

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.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

27th August, 2023

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

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

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY MASS 12.00 noon

RECONCILIATION

9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina
St Francis Xavier Church

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Feast Days

St Augustine

Monday

The Passion of
St John the Baptist

Tuesday

Spring Ember Day

Friday

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

BAPTISM: Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Harli Ambrose Brandscheid** son of Joshua and Keira.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH SPRING LUNCH Sunday 10th September, 2023 ~ Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina ~ 12.00 for 12.30 pm ~ \$20.00 pp ~ Roast Meal, sweets, tea/coffee. Lucky Door prize. Meals for children provided at \$10.00 per child.

Family groups most welcome.

Tickets to be purchased by Monday 4th September to assist with catering. Tickets on sale following each weekend Mass, and weekdays from the Parish Office, where eftpos payments can be made. Drinks from the bar not included in ticket price.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ~ The next Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be **This Monday 28th ~ August 2.00 pm**, Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street. Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre. **You will be most Welcome!**

Please note this will be the last of the 2.00 pm meetings for winter.

We will return to 3.00 pm from September 25th.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2023-24

Listen, Learn, Love

A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples



Social Justice Sunday
'Listen, Learn, Love'
A new engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

The celebration of Social Justice Sunday is a long tradition in the Catholic Church in Australia. For almost every year since 1940, our bishops have joined together to issue a major justice statement. It is now issued on the last Sunday of August. The Social Justice Statement is approved and issued in the name of the whole bishops' conference. It is hoped that these statements will inspire reflection and action throughout the whole year.

You will find the 2023-2024 Social Justice Statement - **Listen, Learn Love** at the back of the our two churches or visit the website:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>



PARISH 'CUPPA' ~ FATHERS' DAY

Next Sunday 3rd September following the 9.00 am Mass,
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier, Church.



Everyone is very welcome

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 (long service leave)

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke (acting parish administrator)

Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

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

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

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

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

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

ROSTER: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 2nd/3rd September, 2023

Readings: Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 62; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Jeanette Wilkins Kristie Coster	Angela Beglin Marie Sullivan	Richard Goss Margaret Tay	Helen Cooney Warwick Manning
EMOHC	Trish Bazar	Kevin Sullivan	Gemma Duffy Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Offertory Procession			Jo Hurley Joan Hollingsworth	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Shane Cullinane, Colleen Curtin (Sydney), Anzac Cummings OAM, Vince Kean,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

AND ALSO FOR: Marj Hobbins, John Patrick Moreland, 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, 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: Annemarie Higgins, Kaysie Arnadall, Louise King, Michael Lyons (Sydney), Bill Duffy, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (Inverell), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (Tasmania) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (Sydney), Aoife Stephenson (Brisbane), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, 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

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

28th August	Monday 2.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
29th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee Club
3rd September	All Sunday Masses	Collection for Sick & Retired clergy
3rd September	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Cuppa Fathers' Day
4th & 18th September	Monday 12.00 noon	Taize ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted.
5th/7th September	Tuesday/Thursday 7.00 pm/10.30 am	The Bible Timeline
7th September	Thursday 3.00 pm - 4.30 pm	Wine & Cheese afternoon @ Crowley
10th September	Sunday 12.00 noon Tickets on sale after each weekend Mass and weekdays from Parish Admin Office.	Parish Spring Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club
12th September	Tuesday 7.30 am	Parish Men's Breakfast @ Crowley

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.

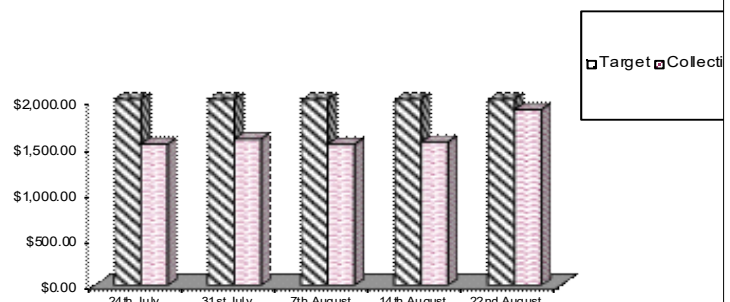
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- 2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish 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 3.70% 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

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 943.60
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 590.10
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,887.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



A community built on rock: Jesus takes his closest followers to Caesarea Philippi to have an important conversation. Two key things happen. Firstly, the disciples experience a moment of real insight in their understanding of Jesus. Jesus asks Simon Peter: "But who do you say that I am?" With great trust and a growing faith, Peter replies: "You are the Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God."

For centuries the Jews longed for the coming of the messiah. By calling Jesus the messiah, Peter proclaims that Jesus is the one for whom they had waited. Jesus is the one who will fulfill the hopes and aspirations of Israel. Jesus is God's anointed one; the one in whom God's Spirit dwells.

Peter watched Jesus embrace people; especially the sick, the poor, the sinners. He witnessed firsthand Jesus loving people into life. He saw the face of God in the face and actions of Jesus. Ultimately, Peter received the gift of God's revelation, which allowed him to understand more clearly who Jesus is, what is Jesus' mission and to recognise the significance of Jesus' special relationship with His Father.

In the verses that follow today's gospel, Jesus challenges the disciples to an even deeper understanding, by instructing them about what kind of Messiah he is and what this will demand of them. Accepting Jesus as messiah means that they must also be ready to accept that He will 'suffer with' people, especially the outcasts; but that God will ultimately vindicate His beloved Son.

Secondly, Jesus establishes his disciples as a community. In Mt 7:24, Jesus told his disciples to build on rock. It's on the rock (Greek, *petra*; Aramaic *kepha*) that is Peter (Greek: *petros*; Aramaic *kepha*), that Jesus builds His house; a community of disciples, called the "church".

Peter is not "rock" because of personal qualities of steadfastness or reliability – remember that later on, Peter not only denies Jesus, but deserts him! Rather, Peter is "rock" because of the insight of faith which God has communicated to him. Built on this "rock", the Church will be a community that will survive attempts to destroy it and its members will not be confined to the dead, but rather resurrection awaits them.

The church which Jesus is establishing is for Israel and the Gentile world; for anyone who is willing to listen to His word, live it and believe in Him. Peter is given the keys not to close but to open and as first among the apostles, he has the responsibility to carry on Jesus' mission of preaching and teaching the good news.

As we gather in our own communities of faith, Peter is our model as we continue the mission of Jesus in our time; saying in our own way and our own words, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2023

FATHERS' DAY COLLECTION will be held **next weekend 2nd/3rd September** to assist the Bishop in caring for our sick and retired priests of the Diocese. Envelopes will be available in both churches.

Come and Taste THE BIBLE TIMELINE starting with Adam & Eve, Noah... Abraham & Sarah, Isaac and Jacob. Tuesday 5th September at 7.00 pm or Thursday 7th September at 10.30 am in the St Teresa Room. Phone Maxine 0429 669 029 for further information or just come along.



Office of the
Children's Guardian

ATTENTION PARISH VOLUNTEERS

**FREE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING PRESENTED BY
THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S GUARDIAN**

MONDAY 4th September 2023 ~ 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

'Introduction to the Child Safe Standards'

'Developing a Risk Management Plan for the Faith Sector' ~ 1.00 to 3.00 pm

Location: St Francis Xavier Parish—Upper Room, 53-57 Cherry Street, Ballina.

Open to clergy, volunteers for our parish and staff of catholic workplaces.

Contact the Parish Office 6681 1048 to register.

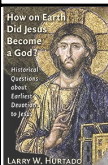


'COME AND SEE' ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC OR LEARNING ABOUT OUR FAITH TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST PLEASE CALL 0438 435 566



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY invite you to a **WINE & CHEESE AFTERNOON** at Crowley Activity Centre on Thursday 7th September from 3.00 to 4.30 pm—\$25.00 per person includes share cheese platters with wine or soft drink. Live music will be on hand for your enjoyment.

BALLINA CATHOLIC CHURCH MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST ~ TUESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER
7.30 am—9.00 am ~ Crowley Activity Centre ~ \$25.00 pp ~ Buffet Style Breakfast. For catering purposes please register by Friday 8th September at Crowley 1300 139 099
Payment can be made at Crowley Reception on the day or visit Crowley in office hours 8.30 am—5.00 pm



BOOK CLUB: Deacon Anthony is starting a theological book club and is looking forward for interested people to sign up as participants and hosts. It's like a regular book club in that we rotate hosts but instead of a book per month it is a chapter per month of a book. Deacon Anthony facilitates the group discussion. The first book is by Larry Hurtado, **'How on Earth did Jesus become God?'**, it's fascinating. We plan to start Thursday 7th September at 7.30 pm. Leave your name, phone and email at the parish office 6681 1048. **All are invited.**

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. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: **safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au**



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: Isaiah 22:19-23;*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Rom 11:33-36*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

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

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold it against it.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**TUESDAY 29th AUGUST~ PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Entrance Antiphon: I spoke, O Lord, of your decrees before kings, and was not confounded; I pondered your commands and loved them greatly.

Communion Antiphon: John answered and said, He must increase; but I must decrease.

WEDNESDAY 30th ~ THURSDAY 31st AUGUST ~ & FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Communion Antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Caesarea Philippi is north of the region of Galilee. It was given to Herod the Great by Augustus Caesar and Herod built a white stone temple there and dedicated it to his patron. After Herod's death it passed into the hands of his son, Philip, who built his capital here – thus the name, Caesarea Philippi.
- The great stone temple built by Herod was at a natural spring which is the source of the Jordan River. The temple was dedicated to the Roman god of nature, Pan. The cave of Pan is housed in a high natural edifice of rock and it was here that Jesus reputedly told Peter, that he, too, would be a rock on which the Church is built – not dedicated to a pagan god but to the one true God.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- 'Who do you say I am?' If you were to be asked this question by Jesus, how might you respond today?
- In this passage, Jesus speaks of the Church. What are your feelings about the Church at this point in your journey?
- Recall and describe for someone else in the group a time when you were given special authority or responsibility. How did you feel about this special position? How did you carry out the task?
- What are your responsibilities now that you have elected to follow Christ? How will being a disciple of Jesus influence the way you use authority: in your home? in your workplace? in the daily decisions you make? Exercise that responsibility this week. Repeat these words often this week:

You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.