



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 (C)

24th 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 Monica
Wednesday

St Augustine
Thursday

**The Passion of
St John the Baptist**
Friday

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING A CATHOLIC RESPONSE

All parishioners are welcome to learn about the recently introduced Voluntary Assisted Dying in NSW and the Catholic response. The session will cover three things:

- Catholic commitment to quality end-of-life care,
- an outline of the NSW law
- global perspectives on assisted dying.

The presenter is Rev. Dr. Anthony Gooley, who is a deacon in Ballina parish and a theologian. He has worked for a time in the Catholic health sector and taught theological ethics.

Day and date: Wednesday, September 3rd

Location: Parish Administration Building - Upper Room,

Time: commencing at 5.30 pm and concluding at 7.30 pm.

Please register by calling 02 6681 1048 or email admin@sfxballina.org.au to help us plan for hospitality.



INVITATION to come and pray in a "Symphony of Prayer"
The St Francis Xavier Parish prayer groups are coming together 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**



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY:

The next Meeting for Crowley
Auxiliary will be held **this 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.

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.

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

22nd Sunday Year C: 30th/31st August 2025
Readings: Sirach 3:17-20,28-29; Psalm 67; Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24; Luke 14:1,7-14

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|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | 5.30 pm Saturday Vigil | 7.30 am Lennox Head | 9.00 am Ballina | 11.00 am Ballina |
| Readers | XCC XCC | Mark McDonald Damien Kennedy | Richard Goss Gary Reen | Brendon Clarke Kailani Tiernan |
| EMOHC | Peter Fear Phil Chapman | Deacon Anthony Maddy Pride | Annette Reen Cathy Campbell | Maxine Cole |
| Offertory Procession | | | Greg, Katie and Family | |

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| PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Paddy Roache (<i>Ireland</i>), John Knightly (<i>Inverell</i>), Josephine Busutil (<i>Fairfield</i>), Dennis Frost (<i>Kenwell</i>), Janet Smith, Mary Howard, THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Harry Brugiglio, Todd Sheahan AND ALSO FOR: Katrina Day, 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 (<i>Sydney</i>), Paddy Mulgrew (<i>Northern Ireland</i>), Joy Schneider, Alisha Nobbs (<i>Brisbane</i>), 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, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (<i>Ireland</i>), Semmens family (<i>Tas</i>), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (<i>Dalby</i>), David Le'Veve (<i>London</i>), Hallie Butler (<i>infant</i>), Lynette Holland (<i>Tas</i>), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston,, 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, <i>unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Please</i> | UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025 | | |
| | 25th August | Monday 10.30 am | Marian Cenacle Anawim Room |
| | 25th August | Monday 3.00 pm | Crowley Auxiliary Meeting |
| | 26th August | Tuesday 10.00 am | Devotion to the Holy Face L H |
| | 26th August | Tuesday 10.00 am | 'Cherry' Coffee |
| | 30th August <i>Holy Family Lennox Head</i> | Saturday 9.30 am 6.30 pm <i>All Welcome</i> | Committee Meeting L H Dinner @ Club Lennox |
| | 30th August | Saturday 2.00 pm | Symphony of Prayer |
| | 3rd September | Wednesday 5.30 pm | Voluntary Assist-ed Dying meeting Upper Room Parish Admin |
| 7th September | | Sunday (<i>Fathers' Day</i>) | Parish Cuppa <i>Following 9.00 am and the 11.00 am Masses in our Church grounds</i> |
| 18th September | | Thursday 5.30 to 7.30 pm | Alpha Parish Admin |

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 | Support of our Diocese Priests | \$ 1,025.50 |
| Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund | Loose Plate | \$ 273.70 |
| | Planned Giving Envelopes Collected | \$ 1,436.00 |
| Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target | | \$ 2,009.00 |

Target

Collections

| Date | Target | Collections |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 21st July | \$2,009.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| 28th July | \$2,009.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| 4th August | \$2,009.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| 11th August | \$2,009.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| 18th August | \$2,009.00 | \$1,500.00 |

Entering the narrow gate

This has been a momentous year for the Christian, and particularly the Catholic community, with the death of Pope Francis and the election of Pope Leo XIV. From the start Pope Leo has stressed that his role as successor of Saint Peter is not to lord it over the Church or the world, but to be at everyone's service.

Pope Leo XIV's focus might prove a helpful backdrop as we strive to understand the teaching of Jesus in this week's gospel. There was a time, not that long ago, when many Catholics tended to feel very superior about their faith and their interpretation of the teaching that "outside the Church there is no salvation". The old joke suggested that Catholics had to be confined to a particular corner of heaven because they believed they were the only ones there!

A similar mentality existed among God's Chosen People in the Old Testament, but note how the Prophet Isaiah in today's first reading warns them not to be presumptuous. The Lord would reach out to everyone: "I am coming to gather the nations of every language." Jesus squarely confronts the same issue, warning those who are tempted to compromise their integrity by turning to evil, thereby failing to respond to his invitation to love and serve his Father. He reminds them that it is no use appealing to claim allegiance because he had once dined with them and he had taught in their streets. Likewise, it is not enough for us to claim that we are Christians and then live contrary to the example Jesus has set before us.

The letter to the Hebrews reminds us that following Christ will demand a lot from us and be painful, but those experiences can teach us a lot and ultimately enable us to imitate Christ, who even as he died on the cross, prayed: "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do."

As in the days of Isaiah and Jesus, in the 21st century we are still confronted with the consequences of real evil in the world. Human beings continue to compromise the truth in the belief that they can control the world, not accepting that the world is not theirs, but belongs to God. They remain unmoved by the sufferings of others, their minds closed to the message that God knows no boundaries, but is calling out to men and women of every nation under heaven.

At the same time, we are seeing that forces for good – love and compassion, reconciliation and peace – can still challenge the evil and that those willing to suffer for the truth and enter by the narrow gate can occasionally move mountains. As to how many will eventually enter by the narrow gate? I suggest we leave that to God, while striving with all our hearts to live our own lives without compromise and squeeze in!

Timothy J Buckley CSsR © Majellan Media 2025

CATHOLIC LIFE MAGAZINE IS NOW AVAILABLE in the foyer of the Church please take your FREE copy and also ONLINE lismorediocese.org/catholiclife



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 Leycester 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



HOLY COMMUNION

Let US PREPARE ourselves –heart, mind, body and soul—for this holy gift.

Christ's invitation is to 'Take this, all of you, and eat it', so the current teaching of the Church is that, as soon as you receive the blessed host, please consume it entirely.

(GRIM 161)

If a person is not fully initiated into the Church and therefore not able to receive Holy Communion, he or she may join the Communion procession. On reaching the priest or minister this person indicates by crossing arms across the chest that they are not able to participate in receiving Holy Communion but would like a short blessing.



**Charismatic Healing Mass 3.00 pm ~ Sunday~ 7th September, 2025
Celebrant Father Erick Quinteros St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.**

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

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: Isaiah 36:18-21*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**
2. Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it

bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again

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

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

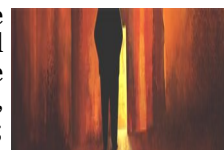
Alleluia!**Gospel: Luke 13:22-30***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.

The Gospel of the Lord**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 26th AUGUST**

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.

WEDNESDAY 27th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST MONICA

Entrance Antiphon: The woman who fears the Lord will herself be praised. Her children have called her most blessed, her husband has sung her praises

Communion Antiphon: The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant who travels in search of fine pearls and who, on finding one of great price, sold everything and bought it

THURSDAY 28th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF AUGUSTINE

Entrance Antiphon: In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

Communion Antiphon: Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ, and you are all brothers.

FRIDAY 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.

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.

