



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.**

**30th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (C)**

26th October, 2025

**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 THIS WEEK
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon Ballina**

**ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 am to 11.45 am**



**RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday
St Francis Xavier Church**

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Feast Days

**Sts Simon and Jude, apostles
Tuesday**

**All Saints Day
Saturday**

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Frederick Ellis Johnson** son of Benjamin and Rebecca.

Dear Parishioners,
I would like to inform you of a temporary adjustment to our seating arrangements in our parish church. To accommodate our parish school choir and ensure everyone's safety, the designated disabled seating area will be used by the choir during their music ministry weekend Masses. In light of this, we are pleased to offer our disabled parishioners a new seating location at the front of the church. This prominent and easily accessible area has been chosen to ensure comfort, visibility, and continued inclusion in our worship. We deeply appreciate your understanding and support, and thank you for your kindness and cooperation.
Blessings
Father Peter



DISABLED PARKING TRIAL: Parishioners with disability stickers and who attend our weekend Masses will now be able to use the parking area used on weekdays by the Administration staff. This area is under cover and is for use at all weekend Masses only.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY: The next Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held **THIS Monday 27th October, 2025 at 3.00 pm**, in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.
You will be most Welcome.



**CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY
MELBOURNE CUP DAY LUNCHEON
Tuesday 4th November, 2025**

12.00 pm—3.30 pm \$70.00 pp BYO drinks

Please RSVP and pay via cash or eftpos at Crowley reception by **THIS Tuesday 28th October**. Please also provide any dietary requirements. Tickets include: Glass of champagne on arrival. Delicious 3 course meal. 1 x entry into the Lucky door prize and live entertainment.



**TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER 12.00 NOON
IN ST FRANCS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart

The CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale following each weekend Mass. \$2.00 ea

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

PRESBYTERY: Phone: (02) 6686 2042
AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Erick Quinteros

Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

Pastoral Associates: email: pastoralassociate@sfxballina.org.au

Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@sfxballina.org.au

Phone: 02 6681 1048; 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: Principal: Mr Tony Hunter - 02 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina

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

Xavier Catholic College: Principal: Mr Lee MacMaster - 02 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre: Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst - 02 6687 5961 - 42 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

Crowley Care Services: 1300 139 099 - 154 Cherry St, Ballina

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

**PARISH LIBRARY:
SCHOOLS:**

AGED CARE:

All Soul's Day Year C: 1st/2nd November 2025
Readings: Wisdom 4:7-15; Psalm 22; Romans 5:5-11; John 6:37-40

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Trish Bazar Peter Fear	Amanda Deeps Murray Deeps	Wendy Hughes Gemma Duffy	Warwick Manning Maxine Cole
EMOHC	John Jarzynski Phil Chapman	Sue Hetherington	Deacon Anthony Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Offertory Procession			Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Orr, Leo Moore (*son of Margaret*), Kath Sullivan, Ian Lockton, Tracy Williams (*Sydney*), Antonio Bonieiolli, Rowan Mooney,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Denise Robinson, Bob Pidcock, Jack Flood

AND ALSO FOR: *Jack & Marie Flood, Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, 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: Veronica Bennett (*Gold Coast*), Nancy and Joan Obonyo, Nate Doolan, Joy Long (*Sydney*), Paddy Mulgrew (*Northern Ireland*), Joy Schneider, Alisha Nobbs (*Brisbane*), Severina Nady Verdeflor, Gloria Greguric, Steven Kennessey & family, Kevin Sullivan, Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Daphne Sweeney, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David LeFeve (*London*), Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston,, Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson, Auntie Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, 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 removed if good health has*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

27th October	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
27th October	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart</i>
27th October	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
28th October	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
28th October	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face L H
29th October	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
30th October	Thursday 2.00 pm	The Chosen MTR
30th October	Thursday 5.30 pm—7.30 pm	Alpha MTR
31st October	Friday 9.30 am	Mass @ East Ballina Cemetery
2nd November	Sunday 9.45 am & 11.30 am	Parish Cuppa
30th November	Sunday 12.00 noon	Annual Parish Lunch

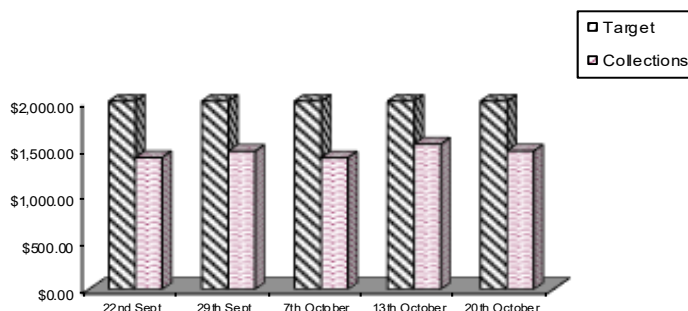
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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 3.65% PER ANNUM - BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, **L J Hooker**
 87-89 River St Ballina 026686 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>	\$ 1,332.65
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 334.85
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,470.70
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



The good and the bad

As church-people, we may think we know what it means to worship God. After all, we go to church, say some prayers, pay our dues, and try to live a decent life. Indeed, all this is well and good. But God asks something more of us. Do we think the good things we do in life arise from our own virtue? Do we find ourselves somewhat judgmental and intolerant of those who don't quite live up to our standards?

We are confronted with these kinds of questions by Jesus' story of the publican (or tax collector) and the Pharisee. A modern-day version might contrast a good church-going Catholic lawyer with a less than scrupulous property developer. One day the Catholic lawyer decides to make an extra visit to the church to praise and thank God for all the good things he does in life (including the *pro bono* work he does for the church). But his prayer drifts especially when, to his surprise, he sees the low-life property developer standing at the back of the church. He especially thanks God he is not like that!

What we note about our property developer is that he hardly dares enter the church and, when he does, keeps his eyes down-cast. Being neither fancy with words nor knowing how to pray, all he says is (repeatedly): "God forgive me". Jesus praises the property developer while suggesting our lawyer was not really worshipping – or "at rights with" – God.

In the original parable, Jesus finishes with the saying: 'those who exalt themselves will be humbled; but those who humble themselves will be exalted'. Humility in prayer, linked to God's 'option for the poor', is also a central feature in today's other readings: the Lord hears the cry of the poor, is close to the broken-hearted, answers the prayer of orphans, widows and victims of injustice, and rescues those in distress. Indeed, it is 'the humble person's prayer that pierces the clouds'; and 'the humble shall hear and be glad'.

What is interesting in the life of Jesus is that he not only told stories that confronted people's attitudes and beliefs. He acted those stories out by befriending the poor, healing the disabled, 'eating with tax collectors and sinners'. However, unlike our 'self-referential' lawyer friend, Jesus' ministry does not focus on himself, the good he does or the choices he makes, but on the love and mercy of an all-forgiving God. The property developer in our story reaches a similar point in his own life whereby his entire focus becomes God-centred.

Popes Francis and Leo have been saying something similar about the kind of church they understand God is calling us to be, namely, a church of the poor, a church that reaches out to touch all people, especially those on the margins of life, with the message of God's mercy and compassion. For this to occur, the church needs to become less like our lawyer in the story, and more like our property developer.

Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2025

 **PARISH 'CUPPA'**
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church,
**Sunday 2nd November, following the 9.00
am Mass and 11.00 am Mass.**
Everyone is very welcome.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH LUNCH
Sunday 30th November, 2025
Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina
Main meal, sweets, tea/coffee
Tickets are now available from the Parish Office ~
\$25.00 ea Numbers limited to 100.



ALL SOULS DAY ~ SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER MASS AT EAST BALLINA CEMETERY 9.30 AM THIS FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

You are invited to use the envelope provided with your Planned Giving envelopes or any other plain envelopes. Extra November Mass envelopes are in the church pews for your convenience.

There are additional November Mass envelopes at the doors 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.



CONNECT WITH CURSILLO

All are welcome at our BALLINA Gathering NEXT Saturday 1st November 1:00 – 3:30 for prayer and reflection and talks on "Living our faith in everyday life" and "Insights from the Cursillo National Encounter". Looking for more information? Pick up the Cursillo Brochure or the Cursillo Newsletter or phone Maxine 0429 669 029.

RCIA and RRFC Network. We are planning to establish a network in the Diocese of Lismore for those who work in the ministry of RCIA for unbaptised people and RRFC (Rite of Reception into Full Communion) for Christians entering into full communion with the Catholic Church. This **is not** for catechumens or candidates. If you are someone in the parish leading these processes or working with those who do, this network is for you. This initiative is supported by Bishop Greg Homeming. The next planning meeting is **Wednesday November 26, 7-8 pm**. Please register, with your name and parish, to receive a zoom link via email to Deacon Anthony Gooley agooley@lismore.catholic.org.au

DID YOU KNOW?

- It is always important to look at who the characters are in the parables of Jesus.
- Pharisees were deeply religious laymen who observed the law very closely and met together regularly for prayer and table fellowship.
- Tax collectors were despised because their job gave them opportunity to cheat and defraud the people and also because they cooperated with the Roman oppressors. Their contact with the gentiles made them ritually unclean. No wonder this tax collector 'stood some distance away'. The Pharisees would have believed he had no right to be in the temple at all.

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

- Are there times when you pass judgment on others or consider yourself as 'better' than certain people?
- How difficult do you find it to recognise your own shortcomings?
- Do you find it challenging to look beyond the shortcomings of others?
- The humble prayer of the tax collector makes a suitable prayer for you this week: *God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*

First Reading: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19*A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus*

The Lord is a judge
 who is no respecter of personages.
 He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party.
 He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,
 nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
 The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds.
 The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,
 until it arrives he is inconsolable
 nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him,
 acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement.
 And the Lord will not be slow,
 nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
 his praise always on my lips;
 in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
 The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
 to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
 The just call and the Lord hears
 and rescues them in all their distress. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
 those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
 The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
 Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight

to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
 and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Luke 18:9-14***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, "Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 28th OCTOBER ~ FEAST OF STS SIMON AND JUDE APOSTLES**

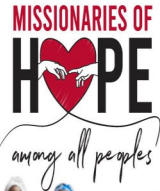
Entrance Antiphon: These are the holy men whom the Lord chose in his own perfect love; to them he gave eternal glory.

Communion Antiphon: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him.

WEDNESDAY 29th ~ THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER ~ FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Communion Antiphon: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Zambia and missionaries like Sr Jane and Kayula.

Thanks to your kindness, women like Sharon will have the skills to provide for their families, and mothers like Grace can give birth with dignity. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work. Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at catholicmission.org.au/mission. Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.



catholic mission Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission

Job Opportunity**Parish Administration Officer**

- Supporting the Catholic Parishes of Alstonville/Wardell and Coraki/Evans Head
- 18 hours per week (9:00am to 3:30pm)
- Located in Alstonville Parish Office



Scan QR to learn more
seek.com.au/job/87939199

Applications close 3 November 2025



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 02 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. A copy of the latest Safeguarding Newsletter is available from the Safeguarding information stand in the foyer of the Church.