

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.**

**27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

8th October, 2023

**OCTOBER MONTH OF
THE HOLY ROSARY**

**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 Day
St John XXIII, Pope
Wednesday

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: **Daisy Joy Lyon** daughter of Izaac and Elizabeth; **Winter Ella Pickett** daughter of Keith and Sophie.

EXAM TIME

Prayers and best wishes to all Year 12 students sitting their HSC exams, beginning Wednesday this week.



AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2023

The Bishops of Australia encourage all Catholics to participate in the many opportunities for learning and dialogue about the referendum. The ACBC and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council join in calling for this spirit of love to be evident in our approach to the Voice referendum and beyond. Explore the Voice websites developed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organizations, especially NATSICC's *indigenousevoice.church* and read the bishop's social justice statement at:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/08/22/social-justice-statement-2023-24/>



XCC COMMISSIONING OF LEADERS MASS
NEXT SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 5.30 PM VIGIL MASS

Xavier Catholic College 2024
Year 12 Student Leaders will be presented and
commissioned at this Mass
Everyone Welcome

2023 PUBLIC ROSARY
October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

Come and join the Public Rosary across Australia **NEXT Saturday 14th October at 11.00 am**, in the grounds of Holy Family Church, Lennox Head. We will pray for God's merciful blessing upon Australia, the world, our families and our parish through the powerful intercession of our Lady of Fatima.

Joyful Mysteries will be prayed.
All families and children welcome.

Cuppa to follow ~ please bring a 'treat' plate to share.
Bring your rosary beads, fold-up chair, hat, umbrella for sun or rain!
Please contact or Marie (0409 887 677) or Parish Admin 6681 1048 for further information.



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: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 14th/15th October, 2023
Readings : Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalm 22; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 21:1-14

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	XCC Student XCC Student	Marie Sullivan Emma McFadden	Nicole Sullivan Gemma Duffy	Warwick Manning Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	XCC Student	Kevin Sullivan	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Offertory Procession			Jo Hurley Joan Hollingsworth	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lynette Ford, Patricia Brimson, Kaysie Arnadall, (*Lismore*), John Preddey, Patrick Caldwell,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS

TIME: Jack Flood, Patricia Holwell, Bunty Sainsbury

AND ALSO FOR: Betty McNiff, 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: Peter Mazzer, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham Mick Ronan, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons (Neville Johnston, John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*), Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Aoife Stephenson (*Brisbane*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Please advise if a name is to be*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

9th Oct & 23rd Oct	Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church	Taizé ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
9th Oct	Monday 10.30 am	The Cenacle Anawim Room
10th Oct	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee Club
10th October	Tuesday 5.00 pm	'Come and See' Information session
10th October	Tuesday 7.00 pm	The Bible Timeline
14th October	Saturday 11.00 am - 12.30 pm Cuppa to follow	Public Rosary Grounds of Lennox Head Church
22nd October	Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses	Mission Sunday
23rd October	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting

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.

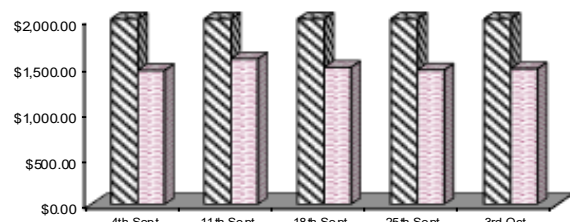
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 686.05
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 333.50
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,464.60
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



STAYING FAITHFUL TO JESUS' TEACHING

In today's gospel, Jesus chastises the Chosen People's religious leaders of his day, putting a very sobering message before them.

In the parable, he tells of a landowner who leases his vineyard into the care of tenants. When the harvest had come, he sent his servants to the tenants to claim his due as the landowner. To the landowner's dismay, the murderous tenants kill the servants. The landlord then sends more servants only to have the tenants kill them too.

Finally, the landowner sends his son and heir, thinking that the tenants would surely respect his son, respond appropriately to him, and pay what is due to the son to bring back to the landowner. But the tenants kill the landlord's son, thinking that they would then claim for themselves the inheritance that would have gone to the son.

Jesus, the master teacher, then asks the leaders who are listening to him what they think the landowner will then do. They reply that, of course, the landowner would severely punish the tenants, take the vineyard from them and lease it to new tenants.

We may well be shocked that the father, knowing that many of his servants had already been killed by the tenants, would send his son. But, in spite of that violent history, he trusts that his son would be safe, and so the son goes without arms, defences or protection, only to be killed.

In Matthew's hand, the parable becomes a story of salvation history. It speaks to us about God's dealings with his Chosen People, Israel. The vineyard is Israel (a familiar image in the Old Testament) and the tenants are the religious leaders of Israel. The servants sent by the landowner are the prophets God sent to Israel, many of whom suffered greatly, some even death. Eventually God did send his only Son and Jesus is rejected and killed. God then extends the Kingdom to the whole world; Gentiles and Jews.

So, what does this parable, focussed as it is on the failures of Israel's religious leaders, mean for us today? It tells us that, no matter the failings or abuses of the leaders of God's people, God's Kingdom will prevail and will be fruitful. Also, that it embraces all humankind, not just a select few, but in fact all creation. It tells us that God's love will not be thwarted, no matter the misuse of privilege, authority and power.

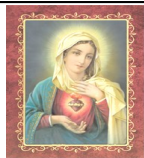
And the cornerstone of the Kingdom is Jesus, the Son, the one who was rejected. Our task, our mission, is to be faithful to Jesus' teaching and fruitful in bringing about the Kingdom in our world, through works of justice, peace, and reconciliation, in love of neighbour, and in care and compassion for the poor, the lonely, and the marginalised. The letter to the Philippians assures us: Do not worry about anything. Keep on doing the things of the Kingdom ... and the God of peace will be with us.

Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2023

THE CENACLE 'PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS'

The Cenacle is a Marian Movement that prays for Priests and promotes Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This prayer gathering is very simple and easy.

Everyone is welcome to join—we meet every Monday at 10.30 am in the Anawim Room at the Parish Administration Centre.



PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE JUST ONE SESSION BEGINNING THIS TUESDAY:

Come and Taste THE BIBLE TIMELINE starting with Abraham & Sarah, Isaac and Jacob.

Tuesday at 10th October 7.00 pm in the St Teresa Room.



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

TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER 12.00 NOON ST FRANCS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA

45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted

FEAST OF ST TERESA OF JESUS: Mass in honour of St Teresa of Jesus (of Avila) will be offered at **10:30 am** on Sunday, 15th October, at the Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah. All Welcome.



catholic mission

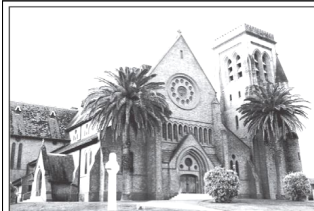
Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

Tuberculosis, malnutrition and maternal mortality are conditions all too familiar for the people of Timor-Leste. In two weeks' time you will learn about the work of the Salesian Sisters, including nurse, Sister Carolina, who desires to see better outcomes for her community. We will also share the story of Petrolina and her daughter's desperate need for medical attention.

You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, and your prayers and generosity are crucial in ensuring this program can continue.

This opportunity is a great way to commit to the missionary movement, as He reminds us in Luke 24:13-35, the fire of Christ burns within us and encourages us to take action for those in most need.

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: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



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.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.
 My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.
 He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.
 He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
 I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.
 What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?
 I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard:
 I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
 to plant it you drove out the nations.
 It stretched out its branches to the sea,
 to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**

2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
 It is plucked by all who pass by.
 It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
 devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
 look down from heaven and see.
 Visit this vine and protect it,
 the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

4. And we shall never forsake you again:
 give us life that we may call upon your name.
 God of hosts, bring us back;
 let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Phil 4:6-9*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need,
 pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,

and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

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

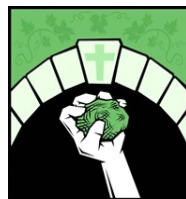
I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
 that became the keystone.
 This was the Lord's doing
 and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 10th, WEDNESDAY 11TH, THURSDAY 12th and FRIDAY 13th October**

Entrance Antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will.
 For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Vineyards required intensive long-term care. The soil was dug and cleared and a wall erected to discourage animals which may graze on the vines. A watch-tower and wine-press completed the installation but ongoing work of pruning, thinning, supporting the vines and sometimes irrigation was needed.
- The keystone at the top of a Roman arch was the stone which held all the others in place.

QUESTIONS

What is the very worst that could happen to you when you fail? Why does it usually seem that the consequences of our failure will be much worse than they actually are?

When you fail, how often do you turn to God? Has prayer ever helped when you were facing failure or were in a situation that was falling apart? Do you tend to pray more frequently and honestly when you are facing failure?

How can failure help advance your faith life? How can your relationship with Jesus be affected by failure, positively or negatively?

PRAYER: 'Lord, when I fail I want to run and hide. I can't face myself and find it difficult to face family, friends, and co-workers. When will I learn to come to you with my failures and let you help me carry the burden?'

Lord teach me humbleness and patience. Amen.'

www.cam.org.au/summit