

# 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.**

**28th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (A)**

**15th 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 Days**

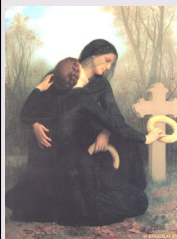
**St Ignatius of Antioch  
Tuesday**

**St Luke, evangelist  
Wednesday**

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

### PARISH NOTICES

**ALL SOULS DAY ~ THURSDAY 2ND NOVEMBER  
MASS AT EAST BALLINA CEMETERY 8.30 am**



We are reminded of the importance of praying for our departed relatives and friends. Traditionally, the month of November is the month where the Church remembers all those who have died. **November 1st is All Saints Day**, a tribute to all saints, while **November 2nd is All Souls Day**, dedicated to praying for those who have died. In the Catholic Church, we believe in the communion of saints, a spiritual bond that unites all the faithful, both living and dead. We are called to remember and pray for the souls of our departed relatives, knowing that our prayers can assist them on their journey towards eternal life with God.

As we prepare for the November Masses for the faithful departed, let us remember that our prayers are a sign of our love and care for them. We entrust them to the mercy and love of our Heavenly Father, who desires to bring them into His eternal embrace. In addition to attending Masses, we can also offer prayers, sacrifices, and acts of charity for the souls of our departed loved ones. Our small gestures of love and remembrance can have a profound impact on their journey towards eternal life. Therefore, you are invited to use the envelope provided with your Planned Giving envelopes. There will be additional November Mass envelopes at the back of the churches for your use.

**Please print names clearly so they can be easily read.** Two lists of the names will be printed. One copy will be displayed in our churches and the other on the altar. All Masses in November will be offered for all those on the list.

**CATHOLIC MISSION SUNDAY ~ NEXT SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2023**



With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

**Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address this reality.**

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

**THE BIBLE TIMELINE** this week we embrace Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. **Tuesday 17th October at 7.00 pm** in the St Teresa Room.

Phone Maxine 0429 669 029 for further information or just come along.

**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: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 21st/22nd October, 2023**  
**Readings : Isaiah 45:1,4-6; Psalm 95; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21**

	<b>Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head</b>	<b>Sunday 9.00 am Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00 am Ballina</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Trish Bazar John Jarzynski</i>	<i>Murray Deeps Amanda Deeps</i>	<i>Richard Goss Julie McKinnon</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Leanne Robbins</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Peter Bowen</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony</i>	<i>Denise Miller Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Lynette Ford, Patricia Brimson, Kaysie Arnadall, John Preddey,  
**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Judie Hoolihan, Gino Garzolini, Hector & Betty McNiff jnr, Hector & Margaret McNiff snr

**AND ALSO FOR:** *Jack Flood, 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**

<b>16th October</b>	<b>Monday 10.30 am</b>	<b>The Cenacle Anawim Room</b>
<b>17th October</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee Club</b>
<b>17th October</b>	<b>Tuesday 7.00 pm</b>	<b>The Bible Timeline</b>
<b>22nd October</b>	<b>Saturday Vigil Sunday Masses</b>	<b>Mission Sunday</b>
<b>23rd October</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting</b>
<b>23rd Oct &amp; 6th Nov</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church</b>	<b>Taizé ~ 45 min of praise meditation &amp; music uninterrupted</b>
<b>28th October</b>	<b>Saturday 6.30 pm</b>	<b>Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox</b>
<b>2nd November</b>	<b>Thursday 8.30 am</b>	<b>All Souls Day Mass @ East Ballina Cemetery</b>
<b>5th November</b>	<b>Sunday 9.45 am</b>	<b>Parish Cuppa</b>

**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.

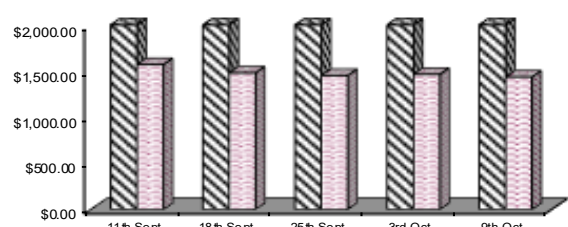
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier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

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 603.35
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 326.00
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,435.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



□ Target □ Collect



## AN INVITATION TO GOD'S BANQUET

The image of the abundant, fulfilling feast is used throughout the scriptures to explain God's promise of eternal life.

On the mountain of the Lord, as the prophet Isaiah says in today's first reading, God will "provide for all peoples a feast of juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines."

This metaphor of the abundant feast is used to describe the promise of God that he will "destroy the veil" between himself and humanity, "wipe away the tears from every face" and "destroy death forever".

In today's gospel, Jesus uses this imagery of Isaiah and ties the prophet's promises into his own mission. Jesus' parable reveals how the great reunion between God and humanity, where God will provide for his people and defeat death forever as foretold by the prophets, is exactly what is being through Jesus' death and resurrection at Calvary. Hearing about Christ's coming, death and resurrection is like receiving an invitation to a great wedding banquet, where the banquet represents eternal life with God.

And as Isaiah says, this provision is for "all peoples." However, as Jesus goes on to say, "many are invited" to this heavenly banquet "but few are chosen."

There are people who reject the invitation to the eternal life that God has planned for us. As Jesus' parable explains, people often dismiss God's messengers without hearing what they have to say. Some have other business they consider more important. Others react aggressively to the message. Some receive the message and come to the party, see everything that God has provided, but reject the way that has been prepared.

This invitation to eternal that Jesus is more than just being assured of going to a nice place after we die. It is not about our souls receiving psychological enlightenment or a prize for good behaviour.

Eternal life, as Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels, is to know God, to know his goodness in the depths of our being, and to know Jesus Christ, and his message of salvation. In the life to come, we will be restored to communion with God and participation in his very nature. Eternal life, therefore, involves stepping into a new way of living. Not just accepting the invitation but living in the new life of love and holiness that we were created for.

What God wants more than anything else is that his children freely choose the life that he has on offer. And so, while we walk on this earth, the invitations are constantly issued to those of us willing to hear. Unlike the man who rejects to wear the wedding garment in this parable, which symbolises living the love and justice that God has created us for, we can respond differently to the king's gentle question: "My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?"

The gospel reminds us to keep accepting Jesus' invitations. The eternal life he is calling us to be part of is the one we have been created for.

Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2023

### Calling all Cursillistas – past and present: EXPLORE THE CURSILLO VISION

On Saturday morning, **28<sup>th</sup> October 9:30 am**  
At **Maclean Catholic Hall**, McIntyre Lane, Maclean  
Come early at 9:00 am for meet and greet / morning tea  
Stay afterwards for BYO shared lunch  
Looking forward to meeting you there –  
*Maxine Cole 0429 669 029*

**ADVENT 2023**  
**'WITH EXPECTANT HEARTS'**  
Program books are available from the  
parish office at **\$8.00 ea**  
*A date for commencement will be advised*

**Parish Advent Reflection Day**  
**Saturday 16th December**



**CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY**  
**MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON**  
**Tuesday 7th November, 2023**  
**12.30 pm – 3.30 pm**  
**\$55.00 per person ~ BYO drinks**

*Please RSVP and pay via cash or eftpos at  
Crowley reception by Tuesday 31st October.  
Please also provide any dietary requirements.*

*Tickets include:*

*Glass of sparkling wine on arrival  
Delicious 2 course meal  
1 x entry into the Lucky door prize  
Tea and coffee*



### CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

The next Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be  
**Monday 24th ~ October 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!**



**2023 PUBLIC ROSARY: 'Thank you'** to those  
who joined the Public Rosary yesterday to pray for  
God's blessings on our families, Parish and our  
Australian nation. We are all encouraged to pray the  
Rosary in our families, reflecting on at least one decade daily. *'The family that prays together—stays together.'*  
*Father Patrick Peyton*



**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](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



**KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS:** Australia is one of 194 countries that have committed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The UN has agreed that everyone is entitled to 'all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such

as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status'. Beyond this, however, it also recognises that 'childhood is entitled to special care and assistance'. You can read the UN convention at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

Organisations and people working with children in NSW share responsibility for keeping children safe.

Applying the Standards makes it easier for children, parents, carers and staff to share their understanding of child safety across different settings. The Standards promote consistency across care environments.



# Invest with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) 1800 802 516



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 25:6-10***A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.  
**(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.  
**(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Phil 4:12-14***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Matthew 22:1-10***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 17th OCTOBER, FEAST OF ST IGNATIUS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** I am crucified with Christ, yet I live; no longer I, but Christ lives in me. I live by faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself up for me.

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the wheat of Christ to be ground by the teeth of beasts, that I may be found to be pure bread.

**WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER, FEAST OF ST LUKE**

**Entrance Antiphon:** How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings of peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation!

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord sent out disciples to proclaim throughout the towns: The kingdom of God is at hand for you.

**THURSDAY 19th AND FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER**

**Entrance Antiphon:** If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**Communion Antiphon:** The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

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

- The wedding banquet is a commonly used image for the kingdom of God in the Hebrew and the Christian Scriptures. The feast was a symbol of the abundance to be provided by God for those who have faith.
- A Jewish wedding celebration often lasted for as long as a week, which may explain why some were reluctant to attend. Like living in the kingdom, it was demanding!

**QUESTIONS**

- What excuses do you make for not doing what you ought? Are there things which keep you from responding fully to the invitation?
- Share stories of times you avoided invitations and the excuses you used not to go somewhere you didn't want to be.
- What are the things in your life that preoccupy you and make it difficult to respond to the invitation of God?
- Be aware this week of how you respond to invitations. Issue an invitation to others and share hospitality with them.
- Recite this line from the Psalm daily this week:

*You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my  
enemies. My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. (Psalm 32:5)*

*www.cam.org.au/summit*