

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
Ordinary Time (A)**

19th January, 2020

**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  
at Crowley Chapel**

**Thursday 8.00 am  
at \*Lennox Head\***

**Friday ~ 12.00 noon**

~~~~~  
Reconciliation

**Saturday 9.00 to 10.00 am
also on request**

Adoration

Friday 11.00 to 11.45 am

~~~~~  
**Feasts**

**St Agnes ~ Tuesday**

**St Francis de Sales ~ Friday**

**The Conversion of St Paul  
Saturday**

## An Earth crying out

At every Mass before communion, we hear the words from John witnessing to Jesus: 'Behold the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.' Anyone unfamiliar with church worship would wonder what on earth we were talking about. Why would we use such words – 'lamb' especially?

For the early Christians, the words 'lamb of God' had tremendous resonance. Everyone was then familiar with animal sacrifice. But the early Christians instantly recalled the Jewish Passover from Egypt, when the Hebrew people marked their doorframes with the blood of a lamb to save them from the angel killing the first-born males of humans and cattle to force Pharaoh to release them from bondage. The blood of the lamb rescued the first-born of the Hebrews from death.

No wonder the early Christians treasured the words 'lamb of God' when speaking of Jesus who gave his life's blood that all might live. Passages from the prophets and especially Isaiah add further power to the word 'lamb': 'He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter' (Is 53, 7).

In his gospel, John deliberately used the word 'sin' in the singular, not 'sins' in the plural, i.e. our individual sins. John is referring to the collective 'brokenness' of our world, in a collective sense, and perhaps also in a cosmic sense. For John set his gospel in a cosmic context: 'In the be-

ginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. (John 1, 1-3).

We have always recognised the brokenness of the world of course, especially in times of acute hardship, war, famine or natural disasters. But Pope Francis stresses the urgency of 'care for our common home', the earth itself and its environment. It's as if we need to smear the blood of the lamb

over all the earth, with a renewed sense of reverence and wonder for the beauty and fragility of our earth, invoking God's Word to sustain creation.

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, and recently with the Amazon Synod, Pope Francis stressed that our planet and its life systems were created by God as an outpouring of love. But these crucial life support

systems are now gravely threatened by global warming and climate change. Pope Francis definitely considers this a global climate emergency.

Pope Francis is greatly alarmed at the environmental brokenness of the world today, which threatens us with 'catastrophic' disasters. Invoking St Francis of Assisi, he has urged us to do all we can personally, and as nations together, to reduce greenhouse emissions to avoid unimaginable distress for many millions of people.

Bruce Duncan CSsR  
© Majellan 2020



**PRESBYTERY:** Phone: 6686 2042

**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](mailto:kathryn@sfxballina.org.au)

**Email:** [parishcouncil@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:parishcouncil@sfxballina.org.au)

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; **Email:** [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto: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: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 25th/26th January, 2020**  
**Readings: Isaiah 8:23-9:3; Psalm 26; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17; Matthew 4:12-23**

|                                              | 6.00 pm<br>Vigil Ballina                                   | 7.30 am<br>Lennox Head                                  | 9.00 am<br>Ballina                                             | Offertory<br>Procession                |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|                                              |                                                            | <b>Greeters:</b> Genevieve Starr<br>Val Culican         |                                                                | <b>9.00 am ~ Ballina</b>               |
| <b>Readers</b>                               | Amelia Kearney<br>John Kearney                             | Kristie Coster<br>Tye Hetherington                      | Mark Biddle<br>Warwick Manning                                 | <b>Kevin &amp; Louise<br/>Reynolds</b> |
| <b>Ext. Ministers<br/>Holy<br/>Communion</b> | Peter Bowen<br>Cheryl Bowen<br>Yvonne Head<br>Phil Chapman | Murray Deeps                                            | Adam Sullivan<br>Gemma Duffy<br>Margaret Tay<br>Cathy Campbell |                                        |
| <b>Sacristan</b>                             | Phil Chapman                                               | Marie Sullivan                                          | Lea Lane                                                       |                                        |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                         | Allira Bateman<br>Grace Quinn<br>Rhyah Bateman             | Luca Beasley-Kenk<br>Annabella Clarke<br>Charlie Martin | Emily Comin<br>Olivia Comin<br>Noah Gerrish                    |                                        |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Joan Charteris, Leone Williams, Mona Giobatti, Father Tony Casey, Greg Ellis, Margaret Bermingham, Lydia Garrone, Dea Cairns, Peter Scroope,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Stan Parry, John Moreland, Hortense Dunn

**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:** Margaret Murphy, Robert Sullivan, Terry Moore, Ailsa Patch, Margaret Pyne, Kathleen Campbell, Trish Warwarek, Roslyn Evans, Kaia Randall, Mary Sullivan, Garry Howard, Darcy Martin, Jim Walsh, Charlie Clements, Ted Murphy, Charlie Scotcher, (Aunt) Julia Paden, Rev Ray Fishwick, Laurie Ianna, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Kay Harth, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Owsby (2 yrs), Jeanie Marie Curry, Fay Kerslake, Darryl Simpkins, Betty Albertini, Hilda Carter, Rosemary Russell, John Moreland, Dymna 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, 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)

**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.

**CONFIRMATION:** 28th May, 2020. Parent Meeting: 1st April  
**RECONCILIATION:** 2nd September, 2020. Parent Meeting: Wednesday 29th July.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** 22nd March, 2020. Parent Meeting 19th February. Groups start 23rd February.

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

**ANointing 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.

**NEW PARISHIONER?** If you are a new parishioner of St Francis Xavier Parish, ***we welcome you to our community.*** Please take the time to fill in a card at the back of the Church and place in the box provided or contact the parish office 6681 1048.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR PARISH IN 2020**

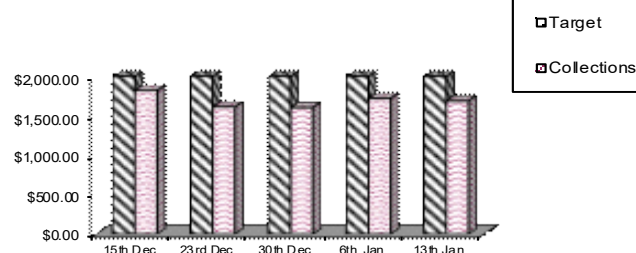
If you would like to help out as a **catechist** in our state schools, or be a member of the happy team at the **Hot Meal Centre**, or have your name added to the roster for **parish morning teas** or maybe **St Vincent de Paul Centre**, please contact the Parish Office on 6681 1048.

**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**

|                                                                                                              |                                       |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>First Collection</b>                                                                                      | Support of our<br>Diocese Priests     | \$ 1,342.85 |
| <b>Second Collection</b><br>Support of the Parish &<br>Ministries &<br>School Building &<br>Maintenance Fund | Loose Plate                           | \$ 529.95   |
|                                                                                                              | Planned Giving<br>Envelopes Collected | \$ 1,689.50 |
| 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



## CATECHISTS MATTER Volunteers NEEDED

Can you spare 30 minutes a week to help sow the seeds of **FAITH, HOPE and LOVE in GOD** into the hearts of the children in our local State Schools?

The Church needs more Catechists and Helpers to assist the faith development of children in the State schools in our parish family. For more information on becoming a Catechist contact the Parish Office 6681 1048.

**Please give some thought to this important invitation. You will be supplied with resources and be part of a very enthusiastic and vibrant team.**

## SFX CHURCH 'CUPPA'

Next Sunday 26th January,  
after the 9.00 am Mass at SFX Church,  
Ballina.



*Helpers on the day would be greatly appreciated.*

**Everyone is Welcome.**

## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD

'JANUARY 2020

**BIRTHDAY MORNING TEA'**

Next Sunday 26th January following  
the 7.30 am Mass.

**You are most welcome.**



**The relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux and her parents Saints Louis and Zélie Martin will be in the Diocese from Saturday 15th to Wednesday 19th February 2020.**

Tuesday 1st October 2019, the feast of St Thérèse of Lisieux, marked the official launch of this National Pilgrimage. The pilgrimage will be a special time of grace for all who venerate the relics and prayerful precursor to the historic convening of Plenary Council 2020. The relics will visit the following churches and the Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah.

- **Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah**  
**Arrive: 15th February at 4.00 pm**  
**Depart: 16th February at 12.00 noon**
- **St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore**  
**Arrive: 16th February at 12.30 pm**  
**Depart: 17th February at 11.00 am**
- **St Mary's Church, Casino**  
**Arrive: 17th February at 11.45 am**  
**Depart: 17th February at 8.00 pm**

Invocare and its funeral brands will kindly provide transport and secure storage of the relics throughout the National Pilgrimage.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Ash Wednesday 26th February 2020**  
~~~~~
- Parent Meeting for First Holy Communion ~
Wednesday 19th February at 6.00 pm
- First Holy Communion Sunday ~ **22nd March**
~~~~~
- Easter Sunday **12th April 2020**  
~~~~~

2020 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY

22nd MARCH 2020 at 11.00 am

Parent Meeting Wednesday 19th February ~

6.00 pm ~ Upper Room

Parish Administration Centre.



**2020 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
PRAY FOR ZIMBABWE**

Date: Friday 6th March

Time: 10.00 am

**Where: Emmanuel Anglican College
62 Horizon Street,
West Ballina.**

Guest Speaker: Mr Amkela Malaba

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2020



Watch the Gospels come alive as we set out on this true pilgrimage of faith and retrace the progressive stages of the life of Jesus from his Nativity in Bethlehem to his

Passion on Calvary. Be deeply moved as we behold with our eyes what our minds for so long attempted to image. 10 nights/13 days ~ Friday 14th August to Wednesday 26th August 2020.

Dead Sea, Mt Nebo, Baptismal Site of Jesus, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, Sea of Galilee, Mt Tabor, Mt Carmel, Haifa, Jericho, Jerusalem.

Tour catholic priest: Father Michael Brady, Tweed Heads
All travel information and brochures are available from Harvest Journey phn 1800819 156

Email: info@harvestjourneys.com

Website: harvestjourneys.com

EMMAUS SONG

By Monica Brown Used with permission ONELICENCE #A-621003.

Come journey with us walk with us, listen to our story
Our hopes, our dreams, our struggles, our joys,
our story of life

We share with you as we journey, Jesus our God

Refrain

**May our hearts be warmed
And strengthened by your presence here
In your holy word
And bread of life in the love we share
May we go forth on our journey with you**

Come journey with us, talk with us, tell us of your story
Open our minds to understand, the mystery of
Your life with us Your risen life, Jesus our God. /R

Come journey with us, stay with us, make us
one with you

In the blessing of bread, the breaking of bread,
may we truly know /R



SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Joan Charteris** who has passed away, her Requiem Mass will be at Lennox Head ~ day and time to be advised.

First Reading: Is 49:3,5-6*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';
 I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
 my God was my strength.
 And now the Lord has spoken,
 he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him,
 to gather Israel to him:
 'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
 to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;
 I will make you the light of the nations
 so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'
 The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:*(R.) Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.*

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. *(R.)*
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. *(R.)*
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. *(R.)*
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. *(R.)*

Second Reading: Cor 1:1-3*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:***Alleluia, alleluia!***

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
 He enabled those who accepted him
 to become the children of God.

Alleluia!**Gospel:** Jn 1:29-34*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'



The Gospel of the Lord.

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

NATIONAL PRAYER FOR DROUGHT

Eternal God, In wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life. We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops. Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them.

In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth. Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life: Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians— Pray for us. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop—Pray for us.



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

Cenacle Marian Movement of Priests: Is in recess and will resume on Monday 10th February.

Ballina CCR is in recess until Monday 3rd February.

Prayer of the Church is in recess until Saturday 1st February.

Parish Youth Group: is in recess

Sisterhood: is in recess until Monday 3rd February.



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 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.