Marie Powell*

**AND ALSO FOR:** *Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick 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:** Pope Francis, Maureen Borthistle (*Dalby*), Kevin Sullivan, Sr Moria (*Bathurst*), Father Bob Bossini (*Fairfield*), Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen, Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Beryl Reed, Daphne Sweeney (*mother of Sr Kathryn*), Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Feve (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025**

<b>10th March</b>	<b>Monday 10.30 am</b>	<b>Marian Cenacle Anawim Room</b>
<b>10th March</b>	<b>Monday 5.30 pm <i>MTR Admin Centre</i></b>	<b>Bible Study Gospel of St John</b>
<b>10th March</b>	<b>Monday 2.30—3.30 pm</b>	<b>Lenten Reflection <i>MTR Admin Centre</i></b>
<b>11th March</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>Devotion to the Holy Face, <i>Lennox Head</i></b>
<b>11th March</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>12th March</b>	<b>Wednesday 9.00—10.00 am</b>	<b>Lenten Reflection <i>MTR Admin Centre</i></b>
<b>13th March</b>	<b>Thursday 2.00 pm</b>	<b>'The Chosen' <i>St Teresa Room</i></b>
<b>14th March</b>	<b>Friday 9.30 am</b>	<b>Bible Study Gospel of St John</b>
<b>14th March</b>	<b>Friday 5.30 pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>25th March</b>	<b>Tuesday 9.30 am to 12.00 noon <i>Upper Room Admin Centre</i></b>	<b>Safeguarding Training</b>

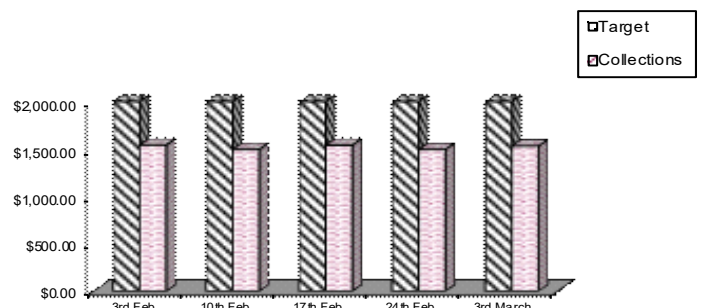
**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father 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 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au*

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 768.00
<b>Second Collection</b>	Loose Plate	\$ 343.00
<i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,530.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## RESISTING TEMPTATION

As we begin the season of Lent, we hear Luke's version of the three temptations of Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry. His responses will determine the direction of his mission.

The first temptation is about food. "Turn this stone into bread." After being without food for forty days it would have been simple for Jesus to satisfy his hunger by turning stone into bread by using his divine power. Jesus does not succumb to self-gratification but quotes the Book of Deuteronomy reminding the devil that we do not live "on bread alone."

Today, the temptation to self-indulgence is not simply about food, but it may be about a lifestyle where our personal concerns are prioritised above the needs of others.

The second temptation is about power over others when the devil invites Jesus to exercise authority over nations. This is a seductive temptation for power and control is an aphrodisiac, and Pope Francis constantly warns us against the abuse of power when we use our roles in church and society to aggrandise ourselves rather than promote the concerns of those less fortunate. Jesus calls us to promote not ourselves but commitment to the needy as evidenced in the ministry of Jesus.

The third temptation is for Jesus to do something amazing by throwing himself off the top of the temple and asking the angels to catch him. Jesus resists the temptation to do something spectacular and reproves the devil by quoting scripture to confirm God's love for those who are faithful. Success is not everything as Mother Theresa famously put it: "God has not called us to be successful but to be faithful."

This does not mean that our lives will be free from temptation, but scripture teaches us that Jesus overcame the devil and won the battle for us and for our world. In the wilderness and on the cross Jesus resisted the devil's temptations. He did not listen to Peter, who tried to convince him to stay away from Jerusalem and certain death. He did not call on an army of angels when arrested in the garden of Gethsemane. Even crucified on the cross, Jesus refused to save himself.

We do not have to fear the devil because Jesus has defeated him. Which means that no matter what is happening in our lives, no matter the temptations, trials and tests we might be going through, we can turn to Jesus, and he will be there for us, to lead and guide us along the way.

We will not be challenged as Jesus was, but we will be tempted to live for ourselves, to exercise power and control, and to focus on success rather than faithfulness. Jesus teaches us that through prayer, scripture, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and service of others we will be able to resist temptation and be missionary disciples proclaiming the good news by word and deed.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2025

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact the Parish Administration Office at 6681 1048



**Music Ministry:**  
at the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass



**Mass Readers:**  
at the 11:00am Sunday Mass



**Powerpoint Operators:**  
at the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass  
& the 9:00am Sunday Mass

& 11.00 am Sunday Mass commitment of 1 Mass a month

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."  
1 Peter 4:10

### GRIEF & LOSS SEMINAR

St Mary's Parish Hall,  
Cnr Canterbury & West Streets, Casino.

Friday 21st March 7.00 pm

Saturday 22nd March, 10.00 am

Father Ray Sanchez explores how people of faith deal with Grief and Loss and how to help others.

Register with St Mary's Parish Office  
Phn 6662 1025

**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.

**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.



Caritas  
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT  
COMPASSION

### First Sunday of Lent 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



#### Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

### BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALK ~ THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Beginning this Monday 10th at 6.00 pm then 17th, and 24th March. St Mary's Chapel, Cathedral Grounds: It will be available to view on the YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

*All are most welcome!*

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

**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.**

**Ladies Rosary:** 1st Tuesday of the month 1.30 pm  
phn Pauline 0438435 566

*You are welcome to our prayer gatherings.*



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our parish community.

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10;**

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

'My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.' You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **(R.)**
2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. **(R.)**
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. **(R.)**
4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that

God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

*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: Luke 4:1-13**

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**

**TUESDAY 11th MARCH**

**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 12th 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 13th 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 14th 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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