

# St Francis Xavier

## Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



**St Francis Xavier Church,**  
47 Cherry Street,  
Ballina

welcome

**Holy Family Church,**  
94 Ballina Street,  
Lennox Head.

**23rd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (C)**

**4th September, 2022**

**'WELCOME'**

**Weekend Mass Times  
Ballina**

**St Francis Xavier Church**  
**Saturday Vigil — 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday — 9.00 am**  
**Sunday — 11.00 am**

**Lennox Head  
Holy Family Church**  
**Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm**  
**Sunday—7.30 am**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
at St Francis Xavier Church  
**Tuesday to Friday**  
**12.00 noon**

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

**Feast Day this week**

**The Nativity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Thursday



*A message from our clergy*

*Dear beloved parishioners,*

*As we celebrate Fathers' Day, we would like to remember the unalloyed and irreplaceable roles played by our fathers. Today's celebration invites us to some deeper reflection on the importance of fathers or father figures in our lives and the vital teachings that they have given us. This day is about gratitude, and we must appreciate with great gratitude and thankfulness to God for the gift of fatherhood in our world. This is also a day for all fathers to reflect upon their duties and call to the role of being a father. It is a challenging time to be a father but as people of faith, we can learn true fatherhood through the example of Saint Joseph, the foster-father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pope Francis said, "St. Joseph's great mission is to be a guardian". He is a model for all educators, whether they are teachers, catechists, parents, religious or priests, "who are fathers, too".*

*Without a doubt, our families, nation, and our world are in desperate need of strong, faithful fathers like St Joseph who will give themselves unconditionally to the service of God and humanity. We pray to God to bless our fathers who have given us life and love!*

*We remember in a special way those fathers who have completed their earthly work. May they rest now in peace with the Father of us all, our loving God. Amen!*

**Happy Fathers' Day and blessings to  
all the fathers of our parish!**

*Father Peter and Father Anselm*

**We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.**

**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 Anselm Okeke  
**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney **Email:** john@sfxballina.org.au  
**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Bianca McInnes **Email:** bianca@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: 24th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C: 10th/11th September

**Readings: Exodus 32:7-11,13-14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32**

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
<b>Readers</b>	Trish Bazar Matt Ritchie	Nicole Sullivan Wendy Hughes	Leanne Robbins Warwick Manning
<b>EMHC</b>	Yvonne Head	Adam Sullivan & Cathy Campbell	Helen Cooney
	<b>Lennox Head</b> 5.00 pm Vigil Mass	<b>Lennox Head</b> Sunday 7.30 am	 
<b>Readers</b>	Amanda Deeps Murray Deeps	Damien Kennedy	

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Deborah Tan (*England*), Pauline Jelich (*Sydney*), Maureen Donovan, Marie Karam, Owen Sharman, Joy Baccay, Bev Foley, Isley Smith, Jack Chapman, Len Rix, Karen Aitken, Shaun McCosker,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Pierre Bonello, Marie O'Brien, Colin O'Brien, Raymond Peacock

**AND ALSO FOR:** 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, 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:** Barbara Levett, Fr Louis Molloy sm, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Tommy Roskell, Mary Howard, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John Moreland, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, Carmel Hackett, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Names of those who are ill will be removed after six weeks. Please advise the parish office if you wish names to remain or be*

## UP COMING PARISH EVENTS

September 4th	Saturday/Sunday	Sick and Retired Priests Appeal
September 4th	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Cuppa Fathers' Day
September 18th	Sunday 9.00 am & 11.00 am	1st Holy Communion
September 21st	Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30 am and 4.30 to 6.00 pm	'A quick Journey through the Bible' Upper Room Parish Admin
December 17th	Saturday 9.00 am	Parish Advent Reflection Day

**Fathers' Day Reflection:** "A father is respected because he gives his children leadership . . . appreciated because he gives his children care . . . valued because he gives his children time . . . loved because he gives his children the one thing they treasure the most – himself." [www.traditionalcatholicpriest.com](http://www.traditionalcatholicpriest.com)

**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**

**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.

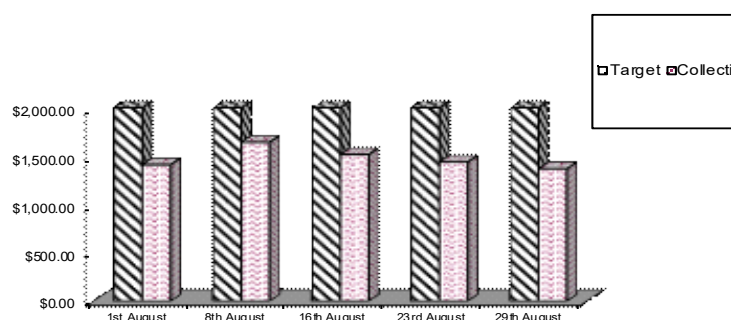
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — 1st Collection to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: your name
- 2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218
- Please ensure you use your Planed Giving number as reference, place your envelopes in the collection boxes provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience.

## DIF PAYS 1.05% 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](http://www.dif.org.au)

## THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

<b>First Collection</b>	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 549.65
<b>Second Collection</b> Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 338.60
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$1,368.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



# Parish Notices

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

## Happy Fathers' Day

### CONGRATULATIONS!



to all the children of the Parish  
who made their  
'First Reconciliation'  
on Tuesday evening.



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will be celebrated  
on Sunday 18th September in St Francis Xavier  
Church.

Children completing their First Holy Communion  
will be eligible to enrol as Altar Servers for the  
parish. *Please keep these children and their  
families in your prayers.*

**FATHERS' DAY COLLECTION** will be held **this  
weekend 3rd/4th September** to assist the Bishop in  
caring for our sick and retired priests of the Diocese.  
Envelopes are available in both churches.



### A Fathers' Day Prayer

God our Father, bless all the fathers  
in the world. Guide them to be  
good role models and loving to all

their children.

Help them to be a father like you are. Give them grace  
and patience to handle situations in a loving way.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS** We often speak of learning from our mistakes, even though we sometimes fail to do so. Likewise, if you are interested in sport, you will often hear sportsmen or women speak of "taking the positives" from a contest they have lost, especially if it's a narrow loss.



As human beings we are naturally inquisitive and our search for meaning goes on from our earliest years until our dying day. We learn by trial and error, like so many great discoveries, by experimentation and reflection.

Much of our knowledge comes through learning in "the school of life itself" and frequently "the school of hard knocks." It is not surprising then that throughout the scriptures, we find many of the authors almost pleading with us to stop and reflect on what is going on both in our own lives and in the world around us.

The wisdom books are particularly adept at challenging us in this way. So too does Jesus who is constantly asking us to look around and take note of the wonder of nature, and more importantly to look into ourselves and note our reactions in a variety of circumstances. The book of Wisdom itself invites us to accept the fact that we struggle to make sense of much of what is going on, but it also paves the way for what Jesus will teach us, namely that it is the spirit of God who will lead us to the truth.

St Paul realised that Christ was the Wisdom of God made manifest and all his teaching reflects this understanding, including the wonderful practical advice he gives to his friend Philemon about making peace with his former slave, Onesimus, who for some reason had run away.

Jesus invites us to follow him, but he is well aware of the demands that will be made if we accept his invitation. It is in that context that we can better understand his almost unpalatable teaching that our families might prove an obstacle to us in following him. Sometimes we need to be shocked before we get the message and undoubtedly this has something to do with Jesus' message about taking up the cross.

Clearly, he cannot be changing his fundamental teaching that we must "love our enemies and do good to those who hate us", in warning us that even the members of our families may not understand and might want to prevent us from giving up everything else for his sake. To reinforce his point, he offers us two very mundane examples – a builder preparing to build, a king preparing for battle – of calculating the pros and cons before making a decision. Jesus invites us to be his disciples and we are continually learning more and more about the cost of that discipleship. As we weigh the pros and cons in our present situations, is he asking us to make a deeper commitment to him today?

Tim Buckley CSsR © Majellan Media 2022

**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

**Marian Cenacle:** Monday 11.00 am Anawim Room enquiries to Narelle King via the Parish Admin Centre

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday

**Sisterhood:** Mondays 10.30 am Parish Administration Building Contact Leanne Robbins via Admin Office.

**Prayer of the Church and Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church

### PARISH 'CUPPA'

in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church  
**Today Sunday 4th September (Fathers' Day)**  
following the 9.00 am Mass.  
*Everyone is very welcome.*



**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK**  
4 - 10 September 2022



Australia observes **National Child Protection Week** each September, as part of a nationwide initiative to protect children from abuse and neglect, recognising that protecting children is a whole of community responsibility.

The **National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect** (NAPCAN) aims to raise the Australian community's awareness of child abuse and neglect and create safer communities for children. By bringing child abuse and neglect out of the shadows, it assists in keeping child wellbeing on the national agenda.

This year marks the 32<sup>nd</sup> celebration of **National Child Protection Week**, with the continuation of the message that 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go', whilst shining a light on children growing up safe and supported.

**PARISH VITALITY SURVEY** has been extended until this Monday 5th September. Hard copies available in our churches. Please find the link to the survey here [Click here to access the Parish Vitality Survey](#) or [www.lismorediocese.org](http://www.lismorediocese.org) home page click parish vitality survey tab. St Francis Xavier parish website select the 'About' Tab then click Lismore Diocese tab click parish vitality tab.



## First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

What man can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

The Word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R): In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**

2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

## Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

*A reading from St Paul to Philemon*

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could

have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The Word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Lk 14:25-33

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

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



## FOR THIS WEEK'S MIDDAY MASSES—PLEASE PRAY TOGETHER TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

**Entrance Antiphon:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**Communion Antiphon:** Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

### THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ~ THURSDAY

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let us celebrate with joy the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for from her arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, the Virgin will bear a son, who will save his people from their sins.



# Invest with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://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.