

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.

2nd Sunday in Lent (A)

8th March, 2020

Fast



Give



Prepare



Pray



Parish Weekend Mass Times

St Francis Xavier Church

Saturday Vigil ~ 6.00 pm

Sunday ~ 9.00 am

Holy Family Church

Lennox Head

Sunday ~ 7.30 am

This week's daily Parish Mass times

Monday ~ 8.00 am

Tuesday ~ 5.20 pm

Wednesday ~ 10.00 am

Crowley Chapel

Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Thursday ~ 8.00 am

Friday ~ 12.00 noon

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.00 to 10.00 am

also on request

Rosary, Prayer of the Church

Saturday 9.00 am

Adoration

Friday 11.00 to 11.45 am

What does your heart say?

Banal. Humdrum. Boring. Commonplace. Dull. Trivial. Uninteresting. Unremarkable. Quotidian. Life can sometimes be described by any one of these terms. Quite often we can experience even the most fundamental, the most profound things, like prayer, like the Mass, as banal and unremarkable.

Prayer can feel so much like interior self-exposure to empty nothingness and Mass can be so mundane that you struggle to see the

point. Except you have some vague but persistent conviction that you should be at church to honor Jesus. That you should persist in the struggle to set yourself before God, to open the depths of your heart to his presence, to pray ...

You've heard the words of consecration thousands of time: "This is my body ... This is my blood ..." At one level, they are like any other words said by any other person at any other time

on this planet: breath is pushed through vocal chords and quickly changing shapes made by tongue, teeth and lips in order to form sounds in a precise order. The difference, though, is that these words are the very words of *Jesus Christ*, spoken at a specific moment in time, on the night of his betrayal, the night of his arrest. The night before his death.

And yes, Jesus of Nazareth, was a man, like any other man who ever lived: he was born, he did some stuff and he died. He even did

some rather remarkable stuff and said some rather remarkable things: healings, exorcisms, parables, warnings, blessings. He was fascinating and charismatic—even on a merely human level.

But what does your heart tell you to see in him? What does your heart tell you to hear in his words, repeated countless times and in countless places over millennia, words repeated today, in your presence, at the altar?

Does your heart tell you to see in him everything worth having, everything good and holy and true? Does your heart tell you to see in him and in his words the very love of God himself? An invitation to life and truth, to joy, to eternity, to resurrection, to a coming kingdom, to justice and peace, to life unending, to bliss, to a new heavens and new earth?

What does your heart tell you to recognise in

his passion and death? What does your heart say to you about the empty tomb? He is alive and reigns now. He has "destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light," said St Paul. Even more remarkable: he is including you in this plan, this "grace bestowed ... in Christ Jesus before time began." In Jesus, he is thinking of you; he has been thinking of you all along.

W Chris Hackett

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

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 204

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney rsj, Email: kathryn@sfxballina.org.au

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

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

ROSTER: 3rd Sunday in Lent, Year A: 14th/15th March, 2020
Readings: Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 94; Romans 5:1-2,5-8; John 4:5-42

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Offertory Procession
		Greeters: Sue Hetherington Angela Beglin		9.00 am ~ Ballina
Readers	Youth Group Youth Group	Mark McDonald Judith Fitzhenry	Margaret Tay Gemma Duffy	John & Kay Hayward
Ext. Ministers Holy Communion	Hamish Valentine Pauline Shay Michael Shay Phil Chapman	Madeline Pride	Leanne Robbins Mary Steenson Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	
	Monica Anderson	Jeannie Savage	Lea Lane	
Altar Servers	<i>Ari Slattery Ruby Slattery Zali Raudonikis Finn Freeman</i>	<i>Tye Hetherington Sophia Agnew</i>	<i>Sophie Sullivan Clare Lynch Anthony Coutinho Evie Hyde</i>	
Children's Liturgy		Murray Deeps Kathryn Wood	Nicole & Adam Sullivan	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Neta Anne Mirkovich, Pat Grant, Barry Kelly, Jim Walsh, Mira Slavic,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Guerrino Gardiman

AND ALSO FOR: Armando Bordin, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, 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: Bill Colenso, Marie Daley, Chanice Wills, Stephen Hill, 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, (Aunt) Julia Paden, Rev Ray Fishwick, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Kay Harth, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Ousby (2 yrs), 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 Kolbach, Samantha Anderson, Tony Lannan, Kim del-Signore, 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 at any time in either Church on any day. A week's notice prior to the preferred Baptism is essential for preparation and notification to the Priest. Please contact Parish Admin 6681 1048.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: 22nd March, 2020. Groups start 23rd February.

CONFIRMATION: 28th May, 2020. Parent Meeting: 1st April

RECONCILIATION: 2nd September, 2020. Parent Meeting: Wednesday 29th July.

WEDDINGS: In either church. Arrange an appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK: during Mass on dates to be advertised during the year, and on request; and at regular intervals at the hospital and aged care facilities.

HOSPITAL: Catholic patients in Ballina Hospital are visited by a member of the parish team on a regular basis. Given the difficulty we have in obtaining names of those in hospital, a visit is made to **those who tell us** they are in the hospital. We will only know someone is in the hospital if we are told by family or friends. This is due to the Privacy laws that govern our nation.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE OF THE RELICS OF ST THERESE AND STS LOUIS AND ZELIE MARTIN

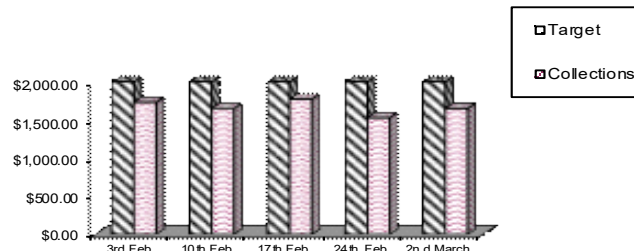
Following our wonderful experience of hosting the relics of St Therese and her parents Louis and Zelig Martin, Catholic Mission have asked that anyone who would like to share their experience to send a short email to communications@catholicmission.org.au setting out how your participation affected you and what the experience meant to you. These will be included on the Catholic Mission website without any identifying information and then sent to Lisieux so they can have a record of how the pilgrimage was received in Australia.

DIF PAYS 1.40% 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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 1,248.00
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 549.20
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,650.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



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 in the foyer of the Church. Please complete your details and place on the collection plate in the envelope provided, or 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

CHANGES OF MASS FOR THIS WEEK

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

Thursday 12th March ~ 8.00 am

Friday 13th March ~ 12.00 noon



MEN'S BREAKFAST
with **BISHOP GREG**
THIS TUESDAY 10TH MARCH,
Activity Centre, Crowley Village, Ballina.
Price: \$20.00 buffet breakfast
Time: 7.30 am – 9.00 am

PARISH 2ND RITE
WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH
5.30 PM— SFX CHURCH, BALLINA

PROJECT COMPASSION— Week 2 Cambodia



Twenty-seven-year-old Phany, lives in a village in western Cambodia. Struggling to earn a living as a farmer, she was forced to leave her daughter behind in the village, to take up construction work in the city. Phany joined the Upholding Community Dignity Together program, where she learnt new farming techniques, such as a drip irrigation system,

which enabled her to get a better yield from her vegetable crops and to conserve water in her drought-stricken region. Phany's community also took part in training in health, nutrition, hygiene and disaster preparedness, arming them with better strategies to cope with environmental changes. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help mothers like Phany continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families. Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

LENTEN TALKS ~ BISHOP GREG

Focus ~ 'Holiness'

St Carthage's Cathedral Lismore ~ 6.00 pm

Tuesday 10th March

Tuesday 17th March

Tuesday 24th March

All most Welcome!

LAP PROGRAM



Holy Family Catholic Primary School is looking for any interested parishioners who are willing to give up an hour of their time each week, to work with children on a one to one basis. No skills are necessary, just a little time, care and concern.

It is based on a scheme called the Learning Assistance Program which was successfully implemented into our school twenty years ago.

The program is based on five simple principles:

- It is always one to one
- Is about relationships
- Builds confidence and self esteem
- Takes a creative approach to learning
- Promotes parent and community participation



Volunteers benefit as much as the children they work with.

If you are interested, please contact the school office on 6687 5311 and ask for Cheryl Winkler.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This week's focus ...

'God's Word'

As a boy, Jesus would have grown up praying the Psalms with his family and his Jewish community.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday 22nd March, 11.00 am



NEW ROLE—DEPUTY DIRECTOR FINANCE & OPERATIONS

The Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Office (CSO) is seeking to appoint a Deputy Director - Finance & Operations to contribute to the Mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Lismore. In this new position, the successful applicant will collaborate in collective decision making as a member of the Executive Team and will carry out a senior strategic role in the management of finances, information technology, payroll, school planning and human resources. The successful applicant will have:

- CA/CPA certification or equivalent with relevant tertiary qualifications in Finance and/or Accounting and will ideally have education at or above Masters level and membership of an appropriate professional association
- Demonstrated ability to lead significant strategy that relates to school and system improvement and cultural and organisational change while anticipating and responding to opportunities and risks
- Effective communication and influencing skills with the ability to negotiate desired outcomes and influence organisational reform and direction
- Demonstrated ability to build productive relationships with internal and external stakeholders
- Experience leading and managing large multi-faceted teams to achieve strategic and operational priorities and build organisational skills, capacity and responsiveness
- Willingness to work within the ethos of the Catholic Church.

For confidential enquiries and expressions of interest in this position, please contact the Director of Catholic Schools [+61 2 6622 0422](tel:+61266220422). An information package will be provided to interested applicants.

Applications close Wednesday 18th March 2020

Please note the successful applicant is subject to a National Criminal History Check and Working with Children Check.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship!

17th – 19th April, 2020 at Mt Carmel

Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Book online at www.wwme.org.au

Alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on

0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com

If you would like Worldwide Marriage Encounter brochures please see WWME website at www.wwme.org.au



QLD Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Dates: 12th–14th June, 2020 (Ormiston)
24th–25th October, 2020 (Indooroopilly)

Contact: David & Maria Murphy **or**

Phone: 07 3342 1456.

Email: qldbbookings@wwme.org.au

Location: **Santa Teresa Spiritual Centre,**
267 Wellington Street, Ormiston. QLD

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4;*A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth

shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

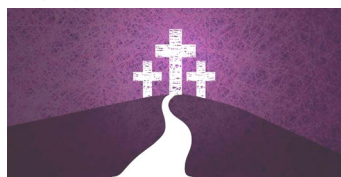
The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

2. The Lord looks on those
who revere him, on those
who hope in his love, to res-
cue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in fam-
ine. **(R.)**



3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Timothy 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves

have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according Matthew

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL PARISHIONERS FROM BISHOP GREG:
RE: CORANAVIRUS**

Since the Australian Government has indicated that there has been transmission of Covid-19 Virus within Australia, I must, in accord with specialist medical advice, make some rulings concerning the celebration of Mass in our Diocese.

- In order to prevent the passing of the virus from hand to hand **there will be no sign-of-peace** until further notice.
- To prevent the possibility of the transmission of droplets from one person to another during the reception of Communion **all Communion will be given on the hand and not on the tongue** until further notice.
- As advised previously **the Chalice will not be shared** with the congregation.
- Please be advised that, should you be feeling unwell, you are relieved from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. **Sick people should not attend Mass.**
- **All Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to sanitise their hands** with sanitising gel before distribution.
- **Holy Water will not be used at the entrances of churches.**

Let us pray for the protection of all parishioners and the end of this virus.

Bishop Greg Homeming OCD

***** Additional copies of this message are available in the foyer of both churches*****



Christian Meditation Group: is held every Saturday at 9.30 am in Anawim Room.

Ballina CCR Intercession Mondays from 10.45 to 11.45 am in the Anawim Room. **Prayer Meeting:** Mondays 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room

Centacle Marian Movement of Priests: Monday 11.00-12.15 at 3/21 Swift St, Ballina. Details Admin Office

Parish Youth Group: Saturday 6.00pm - Mass then to

St Francis Xavier School Hall, Crane Street.

Sisterhood: Monday 10.00 am Mother Teresa Room, Parish Admin Centre.

Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy: is held every Wednesday 8.00 am Holy Family Church, Lennox Head
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Friday mornings from 11.00 to 11.45 am at SFX Church Ballina (*except when there is a funeral that day*). **All Welcome!**



Invest with peace of mind

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 CDIF 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 Ballina 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.