

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.**

**32nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

12th 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

For this week

**LITURGY OF THE WORD
WITH HOLY COMMUNION
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
12.00 noon**

**WEEKDAY MASS
THURSDAY & FRIDAY
MASS 12.00 noon**

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

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Feast Day

**St Elizabeth of Hungary
Friday**

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

CLERGY CONFERENCE

This week our priests will be attending the annual Clergy Conference.

There will be NO Mass this

Tuesday 14th & Wednesday 15th November.

**Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be held at 12.00 noon
on both days.**

Mass will be as normal for Thursday and Friday at 12.00 noon.

NEW HEARING AID RECEIVERS FOR USE IN MASS

For those who wear hearing aids, the Parish now has new receivers that can be used anywhere within the Church.

Please ask the attendants in the foyer of the Church for a receiver to use during Mass. A log in/log out sheet needs to be completed. At the end of Mass please **hand back the receiver.**

Instructions for use:

- To **turn on** receiver, press and hold power button for **one second.**
- To **turn off** receiver, press and hold power button for **three seconds.**

Channel Select:

- Chanel 1 (one) is the channel used, all receivers are already set to channel 1.
- If needed to be changed **press and hold both volume buttons** at the same time for **5 seconds.**

How to wear the device:

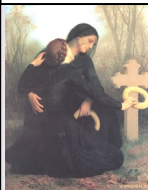
- Place receiver over your head, sitting comfortably on your chest.
- On completion of Mass, return receiver to the foyer of the Church.

Thank you.

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**



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.

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: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 18th/19th November, 2023
Readings : Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; Psalm 127; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Yvonne Head Kristie Coster	Mark McDonald Damien Kennedy	Margaret Tay Richard Goss	Leanne Robbins Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	Katrina Miles	Maddie Pride	Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Maxine Cole
Offertory Procession			Amy Derrick Frank	

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: Lois Wunch, Bill Condon Snr, Fr Lou Molloy SM

AND ALSO FOR: 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, Dymna 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.* (Please advise if a name is to be removed if good health has been

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

13th November	Monday 10.30 am	The Cenacle Anawim Room
14th November	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee Club
14th November	Tuesday 7.00 pm	The Bible Timeline Canaan/Gideon, Ruth, Samson & Delilah
16th November	Thursday 3.00 pm St Teresa Room	'Presence' The Mystery of the Eucharist
20th Nov & 1st Dec	Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church	Taizé ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
27th November	Monday 12.30 pm Note: time change	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
3rd December	Sunday Parish Feast Day	Feast of St Francis Xavier
16th December	Saturday 9.00 am	Parish Advent Reflection Day

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.

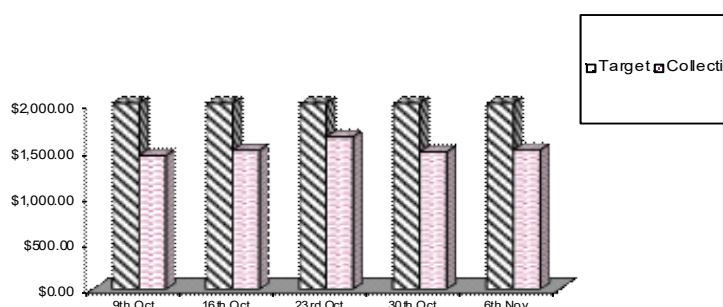
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier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

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	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 745.85
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 323.80
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,498.30
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



BE AWAKE AND PREPARED

In biblical times, people wed at a young age with marriages arranged by the fathers of the couple. The betrothal took place in early youth and was a legal marriage, although the woman remained in her father's house.

The wedding took place at a later stage when the bridegroom would come at a pre-arranged time to the parental home of the bride, and the betrothed woman, accompanied by a colourful procession went to the house of the groom where a feast would be held for all.

Jesus uses this scenario in a parable about the kingdom which he both proclaimed and inaugurated in word and deed. The ten bridesmaids awaiting the coming of Christ in glory at the end of time. The kingdom is among us but what is our approach to the second coming of Christ? Are we enthusiastically living a life of faith and bearing witness to our belief by incarnating the values of Jesus.

Do we, like some in the Thessalonian community, passively await the coming of the fullness of God's kingdom. Mindful of the brokenness evident in our world do we merely cling to the hope that things can change for the better?

All the bridesmaids in the parable fall asleep, but wake at the coming of the bridal party. However, there is a degree of consternation as only half have thought to provide themselves with extra oil. The oil symbolises our willingness to invest daily in deepening our relationship with the Lord and serving the community.

We cannot expect to drift gently into eternal salvation. We must realise the necessity and urgency of witnessing and living the gospel, and of being spiritually and morally awake all the days of our lives.

Like the bridesmaids, it is time for each of to take stock of our personal situation as well as the situation of our community and our society. Perhaps there is a need to undertake a renewal of our lives. How do we do this? Perhaps it is through a renewed commitment to prayer. Perhaps it is by taking steps to enhance our biblical and theological literacy. Perhaps it is through a commitment to become more engaged in the life of our parish community. Perhaps it is by an undertaking to grow our relational skills in the service of our family. Perhaps it is by choosing to join a group who work with those on the margins of our society providing them with food, shelter, and the necessities of life.

There are many ways of growing our commitment to make a difference in the lives of those we love, to contribute more to our community and to renew our spiritual life. This commitment requires us to take stock of our lives, to reflect on the vision of the 'kingdom of God', and to actively and strategically plan how we will change so that the door to the heavenly banquet will be open for us.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2023

YOUNG ADULT

advent retreat

WITH FR ANSELM OKEKE

2ND DECEMBER,
SATURDAY
9:00AM-4:30PM

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
53-57 CHERRY STREET
BALLINA

REGISTER HERE



PLEASE REGISTER BY THE 27TH NOV.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Parish Office: (02) 668 110 48 or
Sr. Di. CM 0405 327153

COLUMBAN 2024 CALENDARS

Are available after each weekend Mass.
\$10.00 each

'CONGRATULATIONS' FATHER ANSELM
ON YOUR 5th ANNIVERSARY
OF ORDINATION

Tuesday 14th November.

'Thank You' for all you do for us.

Our Prayers and best wishes
from your parish family.



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



THE BIBLE TIMELINE

This week we embrace Canaan/Gideon, Ruth,
Samson & Delilah.

Tuesday 14th November at 7.00 pm in the St Teresa
Room.

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

Parents - please keep your children supervised while in the
Church and the Church grounds. Thank you.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

The next Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be held on
Monday 27th November at 12.30 pm

Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street.
Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged
Care Centre.

This is our last meeting for 2023

You will be most Welcome!



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: Wisdom 6:12-16*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
 By those who love her she is readily seen,
 and found by those who look for her.
 Quick to anticipate those who desire her,
 she makes herself known to them.
 Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
 you will find her sitting at your gates.
 Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;
 be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
 She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of
 her and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
 in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
 for you my soul is thirsting.
 My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary,
 to see your strength and your glory.
 For your love is better than life,
 my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
 in your name I will lift up my hands.
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
 my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. On my bed I remember you.
 On you I muse through the night
 for you have been my help;
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1Thessalonians 4:13-14*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who
 have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them,
 like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus
 died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who
 have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.

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

Be watchful and ready:
 you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****THURSDAY 16th NOVEMBER ~****Entrance Antiphon:** Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.**FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER, ~ FEAST OF ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY****Entrance Antiphon:** Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick, and you visited me. Amen, I say to you: Whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren you did it for Me.**Communion Antiphon:** Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends.**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL**

DID YOU KNOW? • A solemn procession from the house of the bride's father to the house of the bridegroom was an important part of the Jewish wedding ceremony. These bridesmaids are a 'guard of honour' to greet the groom on his return with his bride. Sometimes problems with the marriage contract or the unhurried exchange of gifts between families lead to long delays in their return.

• Jesus referred to himself as a bridegroom (Mk 2:19-20) and the Church is sometimes referred to as the bride of Christ.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: • The lamp oil represents those resources we have to meet the challenge of being ready: our actions, our faith, our service to others, our prayer, how much we have loved. It is not that the sensible virgins are being self-ish; it is simply that this kind of oil, the way we live our lives, cannot be exchanged. We have to rely on our own resources to be ready.

• Think about the priorities in your own life. What are the activities which take up your time and energy? Are they the kinds of activities which prepare you to meet the bridegroom?

• Share stories of times when you put a great deal of effort into preparing for an occasion or an event. Did the preparation pay off?

• You might also remember times when you left things to chance or were unprepared. What was the result?

Take stock of your life this week and discover how well prepared you are for Jesus' second coming. Share your faith with another person. Reflect together on how to better prepare for the second coming.

www.cam.org.au/summit

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room,
 Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ring-
 ing 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.