



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.**

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

17th 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 Bernard
Wednesday

St Pius X
Thursday

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

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES

'CONGRATULATIONS'

*to the 46 Confirmation Candidates
who were confirmed by
Bishop Gregory Homeming on Thursday evening.*



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:

Mayzie Rayne Jade Collyer
daughter of Bryan and Alana.



**Please join me as I celebrate my Golden Jubilee Anniversary
(50 years) of Ordination to the Priesthood.**

Saturday 6th September, Mass at 11.00 am
St Carthage's Cathedral
6 Leicester Street, Lismore.

**Followed by refreshments at Invercauld House,
163 Invercauld Road, Goonellabah.**

RSVP (for catering purposes) by Monday 1st September 2025
St Carthage's Parish office (02) 6626 0200

Fr Jim Griffin



INVITATION to come and pray in a "Symphony of Prayer"
The St Francis Xavier Parish prayer groups are coming to-
gether as instruments of prayer - 2.00 pm

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST
Upper Room of the Parish Centre
with afternoon tea to follow.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

**Cenacle, Saturday Rosary, Men Alive, Devotion to the Holy Face,
Christian Meditation, Taizé, Catholic Charismatic Renewal**

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 **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: 02 6681 1048; 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

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

St Francis Xavier Primary: Principal: Mr Tony Hunter - 02 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina

Holy Family Primary: Principal: Mr Murray Deeps - 02 6687 5311 - 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Xavier Catholic College: Principal: Mr Lee MacMaster - 02 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre: Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst - 02 6687 5961 - 42 Isabella Drive,
Skennars Head

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

21st Sunday Year C: 23rd/24th August 2025
Readings: Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 116; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Yvonne Head Kristie Coster	Sue Hetherington Jean Mackay	Margaret Tay Tony Hunter	Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole
EMOHC	Trish Bazar Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony Mark McDonald	Oanh Hong Letran Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Offertory Procession			

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Josephine Busutil (*Fairfield*), Dennis Frost (*Kenwell*), Janet Smith, Mary Howard, Vince Newman, Jeanette Mossop,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Shane Cullinane, Katrina Day, Don Hains
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: Ian Lockton, Loretta Gardiman, Nate Doolan, Joy Long (*Sydney*), Paddy Mulgrew (*Northern Ireland*), Joy Schneider, 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 Knightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care,*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

18th August	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
18th August	Monday 5.30 pm	Bible timeline Adam to Jesus
19th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face L H
19th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
20th August	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
25th August	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation</i>
25th August	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
30th August	Saturday 2.00 pm	Symphony of Prayer

**SOLEMN PROFESSION OF
SR THERESE - MARIE OF THE CHILD JESUS**

Mother and Sisters of the Carmelite Monastery cordially invite you to the Solemn Profession of Sr Therese-Marie of the Child Jesus on **Monday, 1st September at 11.00 am at the Carmelite Monastery.**
 Bishop Greg Homeming will be the celebrant.

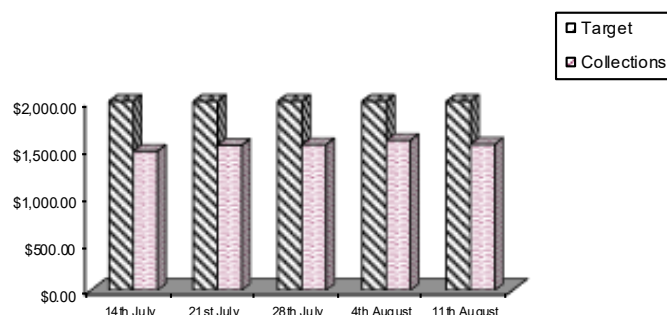
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter and Father 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 - BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker
 87-89 River St Ballina 026686 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>	\$ 1,304.10
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 357.35
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,545.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



God's fire purifies our hearts

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ, What do we expect Jesus to bring into our lives? While we may list many things, we surely hope that our Saviour will bring peace and blessings to every one of us as His disciples and to the world.

We believe that our God is Emmanuel, God with us, and that He is almighty and His love everlasting. We believe that He creates us according to His image and likeness; and that He calls each to grow as a person of faith and into the fullness of our humanity. Alas, what we see happening in our world today are wars, suffering, ongoing violence, increased injustice, inhumane conditions, and destruction of the environment.

In this week's gospel Jesus' teaching seems not to meet our expectations of peace and joy. Indeed, Jesus' words are rather startling. We hear Jesus say, "I have come to bring fire to the earth. . . Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!" It sounds harsh and it unsettles us. Certainly, we know that Jesus himself experienced antagonism, rejection and a violent death.

The fire that Jesus sets on the earth is a purifying fire. It may indeed cause pain and suffering, as it did for Jesus. We are called to live our faith in Jesus Christ, allowing His life to penetrate ours as we continue to witness the gospel, despite whatever difficulties confront us. But Jesus would have us clearly realise that our commitment as His followers will sometimes meet with tension, disagreement, antagonism and even violence. We are to persevere nonetheless, and to hold true and firm to our faith in Jesus and the defence of His teachings.

Jesus continues, "There is a baptism I must receive and great is my distress till it is over." Jesus, having become one like us in all things but sin, knows our human condition very deeply. For love of us and for our salvation, Jesus bore the cross on His shoulders and carried it to His crucifixion, so that we may receive and celebrate new life through His resurrection.

The peace that Jesus wants to share with us is the peace of love coming from God, not like the peace the world offers. It is a peace the world cannot give.

The fire the Lord has brought into the world is the fire that cleanses and purifies us, enabling us to move forward courageously and without fear to share God's love and peace, despite whatever opposition we may encounter.

Jesus brings the Good News that God is always with us. Saint Paul encourages us, "Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith." So, stay firm in our faith and remain united with the Lord, because hope in the Lord never disappoints us.

God bless you all. Amen.

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RCIA PROGRAM STARTING THIS WEDNESDAY 20TH 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 02 6681 1048*



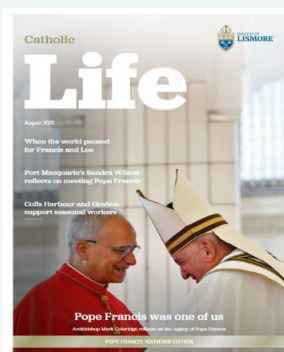
CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY:

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.

Read the new issue



Scan to read now

lismorediocese.org/catholiclife/

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

Cheryl B: 'Alpha has renewed my faith.'



Maxine: 0429 669 029

Peter: 0421 518 371



**Please continue to be mindful and
respectful of each other and do not attend
Mass if you are unwell or have any
cold/flu-like symptoms.**

The dispensation regarding attending Mass remains.

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.

Would you like to know more about **volunteering** to take
Holy Communion to **aged care home residents**?

Please join the aged care volunteers for a coffee on
Tuesday 26th August at 3.00pm at the Bowling Club.
Contact Pauline 0438 435 566 for further information.

**Quote: "Kindness is a language which the deaf
can hear and the blind can see".**

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: Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Lord, come to my aid!**

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **(R.)**

2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. **(R.)**

3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **(R.)**

4. As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! **(R.)**

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

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

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Luke 12:49-53***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 19th AUGUST**

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere

Communion Antiphon: With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

WEDNESDAY 20th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST BEARNARD

Entrance Antiphon: Filled by the Lord with a spirit of understanding, blessed Bernard ministered streams of clear teaching to the people of God

Communion Antiphon: As the Father loves me, so I also love you; remain in my love, says the Lord.

THURSDAY 21st AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST PIUS X

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord chose him for himself as high priest, and, opening his treasure house, made him rich in all good things

Communion Antiphon: The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for his sheep

FRIDAY 22nd AUGUST ~ THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Entrance Antiphon: At your right stands the queen in robes of gold, finely arrayed.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are you who have believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord will be fulfilled.

PRAYER GROUPS IN OUR PARISH

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 02 6681 1048.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00 am Friday.

Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am Ballina

CCR: Monday 1.45 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029.

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus Tuesdays 10.00 am Holy

Family Church Lennox Head.

Taizé: Every second Monday at 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.

menAlive every second Wednesday 8.00 am Lennox Head Contact Murry Parr 0414 399 658

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

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

To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au.

or the Ballina Parish Administration office : Phn 02 6681 1048 : email admin@sfxballina.org.au

A copy of the latest Safeguarding Newsletter is available from the Safeguarding information stand in the foyer of the Church.

