

# 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.

**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**24th September, 2023**

**MIGRANT & REFUGEE 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 Vincent de Paul**  
Wednesday

**Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael**  
Friday

**St Jerome**  
Saturday

*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: **Norah Gruhl** daughter of Daniel and Casey.



**'WELCOME HOME'** Father Peter, we look forward to seeing you as you begin your ministry after your holiday. **'THANK YOU'** Father Jim for assisting with our parish weekend Masses over the past months.



### SISTERS OF MERCY FEAST DAY

**Srs Larelle & Grace Laverty**

We hope you both have a Happy Feast Day *for today* Sunday 24th September. Love and prayers from the parish.



### CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

The next Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be

**This Monday 25th ~ September 3.00 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 time for meeting changed for summer.*



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** begins **NEXT** Sunday 1st October.

Don't forget to turn your clocks **forward** one hour.



**PARISH 'CUPPA'** Next Sunday 1st October following the 9.00 am Mass, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church.

*Everyone is very welcome.*

**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Patricia Brimson** who has sadly passed away. A Funeral Prayer Service will be held this **Tuesday 26th September at 10.00 am**, in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.



**'COME AND SEE'** If you, or someone you know would like to learn more about the Catholic faith come to our information evening: **Tuesday 10th October at 5.00 pm** in the St Teresa Room, Parish Admin Centre. For further information call 0438 435 566.

**PARISHIONER DINNER AT CLUB LENNOX NEXT SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER AT 6.30 PM.**

**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

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke

**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: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 30th September/1st October, 2023

Readings: Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 144; Philippians 1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Bryan Marriott Jeanette Wilkins	Amanda Deeps Murray Deeps	Bill Duffy Gemma Duffy	Leanne Robbins Maxine Cole
EMOHC	Pauline Fingleton	Madeline Pride	Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Maurice Gahan
Offertory Procession			Greg & Katie	

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lynette Ford, Patricia Brimson, Kaysie Arnadall, (*Lismore*), John Preddey (*Sydney*), Patrick Caldwell (*Brisbane*), Mary Freeman (*Adelaide*), Fr Adrian Noonan (*Adelaide*), Anne Jackson, Thomas Travers,

## THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS

TIME: Judy Hoolihan, Elva Kidd, Patricia Holwell,

AND ALSO FOR: Dorothea Preddey, Ab & Clare Mitchell, John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, 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: Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham (*Sydney*), Mick Ronan, Annemarie Higgins, 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

## UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

25th Sept	Monday 3.00pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting
26th Sept	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee Club
30th Sept	Saturday 6.30 pm	Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox
1st October	Sunday 2.00 am	Daylight Saving (clocks forward one hour)
1st October	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Cuppa
9th Oct	Monday 12.00 noon	Taize ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
10th October	Tuesday 5.00 pm	'Come and See' Information session
10th/12th October	Tuesday/Thursday 7.00 pm/10.30 am	The Bible Timeline
14th October	Saturday 11.00 am - 12.30 pm Cuppa to follow	Lennox Head Pubic Square Rosary Grounds of LH Church

**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.

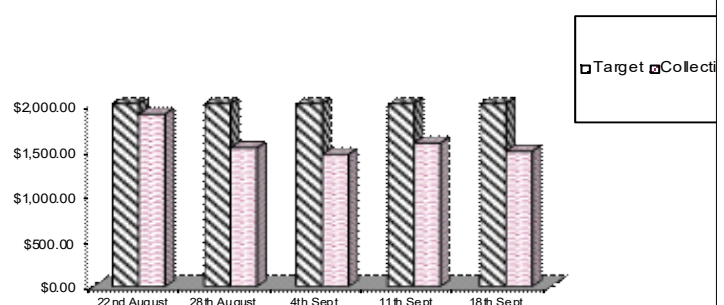
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- 2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish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

## THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 670.65
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 322.50
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,479.75
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## GOD'S LAVISH GENEROSITY

Many of the grim-faced youths waiting to have their feet washed that Holy Thursday were heavily tattooed. They were familiar with the harsh realities of crime and violence. Nevertheless, the elderly figure knelt before them, gently washed then dried their feet, and kissed their feet lovingly.

Touched by his gesture of love and mercy, they kissed his hand, thanked him warmly and appeared deeply moved by his actions. The figure before them was Pope Francis and the young people were inmates at a juvenile prison in Rome.

Today's gospel illustrates a quality which Greg Boyle SJ has described as the "limitless magnanimity of God." The generous landowner in the parable invites any worker needing employment into his vineyard. It is a metaphor for a God whose generosity knows no bounds. He longs to include everyone in his plan for redemption.

The wage of one denarius is not an indication that the landowner is a mean-spirited businessman. In contrast, it is meant to show that everyone is equally valued no matter their circumstances. God's love sets no limits and, indeed, is entirely undeserved. It is a gift he offers to everyone regardless of how they come to him.

Fr Boyle has embodied this lavish generosity in his ministry. Touched by the plight of disadvantaged youth who have fallen into crime, he founded Homeboy Ministries, a gang intervention and rehabilitation program in Los Angeles. He has, for the past few decades, provided training, employment and opportunities for gang members—some of whom even belong to rival gangs—to rebuild their lives. He describes God's heart as "immeasurably larger than our imaginations can conjure." He says that God longs to give all of us, regardless of our circumstances "peace, assurance and a sense of well-being" (Gregory Boyle, *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*).

In his encyclical "Fratelli Tutti," Pope Francis draws on the example of St Francis of Assisi to encourage us to live in a manner marked radically by the gospel. St Francis regarded his primary goal as spreading the love of God to everyone. Pope Francis explains that St Francis understood that "God is love and those who abide in love abide in God" (1 John 4:16). Pope Francis also cites the parable of the Good Samaritan as well as Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman as examples of how God's love transcends boundaries such as race and culture.

Our deep encounter with an immensely generous and loving God can prove life-changing and indeed world-changing. God's love transforms each of us and, in turn, ripples out to the broad network of everyone with whom we interact. Pope Francis explains that "our relationships, if healthy and authentic, open us to others who expand and enrich us." Empowered by this divine impetus, we can bring about significant social, economic and political change in our world.

Sophie Clements © Majellan Media 2023

### PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY

Our parish in in need of musicians for our Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Mass.

If you, or you know of someone who could provide music please advise the Parish Office, or speak with Father following Mass.

All expressions of interest will be gratefully received.

### FEAST OF ST THERESE

Mass in honour of St Therese will be offered at 10.00 am on Tuesday, 3rd October, at the Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah.

Please note the change of date, which is for this year only.

**All welcome.**

### CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S EMERGENCY APPEAL MOROCCO/LIBYA



Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya.

Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals.

Donate at: [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)

### 2023 PUBLIC ROSARY

Why is the Public Rosary Important?

- It is a public witness of faith—a help to reclaim the public square for God.
- Public Reparation—many blasphemies are taking place in public and so we must also make reparation in public.
- We are praying for God's merciful blessing to be poured out on our country, the world and for the conversion of families to turn back to God.
- Evangelisation. Many families no longer know how to pray the Rosary or even know the many benefits of praying the Rosary. Praying the Rosary in public is a great opportunity to share the faith and meet new people.

Please join us in praying for our nation on **Saturday 14th October at 11.00 am**, in the grounds of Holy Family Church. 'Cuppa' to follow.

**Come and View Fatima Movie "13th Day" on Wed 4th Oct, 7.00 pm, at 9 Stewart St, Lennox Head.** Please contact or Marie (0409 887 677) or Parish Admin 6681 1048 for more information.



### WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) since 1914. It is always an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them as they face many challenges; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers.

Every year the WDMR is the last Sunday of September; in 2023 it will be celebrated on **24th September**.

As the title for his annual message, the Holy Father has chosen:

**"Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay".**

[www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee](http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee)



**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 6621 9444 or Email: [safeguardng@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguardng@lismore.catholic.org.au)



# Invest

## with peace of mind

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**First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9;**  
*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Phil 1:20-24,27;**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of our Son.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16**

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**

**TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER AND THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER**

**Entrance Antiphon:** I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

**Communion Antiphon:** You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

**WEDNESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER ~ FEAST OF ST VINCENT de PAUL**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me and sent me to preach the good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted.

**Communion Antiphon:** Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER ~ FEAST OF STS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Bless the Lord, all you his angels, mighty in power, fulfilling his word, and heeding his voice

**Communion Antiphon:** I will thank you, Lord, with all my heart; in the presence of the Angels I will praise you.

**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- In the Greco-Roman world, casual labourers used to gather in the agora or town square waiting for employers to hire them.
- In the early Church there was sometimes a jealousy between those who had believed in the risen Christ from the earliest days and thus suffered persecution for their faith and those, especially Gentiles, who came to belief later on.

**MAKING CONNECTIONS:**

- Is there a difference in how we react if we are the recipients of generosity compared to our reaction when we see others being treated with generosity which we believe they do not deserve? Do we live in a generous society?
- Look for occasions this week to be generous, not only with money, but with time, attention and attitude. Challenge those who lack generosity of spirit.

*The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.*

*How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.*

Pray this Psalm often this week.

[www.cam.org.au/](http://www.cam.org.au/)