

St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting a traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



St Francis Xavier Church,
Cnr Cherry & Crane Streets,
Ballina

welcome

Holy Family Church,
94 Ballina Street,
Lennox Head.

**21st Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

23rd August, 2020

**Parish Weekend Mass
Times**

**St Francis Xavier Church
Ballina (45 people)**

**Saturday Vigil — 5.00 pm
Sunday — 9.00 am
Sunday — 11.00 am**

**Holy Family Church
Lennox Head (20 people)**

**Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm
Sunday—7.30 am**

**PLEASE REGISTER AT
PARISH OFFICE TO ATTEND
a weekend Mass by phoning**

**6681 1048
by Friday at 3.00 pm**

WEEKDAY MASS:

**At St Francis Xavier Church
TUESDAY to FRIDAY
12 noon (45 people)
Please register with Parish Office**

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

Feasts

**St Bartholomew, apostle
Monday**

**St Monica
Thursday**

**St Augustine
Friday**

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

You are my 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.

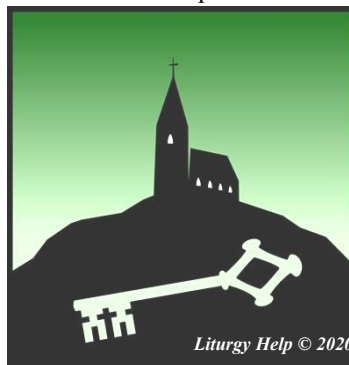
In the verses that follow today's gospel, Jesus challenges the disciples to an even deeper understanding, by instructing them about what kind of Messiah he is and what this will demand of them. Accepting Jesus as messiah means that they must also be ready to accept that He will 'suffer with' people, 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
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Our Parish Churches are both registered Covid-19 Safe places of worship .

**Catholics from the Diocese of Lismore are dispensed from their
Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.**

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney rsj, Email: kathryn@sfxballina.org.au

Parish Youth Group Coordinator: Amelia Kearney

Email: parishcouncil@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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Anne McCarthy, (*Sydney mother of Maria Foley*), Sr Kathleen Price rsj, Allan Hay, Sr Cathy Dean rsj,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Betty McNiff, Katrina Day, Don Hains, **AND ALSO FOR:** James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, 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: Kath Hankinson, Patricia Evans, Margaret Perkins (*Tweed Heads*), Barbara Smith, Greg Campbell, June Ianna, John Heaton, Cheryl Felsch, Reanna Mulholland (*Dubai*), Corazon Accon, Nola Johnson, Kath Young, Barbara Perry, Michael Patch, Gloria Greguric, Pauline McLachlan, Michael Daley, Chanice Wills, Julie Benton, Arthur Potter, Shokat Forghani & family, Margaret Murphy, Robert Sullivan, Terry Moore, Margaret Pyne, Kathleen Campbell, Kaia Randall, Darcy Martin, Charlie Clements, Charlie Scotcher, (*Aunty*) Julia Paden, Rev Ray Fishwick, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Kay Harth, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Ousby (*2 yrs*), Jeanie Marie Curry, Fay Kerslake, Darryl Simpkins, Betty Albertini, Hilda Carter, Rosemary Russell, John Moreland, Dymphna Sheehy, Greg Shore, John McNamara, Yvonne & Peter Thurtell, Mal Gillies, Cecelia Waldron, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Moore, Smith, McCowan-Dann, Webber Families, Layton family, Fitch family, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Mick O'Brien, Graham Robertson, Gregory Thomas, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Leo Lane, Mary Topham, Bob Grant, Leisa Wotton, Michael Everson, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Samantha Anderson, Tony Lannan, *Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.* (*Due to privacy laws, names are only placed on this list when requested, for six weeks*)

THE SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

BAPTISMS: Will be held on Saturday's at 11.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church. A week's notice prior to the preferred Baptism is essential for preparation and notification to the Priest. Under the current restrictions a maximum of 45 people can be in the Church at any time. Please contact Parish Admin 6681 1048.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: TBA

CONFIRMATION: TBA

RECONCILIATION: TBA.

WEDDINGS: In either church. Arrange an appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK: Please contact the Parish Office if anointing is required.

HOSPITAL: If you have a loved one in hospital and require a priest, please contact the parish office 6681 1048.

GUIDELINES WHEN ATTENDING MASS IN BOTH OUR PARISH CHURCHES.

- Ensure you have registered prior to attending Mass by ringing the parish office 6681 1048.
 - Your name is marked off our daily list before entering the Church.
 - **Use hand sanitiser provided at entrance and exit doors.**
- **Sit on or between the two crosses (X) allocated in the pew** to comply with the required social distancing rules — two people to a pew (*families can sit together*). Please **do not** sit at the end of pews.
- 45 people maximum in Ballina Church and 20 people maximum at Lennox Head church at one time.
 - 5 x weekend Masses and 4 x weekday Masses are celebrated each week in our parish.
- Our churches are open for private prayer Monday to Friday, please sign the sheet provided when visiting.
 - You are very welcome to our places of worship. Thank you.

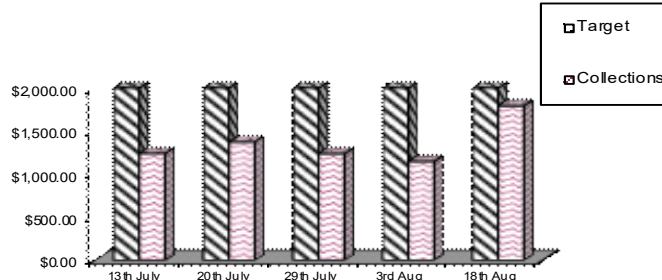
RESPECT is required at all times for ALL people attending our Churches THANK YOU

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 (1st collection).

Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter and Father Anselm**

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,314.10
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 188.45
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,791.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



DIF PAYS 0.90% 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

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA - PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: If you are a new parishioner to Ballina or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, cards are available for completion at the Parish Administration Office. Your details will be processed and a tracking number provided. Contact SFX Parish Admin office on 6681 1048 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution.

Parish Notices

PARISH WEEKLY BULLETINS: DUE TO COVID-19 HEALTH REGULATIONS PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME OR USE BIN PROVIDED TO DISCARD. DO NOT RETURN OR LEAVE IN CHURCH.



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 'TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL'

MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA TODAY

We will celebrate Social Justice Sunday next Sunday 30th August. This year the Australian Bishop's Social Justice Statement is titled: 'To live life to the full: Mental Health in Australia today. The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community.



PARISH CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Due to COVID-19 it is with deep regret that the Parish Saturday morning Meditation Group will cease from meeting until further notice. We do hope that it will not be too long until we can resume this wonderful Parish activity.



BISHOP GREG'S SUNDAY MASS ON YOUTUBE LIVE



You are invited to view the Sunday Mass live and on demand from your devices. You can access the livestream by following the link from lismorediocese.org, or by going straight to the 'Lismore Diocese' channel on YouTube, or by pointing the camera on your smart device to this digital code: **Time of Live Streaming: Sunday ~ 8.00 am**



UNABLE TO ATTEND MASS WOULD YOU LIKE HOLY COMMUNION AT YOUR HOME?

Father Anselm is offering to take Holy Communion to those in our Parish who are unable to attend a weekday Mass or Sunday Mass. This will be available on Mondays between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon.

If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving Holy Communion please ring the Parish Admin Centre on 6681 1048.

Due to the uncertainty of the duration of the pandemic and people missing their Sacraments, Father Anselm is hoping to reach these parishioners.

RECOGNISE THE DIGNITY IN EVERY PERSON Pope Francis ~ 13th August 2020

'Christian faith demands conversion from individualism and a commitment to defending the inherent dignity of every person' Pope Francis said.



'While we work for the cure of a virus that effects everyone without distinction, faith urges us to work seriously and actively to fight indifference in the face of violations of human dignity,' the Pope said.

'We want to recognise the human dignity in every person, whatever his or her race, language or condition might be'. Pope Francis emphasised that this 'renewed awareness of the dignity of every human being has serious social, economic and political implications.'

Pope Francis added that the pandemic has 'shed light on broader social ills' including 'a distorted view of the person' that ignores human dignity and 'fosters an individualistic and aggressive throw-away culture, which transforms the human being into a consumer good.'

'In the light of faith we know, that God looks at a man and a woman in another manner. He created us not as objects but as people loved and capable of loving; He has created us in his image and likeness. In this way he has given us a unique dignity, calling us to live in communion with him, in communion with our sisters and our brothers, with respect for all creation,' Pope Francis said.

'The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected we all are. If we do not take care of each other, starting with the least, with those who are most affected, including creation, we cannot heal the world,' he said.

From article in Cath News 13/08/2020

ACBC NATIONAL MEN'S VIRTUAL GATHERING



Brothers, what must we do?

ACBC National Men's Virtual Gathering, This Tuesday 25th August 2020

To inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish, diocese, and the world.

Registration Essential and Free: bit.ly/cm2020event

Details provided to all registrants.

Further information: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au

UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM CORONAVIRUS

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbours be shielded from the onslaught of the virus.

Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

www.chausa.org/prayers

WEARING OF MASKS IN PLACES OF WORSHIP



Parishioner attending Mass in our Parish are encouraged to wear a mask.

This is a recommendation by the NSW government and endorsed by Bishop Greg.

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

Prayer of the Church: is held every Saturday at **9.00 am** St Francis Xavier Church

Christian Meditation Group: will not gather until further notice.

Ballina CCR Intercession Mondays from 9.30 am to 10.30 am in the Anawim Room.

Prayer Meeting: Mondays 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room

Cenacle, Marian Movement of Priests ~ Ballina Cenacle if you would like to join this prayer group Please contact the Parish Administration Office for further details 6681 1048



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: Romans 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 out against it.

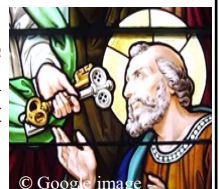
Alleluia!

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.



© Google image

An Act of Spiritual Communion : My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

melbournecatholic.org.au



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS

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**
- **By completing a form that allows your bank to deduct your gift from your account into the account of the Parish, available from the Parish Office or, place your envelopes in the baskets provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience. Thank you**



Invest with peace of mind

www.dif.org.au 1800 802 516

dif
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.