

# 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.**

**26th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (A)**

**27th September, 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**

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**Feasts**

**Sts Michael, Gabriel  
& Raphael, archangels**

*Tuesday*

**St Jerome,**

*Wednesday*

**St Thérèse of the Child Jesus  
*Thursday***

**The Holy Guardian Angels  
*Friday***

## Actions speak louder than words

Many parents today could empathise with the father asking each of his two sons to work in their vineyard. It is not an unreasonable request. Presumably their livelihood relies on the income from the vineyard, and the father speaks not harshly but with affection, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today."

Jesus does not explain the motivation of the two sons, but the defiance of the first son in initially refusing to work in the vineyard would have hurt his father. Jesus does not say why the son then 'thought better of it' and went to work. Perhaps it was seeing the pain on his father's face. The point for Jesus is that he changed his mind. The second son instantly agreed to his father's request but then reneged.

As St Matthew recounts, Jesus is telling this story in a contest with the chief priests and elders of the people who have challenged his authority to be teaching and acting as he does. So, he tells this story and asks them to decide who did the father's will. Of course they answered: the one who went to work in the vineyard.

In words that must have shocked and outraged his opponents, Jesus declares: 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you'. At that time, tax collectors collaborated with the oppressive Roman authorities and made money for themselves as well. They were socially despised and outside the Jewish law, like the prostitutes.

Yet these despised people were among those who heard and believed the message of John the Baptist, 'a pattern of true righteousness', while the chief priests and elders, the very ones who should have been most alert to the message of John, refused to accept him. They were like the second son who said he would go to the vineyard, but then refused. Jesus is declaring that God's loving embrace is available to everyone, especially those who feel most excluded, or who are 'seekers' drawn by some deep inner longing.



This incident of Jesus arguing with these religious leaders also carries a warning for us today. We too can be deaf to the unexpected call of God. Moreover, Jesus insists that responding to the father's will is not just a matter of words, but of action. Actions speak louder than words.

So we pray that God will truly walk with us, and help us live with insightful concern for others, especially in this traumatic year that has included extensive bushfires, COVID-19 and economic distress for many.

Let us also embrace the call of Pope Francis in his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'* to play our part in protecting our planet and environment, while striving for a more just world with social and economic systems that serve everyone well.

Bruce Duncan 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

**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**

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

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

**SCHOOLS:**

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

**AGED CARE:**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Peter Koch, Maria da Costa Freitas, Lloyd Cuthbert, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Elva Kidd, Patricia Howell, **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:** Elsie Evans (2 weeks old), Maureen Kearnes, Louise King, Patrick Connelly, Kath Hankinson, Patricia Evans, Margaret Perkins (*Tweed Heads*), Barbara Smith, Greg Campbell, June Ianna, John Heaton, Reanna Mulholland (*Dubai*), Corazon Accon, Nola Johnson, Kath Young, Barbara Perry, Michael Patch, 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, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Ousby, Jeanie Marie Curry, Fay Kerslake, Darryl Simpkins, Betty Albertini, Hilda Carter, Rosemary Russell, John Moreland, Dympna 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.

**ANOINTING 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.

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

**MASKS:** It is recommended by State Government and endorsed by Bishop Greg to wear a mask while at Mass.

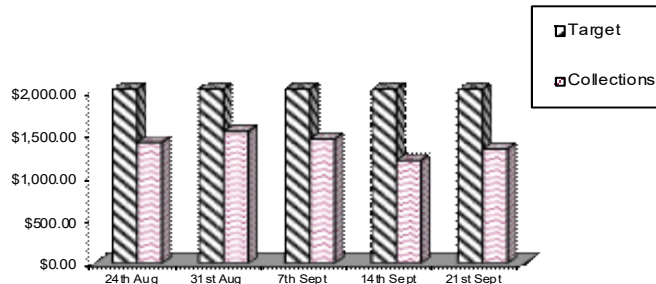
**RESPECT is required at all times for ALL people attending our Churches ..... THANK YOU**

**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 (1<sup>st</sup> collection).

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

### THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$	532.65
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$	217.65
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$	1,311.00
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.**

## 'CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY BLESSINGS'



to  
**Louise Rizzo & Alex Hepworth**  
on their **Marriage this weekend.**  
*Love and prayers to you both from  
all the Parish.*



## 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](http://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**



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** begins **NEXT Sunday 4th October**. Don't forget to turn your clocks **forward** one hour.

**CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 12:** Our Year 12 students at Xavier Catholic College graduated on Thursday 24th, with a school Mass at Xavier. They now begin their final preparations for the H.S.C. and we will accompany them in prayer.



## 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.



## CATECHISTS MEETING

Upper Room, Parish Administration Building  
**Tuesday 20th October ~10.00 am.**  
All Catechists and helpers are encouraged to attend. Morning Tea provided.



**2020 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY**  
**October is the month of the Holy Rosary.** To honour our Blessed Mother and draw closer to her son Jesus, we are invited to **PRAY AT LEAST ONE**

**DECADE OF THE ROSARY EVERY DAY.** Our Lady's request at Fatima was to pray the Rosary daily for peace in the world. Pope Francis' intention for May 2016 was *"that families, communities and groups may pray the Holy Rosary for evangelization and peace."*

**Come and join the Public Square Rosary on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 11.00am to 12.00 noon, Holy Family Church grounds.**

Enquiries: Parish Office 6681 1048 or Marie 0409 887 677

Please bring your own chair. Covid-19 regulations and distancing will apply.

## TODAY IS THE 106TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 'Like Jesus Christ, Forced to Flee' Welcoming, Protecting, Promoting and Integrating internally displaced persons.

Extract from the Message of Archbishop Christopher Prowse .....

The Pastoral care of the Church towards Migrants and Refugees aims at emphasising and focussing on the following aspects as named by Pope Francis.

**Welcoming:** Increasing safe and legal routes for migrants and refugees.

**Protecting:** Defending the rights and dignity of migrants and refugees.

**Promoting:** Fostering the integral human development of migrants and refugees.

**Integrating:** Greater participation of migrants and refugees to enrich local communities.

May I offer sincere gratitude to all those who dedicate themselves to the pastoral care of migrants and refugees in Australia.

Perhaps an exhortation from St Paul stresses our Gospel imperative to welcome those seeking hospitality as displaced persons:

*May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Rom 14:1-7)*

Archbishop Christopher Prowse is the Chair of the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry and Archbishop Delegate for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees.  
[www.acmro.catholic.org.au](http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au)



## POSITIONS VACANT

**St Carthage's Community Care - Lismore** has two positions available:

- Team Leader — Aged Care
- Team Leader — Rostering

Applications must include a Cover Letter and Resume. Please contact Nevine Piperides for application process for both positions by emailing [nevine@reachhr.com.au](mailto:nevine@reachhr.com.au) Applications close Friday 2nd October 2020.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2021

**CONFIRMATION:** Bishop Greg has announced that from 2021 Confirmation will begin in grade 3.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Will be for those in grade 4. This will ensure smooth continuance of our Sacramental Program.

Dates for 2021 Confirmation will be advised at a later date.

**Prayer of the Church and Rosary:** is held every Saturday at **9.00 am** St Francis Xavier Church  
**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: Ezekiel 18:25-28

*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

he guides the humble in the right path;

he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

### Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-5;

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians (Shorter form)*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy.

There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



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### 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](http://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](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.