



ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH BALLINA

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
47 CHERRY STREET
BALLINA

WELCOME

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
94 BALLINA STREET
LENNOX HEAD

Respecting the traditional people of this land-past, present and future, the Bundjalung people

2nd Sunday of Lent Year A

PARISH NOTICES

1st March 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH BALLINA

SATURDAY VIGIL
- 5.30 PM

SUNDAY - 9.00 AM

SUNDAY - 11.00 AM

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
LENNOX HEAD

SUNDAY - 7.30 AM

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH

TUESDAY AND
WEDNESDAY
5.00 PM

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
12.00 NOON

ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 AM TO 11.45 AM

RECONCILIATION
9.00 AM SATURDAY

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Father Peter Padsungay

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Erick Quinteros

DEACON

Rev Assoc Professor
Anthony Gooley

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mr Brendon Clarke

PARISH BUSINESS
MANAGER

Mr Michael Penhey



PARISH 'CUPPA'

Parish 'Cuppa' today **Sunday 1st March** following the 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church. *Everyone is very welcome.*

THE 54TH EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028 IN SYDNEY

HOLY HOUR AND ADORATION in St Francis Xavier Church today 1st March at 2.00 pm to support the nationwide Holy Hour to begin preparations for the International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028.

'Eucharist28' will be a moment of profound joy for the whole of Australia as we welcome pilgrims from across the globe, including the holy Father, Pope Leo XIV.

TAIZE THIS MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2026

12.00 NOON ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation through Meditation Music and Silence

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
each Friday during Lent
at 5.30 pm in
St Francis Xavier Church



BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALKS
'THE SPIRITUAL LIFE' MONDAYS AT
6.00 pm at St Mary's chapel Monday
2nd March - Detachment Monday
9th March - Union with God

THE CHOSEN ~ SEASON 5
'PALM SUNDAY TO HOLY THURSDAY'
Thursdays **2.00 pm** from this Thursday 5th March
Mother Teresa Room

UNLOCKING THE POWER IN BAPTISM

Answer Jesus' call to come to Him and discover the power in Baptism.

Date: **Saturday 14 March 2026 Time: 10.30am to 5.00pm**

Venue: **St Francis Xavier Parish Upper Room**

Presented by the Mission Team of Catholic Charismatic
Renewal Brisbane

- BYO lunch Contact: Maxine 0429 669 029



UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- Monday 2nd March 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anwim Room
- Tuesday 3rd March 10.00 am Cherry Coffee
- Monday 5.30 pm & Thursday 10 am 2nd & 5th March Gospel of Matthew STR
- Monday 2nd March TAIZE at 12.00 noon St Francis Xavier Church
- Tuesday 3rd March 10.00 am Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus LH
- Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm
- menALIVE Wednesday 11th March 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head
- World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March Uniting Church Ballina 9.30 am
- Friday 20th March 12.00 noon Parish Anointing Mass
- Monday 23rd March Chrism Mass 11.00 am St Carthages Cathedral Lismore

	5.30 pm Mass	7.30 am Mass L H	9.00 am Mass	11.00 am Mass
1 st Reader 2nd Reader	XCC XCC Jean Mackay	Margaret Tay Donna Sison	Maurice Gahan Warwick Manning
EMOHC	XCC Phil Chapman	Sue Hetherington	Deacon Anthony Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Cheryl Bowen
Gifts			
Announcer	Mick Vella	Sue Hetherington	Richard Goss	Maxine Cole
Laptop	XCC		Jo Hurley	Maxine Cole

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Roy Thwaite, Aileen Lane (Dalby), Kevin Sullivan, Gerald Buttrose, Faye Clements,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Peter Tiernan, Mary Grant, Paddy Grant, Sonbacchi Vincen, Michael Kearney, Fay Herrick

AND ALSO FOR: Dymrna Sheehy, Jack & Marie Flood, Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Margaret Moreland, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Bill & Jean Shay, Cecilia & Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all the faithful departed.

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL: Mele Taufaeava, Sr Patricia O'Brien PBVM, Joy Long, Julia Paden, Samantha Anderson, Brian Dye, Andrea Bernabey, Caceres family, Gustavo Caceres, Daniel Freeman, Gloria Bordin, Nancy and Joan Obonyo, Nate Doolan, Joy Schneider, Gloria Greguric, Annemarie Higgins, unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Please advise after six weeks if a name is to be removed or if good health has been restored.)



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 Erick*

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COLLECTED SEPARTELY AT MASS COLLECTION:**

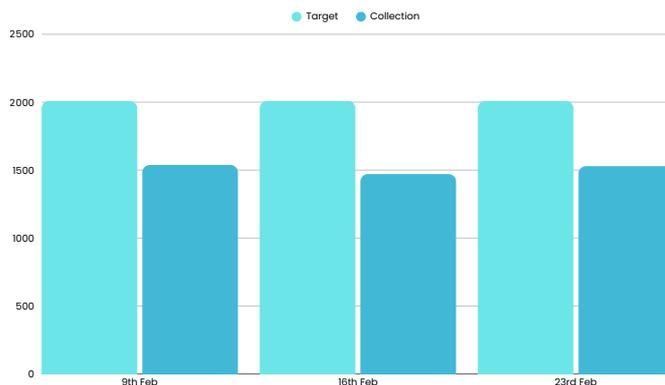
Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY By making an EFTPOS donation

***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 use your Planned Giving number as reference.

DIF PAYS 3.40% PER ANNUM - BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker 87-89 River Street Ballina 02 6686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry Street Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS		
1st Collection	Support clergy	\$1,168.25
2nd Collection Support of the Parish	Loose Plate	\$357.35
	Planned Giving	\$1,604.55
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



INTEREST RATE – 3.40% FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND OUR CURRENT RATE, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.DIF.ORG.AU OR CONTACT US ON 1800 802 516



Second Sunday of Lent
28 February – 1 March 2026



World Day of Prayer 2026

Nigeria

'I will give you rest: Come'

Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



2026 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
Friday 6th March 9.30 am
Uniting Church, Cherry Street
Ballina

ASPIRE
Young Adult Spiritual Formation
with Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD

Wednesday, 18 March
Monday, 4 May
Thursday, 18 June
Monday, 27 July
Friday, 14 August
Monday, 7 September
Monday, 12 October
Tuesday, 24 November

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Microsoft Teams
Login: 471 422 568 74059
Password: DB946Sp6

For more information, contact Sr. Di Moralde, CM
M: 0434 772 867

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ON
SALE FOLLOWING EACH
WEEKEND MASS. \$2.00 EA

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES
TUESDAY 3rd MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Give light to my eyes lest I fall asleep in death, lest my enemy say: I have overcome him.
Communion Antiphon: I will recount all your wonders. I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

WEDNESDAY 4th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord! My God, be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!
Communion Antiphon: The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

THURSDAY 5th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Test me, O God, and know my thoughts. See that my path is not wicked, and lead me in the way everlasting.
Communion Antiphon: Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

FRIDAY 6th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: In you, O Lord, I put my trust, let me never be put to shame; release me from the snare they have hidden for me, for you indeed are my refuge.
Communion Antiphon: God loved us, and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

Reflection: Transfigured Bodysouls : We have to get rid of the idea that the soul is a dot of energy in some hidden core of our body. In fact, the body is in the soul. There is no part of my body which is not immersed in my soul. It is my whole person, bodysoul, which needs to be saved. As Thomas Aquinas says: 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.'

Today's Gospel does not portray an out-of-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Further, this transfiguration was not a solitary experience for Jesus. Peter, James and John witnessed it precisely because it told them what our Heavenly Father desired as their destiny beyond martyrdom, if only they would listen to Jesus.

Heavenly salvation will involve my whole person, bodysoul, being transformed. But could a person, during their earthly existence, share in the transfiguration experience of Christ?

We could pause for a moment to 'Google' or otherwise get hold of my favourite story of a saint – St Seraphim of Sarov – and pray that we may share with his disciple the bodily experience of 'immeasurable wellbeing' – 'infinite joy in our hearts'. © Fr Michael Tate; Liturgy Help

PRAYER GROUPS IN OUR PARISH

Prayer of the Church and Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am

Christian Meditation: Saturday 9.00 am Anawim Room

CCR: Monday 1.45 to 4.00 pm Anawim Room

Marian Cenacle: Monday 10.0 am Anawim Room

menAlive: fortnightly Wednesdays 8.00 am Rise Cafe
Lennox Head

Parish Youth Group: Upper Room Sundays 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus: Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Family Church Lennox Head

Ladies rosary & afternoon tea 1st Tuesday of every month 1.30 pm Phn Pauline 0438 435 566

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office: Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please contact the Safeguarding Office 6621 9444 or email safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au. Procedures are in place to guide how best to help victims – whether children or vulnerable people at risk. March edition of Safeguarding News available in the Church stand



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE PRIEST AT ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

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

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 rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(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: 2 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: Matthew 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

• Moses was a great figure who represented the Law for Israel. Elijah represented the prophets. Readings from the Law and the Prophets made up the Scriptures of Israel.

Here Matthew shows Jesus in conversation with them, thus Jesus is in harmony with everything revealed in Judaism.

• The voice from heaven here echoes the words which were used at the baptism of Jesus.

• Traditionally, this scene of the Transfiguration is associated with Mt Tabor which rises out of the Plain of Esdraelon.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Administration Centre: 53-57 Cherry Street Ballina Phn 02 6681 1048 P.O. Box 46 Ballina 2478

email: admin@sfxballina.org.au Office hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Parish website: www.sfxballina.org.au

SCHOOLS

St Francis Xavier Primary: Swift Street Ballina Phn 02 6686 3370 Principal: Mr Tony Hunter

Holy Family Primary: 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 5311 Principal: Mr Murray Deeps

Xavier Catholic College: 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 6484 Principal: Mr Michael Campbell

LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

St Anne's: Phn: 02 6687 596142 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head. Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst

AGED CARE

Crowley Care Services: 154 Cherry Street, Ballina Phn: 1300 139 099 CEO: Mr Michael Penhey