

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.**

**31st Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

5th November, 2023

**NOVEMBER MONTH OF
THE HOLY SOULS**

**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
The Dedication of the
Lateran Basilica
Thursday
St Leo the Great
Friday
St Martin of Tours
Saturday

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM: Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Archie Ray Hepworth** son of Alex and Louise.



NOVEMBER MASSES

You are invited to use the envelope provided with your Planned Giving envelopes or any other plain envelopes. 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.

'PARISH 'CUPPA'

This Sunday 5th November, following the 9.00 am Mass, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church
Everyone is very welcome.



PRESENCE: THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST

THURSDAYS 3:00 pm - 4.00 pm
St Teresa Room, Parish Admin Centre



JOIN US ON A PILGRIMAGE FOR THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

A prayerful way to prepare for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Have you ever wondered what the Catholic Church teaches about the Eucharist? Why bread and wine? What happens at the consecration? Then this is for you!!

For more information, please phone Pauline 0438 435 566

CLOSURE OF HOLY FAMILY CHURCH FOR REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS IN THE ROOFING AREA OF THE BUILDING.

This is planned to begin with the scaffolding to be erected beginning Friday 24th November. The removal of the asbestos will begin Monday 27th November.

The Church will be closed for approximately 3 weeks. We anticipate that Mass will resume at Lennox from Sunday 17th December.

This work is to enable much needed renovations to the Church roof at a time to be advised.

Thank you for your understanding, as we improve the structure of our much loved Holy Family Church, for the benefit and well being of all.

'A little gem by the sea'



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: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 11th/12th November, 2023
Readings : Wisdom 6:12-16; Psalm 62; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Bryan Marriott Peter Fear</i>	<i>Emma McFadden Angela Beglin</i>	<i>Wendy Hughes Nicole Sullivan</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Warwick Manning</i>
EMOHC	<i>Trish Bazar</i>	<i>Kevin Sullivan</i>	<i>Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Greg & Katie</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Tony Smith, Kevin Dover, Rupert Sheddin (*Casino*), Billy King (*Casino*), Bill Margetts (*Casino*), Jean Kelly (*Lismore*),

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS

TIME: Rose Norris, Zelma Daniels

AND ALSO FOR: Lindsay Nicholl, 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: Shari McLeish (*Orange*), Kathy Fraser, Ken Delany, 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, 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.*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

6th November	Monday 10.30 am	The Cenacle Anawim Room
6th Nov & 20th Nov	Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church	Taizé ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
7th November	No 'Cherry' Ladies Coffee	Due to Melbourne Cup Day
7th November	Tuesday 7.00 pm	The Bible Timeline Moses, Aaron & Joshua
9th November	Thursday 3.00 pm St Teresa Room	'Presence' The Mystery of the Eucharist
3rd December	Sunday Parish Feast Day	Feast of St Francis Xavier
16th December	Saturday 9.00 am	Parish Advent Reflection Day

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

O God of peace, you have established Jerusalem as the Lord's House and a place of peace, and you have called on all who live there to love you and prosper. Instill in her inhabitants - Jews, Christians and Muslims - a hunger for justice and dignity and a resolve to end the distrust that culminates in violence. Amen.

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.

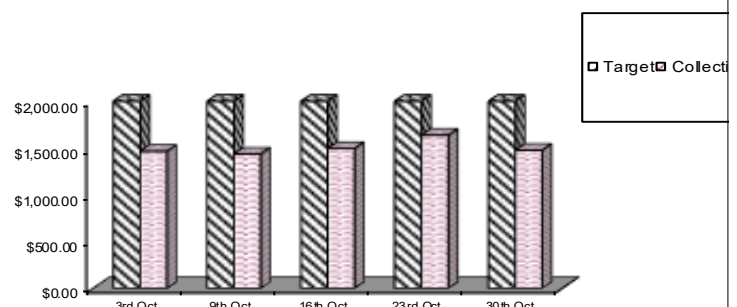
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier 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 4.15% PER ANNUM as of 1st November, 2023

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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 616.15
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 236.15
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,476.30
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Oh Lord, it's hard to be humble

Keeping Up Appearances' is a popular British sitcom that ran from 1990-1995. The plot centres on Hyacinth Bucket (pronounced "Bouquet"), a snobbish middle-aged Englishwoman on a lifelong quest to escape her working-class background, climb the social ladder and claim her rightful place in society.

Hyacinth hosts elegant soirees, including her famous 'candlelight suppers' complete with Royal Doulton tea set, in an effort to impose herself on high-society people, usually involving her long-suffering, but compliant husband, Richard; while striving to 'hide' her less-refined sisters, Daisy and Rose, and Daisy's slothful husband, Onslow. Yet somehow, Hyacinth's family always manages to spoil her grand designs to find fame, usually resulting in chaos and embarrassment. However, Hyacinth is a determined lady, who has one mission in life - to impress people of influence, status and wealth!

In today's gospel, we meet some scribes and Pharisees who are also intent on 'keeping up appearances'! For them, religion has more to do with personal gain and they set out to cultivate a greater public profile, attract attention and improve their social status. They shine the spotlight firmly on themselves by wearing "broader phylacteries and longer tassels"; taking "the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues" and having people call them "Rabbi."

But Jesus wants none of it.

True religion is never about external things, craving power and influence or putting on a show for others. Jesus confronts such superficial, shallow and self-indulgent understandings of holiness. He calls his followers to reject such an empty way of life and instead, build their lives on integrity, love and service, and to build relationships of solidarity, equality and mutual concern.

Jesus is also conscious of what the scribes and Pharisees say about the Law and how they act. They do not, as Jesus says, practice what they preach. Their teaching about the Law and its prescriptions places great burdens on people, which they do nothing to ease or remove. Their role, as they see it, puts them above others and they demand, and obviously get, plenty of attention and respect from those around them.

Ultimately, Jesus says: those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Humility is realising that all we are and have is a gift; that we are dependent on God for everything. Humility is an awareness that we're not alone, but embraced by God who loves us unconditionally and in whom we can have complete trust. Therefore, we have no need to inflate our egos, be seduced by fame, dominate or put others down, consider ourselves superior or find our value in physical attributes, possessions or reputations.

As humble disciples of the Good News, may we die to power, domination and ostentation; and rise to simplicity, authenticity, integrity and servant leadership.

David J Hore © Majellan Media 2023

TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA

THE BIBLE TIMELINE

This week we embrace Moses, Aaron and Joshua.

Tuesday 7th November at 7.00 pm in the St Teresa Room.

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

ADVENT 2023 'WITH EXPECTANT HEARTS'

Program books are available from the parish office at \$8.00 each. *Program will start week beginning 20th November contact Parish office for further information.*

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



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by the conflict.



DONATE NOW

www.caritas.org.au/gaza
1800 024 413

Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal: An estimated 1 million plus people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'

Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Lismore Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Lismore Office of the Tribunal on 6622 7288 or

Email: tribunal@lismore.catholic.org



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



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.

First Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10*A reading from the prophet Malachi*

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.**

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud nor haughty my eyes.

I have not gone after things too great

nor marvels beyond me. **(R.)**

2. Truly I have set my soul in silence and peace.

A weaned child on its mother's breast, even so is my soul.

(R.)3. O Israel, hope in the Lord both now and for ever. **(R.)****Second Reading: 1Thessalonians 2:7-9,13***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night

and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

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

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;

you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.

*The Gospel of the Lord.***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER AND WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER**

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: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER ~ THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Entrance Antiphon: I saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

Communion Antiphon: Be built up like living stones, into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.

FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER, ~ FEAST OF ST LEO THE GREAT

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord established for him a covenant of peace, and made him the prince, that he might have the dignity of the priesthood for ever.

Communion Antiphon: Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replied: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL

DID YOU KNOW? • Phylacteries and tasselled garments are part of the traditional garb worn by Jewish men at prayer.

A phylactery is a small leather box with long black straps. It contains texts from the Scriptures including the great Jewish acclamation of faith, the Shema (see last week).

Two are worn at prayer; one on the forehead and one on the upper left arm, signifying acceptance of God's law and its dominance of one's body and mind.

• Jewish Prayer Shawls, still worn today by Jewish men at prayer, have fringed edges with a long tassel at each corner.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: • The best teachers are those people who embody what it is they are teaching. Share an experience of a person you have met who was able to do that. Remember, we do not do all our learning in school!

• 'Do what I do, not what I say.' This common saying recognises that often we know what is right but sometimes find it difficult to live it out. Australians are very quick to reject hypocrisy and people who pump themselves up. This gospel points out that real leadership lies in service of others.

• Try to exercise a leadership of service this week—in your home and in your workplace.

We have one father, our Father in heaven; We have one teacher, our Lord Jesus Christ.

www.cam.org.au/summit

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048

Marian Cenacle: Every Monday at 10.30 am—Anawim Room, Parish Admin Centre, Narelle King Phn 6681 1048

Taizé: Every second Monday SFX Church 12.00 noon

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00 am Friday

Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church.

Ballina CCR : Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

Rosary @ Lennox Head: Holy Family Church - **WEEKLY** on Wednesdays at 8.00 am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet **MONTHLY** for Our Lady Of Fatima - 1st Saturday of the Month Devotions at 8am and each Sunday before Mass at 7.00am.