

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.**

**33rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

19th 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 Presentation of
Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday**

**St Cecilia
Wednesday**

**Sts Andrew Dung-Lac,
Companions & Martyrs
Friday**

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:
Mason Joshua Gollan son of Joshua and Alison.

REMINDER



'A little gem by the sea'

Holy Family Church Lennox Head will be closed from this Friday 24th November, to enable the removal of asbestos. With work going to plan, we anticipate that the Church will be re-opened for Sunday 17th December.



**To Sr Anne Shay and all the Presentation
Sisters 'HAPPY FEAST DAY'**

for this Tuesday 21st November.

We thank you Sr Anne and all the Sisters for their many contributions to our parish life.

Love and best wishes from all the parish.

ADVENT 2023 'WITH EXPECTANT HEARTS'

Program books are available from the parish office at \$8.00 each.

Program will start this week

Contact Parish office for further information. 6681 1048

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



THE BIBLE TIMELINE

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

Tuesday 21st November at 7.00 pm in the St Teresa Room.

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

**ALL WELCOME TO TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY
20TH NOVEMBER**

12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA

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: Christ the King, Year A: 25th/26th November, 2023

Readings : Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; Psalm 22; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28; Matthew 25:31-46

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head ~ No Mass	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	John Jarzynski Trish Bazar		Gemma Duffy Nicole Sullivan	Warwick Manning Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	Mick Vella		Deacon Anthony Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Offertory Procession			Jo Hurley Joan Hollingsworth	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:


Fredrick Ousby (Sydney), Tony Smith, Kevin Dover,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

AND ALSO FOR: 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: Graham Clark, 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

20th November	Monday 10.30 am	The Cenacle Anawim Room
20th Nov & 4th Dec	Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church	Taizé ~ 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
21st November	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee Club
21st November	Tuesday 7.00 pm	The Bible Timeline Canaan/Gideon, Ruth, Samson & Delilah
23rd November	Thursday 3.00 pm St Teresa Room	'Presence' The Mystery of the Eucharist
3rd December	Sunday Parish Feast Day 'Cuppa' in the church grounds 9.45 am SVdP members to host	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.

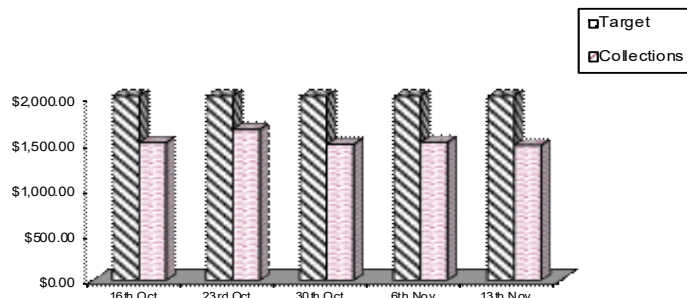
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- 2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish 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	\$ 699.95
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 339.90
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,466.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Don't be afraid to use your gifts

Different people have different abilities. A person gifted with imagination or creativity may not be good at administration or finance. Someone with a flair for 'do it yourself' around the house may not be musical. A cook who is 'at home' in the kitchen may be completely lost when it comes to anything mechanical. Someone with sporting prowess may find computers and electronics out of their league.

The rich man in today's parable was aware of his servants' abilities. Before departing on his journey, he entrusted his property to each servant in proportion to their ability. He only gave as much responsibility as each one could shoulder. The first two servants worked according to their ability, increasing what had been entrusted to them. But the third did not. He simply returned the one talent he had been given. Fear held him back from using his ability to work for the extra he was capable of gaining. "I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground."

Fear can paralyse. It causes us to withdraw; concentrating our attention on ourselves and our security. It freezes our readiness to take risks and to face the unknown. It tempts us to conserve and to obsess about certainties. Fear can strip us of confidence and prevent us from reaching our potential.

Jesus was aware of the power that fear wielded in people's lives. When he was at the end of his public life and soon to be executed, Jesus wanted his followers to continue what he'd begun and to embrace his great commission, "Go into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature." But Jesus knew that those who would come after him would encounter many problems. Their biggest problem would be their own fear. Yet Jesus was insistent, "Do not be afraid."

When Peter fell on his knees saying, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man," Jesus responded with compassion and understanding. "Do not be afraid, from now on you will fish for people." When fear threatened to hold Peter back, Jesus called him to let go and walk on with faith and trust. Talents are given to bear fruit, not to lie in the bank or be buried in the ground, safe and unused. It may seem prudent not to risk, but in the end God expects otherwise. "Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten". In other words, 'use it or lose it'.

All of us have been gifted by God. If fear causes us to hide our God-given talents, then those around us are deprived. Jesus wants us to live our lives to the full; free from fear and always ready to share our abilities and talents for the good of all.

David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2023

Majellan Christmas Cards are for available following weekend Masses. \$10.00 each for a pack of 10.

Chaplaincy Opportunities: The Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network is seeking expressions of interest for Volunteer Chaplains and a Coordinating Chaplain to provide chaplaincy support to local Lismore business owners and their staff.

The Volunteer Chaplaincy Team Member - this 8 hours/week position will require proven pastoral skills and experience and a high level of spiritual formation.

The Coordinating Chaplain - this role will enable and coordinate the chaplain support. It is a paid position for an ordained or Lay leader within a church or faith-based organisation for 2 days/week for a duration of 6 months with a possible 6-month extension.

If you wish to express your interest in either positions or if you would like additional information, please submit an email with your contact details and/or resume to DRCN@nat.uca.org.au. Include the subject heading:

Expression of Interest Lismore Business Chaplaincy.

YOUNG ADULT ADVENT RETREAT WITH FATHER ANSELM OKEKE

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER

9.00 AM TO 4.30 PM

UPPER ROOM, PARISH ADMIN BUILDING
53-57 CHERRY STREET, BALLINA

Register by 27th November

Parish Office 02 6681 1048, or Di CM 0405 327 153

COLUMBAN 2024 CALENDARS are available after each weekend Mass. \$10.00 each



PARISH FEAST DAY OUR 'PATRON SAINT' ST FRANCIS XAVIER 'PARISH 'CUPPA'



Sunday 3rd December,
following the 9.00 am Mass,
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church.

SVdP members to host .

This will be our final Sunday morning tea for 2023.

Everyone is very welcome.

PRAYER FOR PEACE: "Lord, we pray to you for the Holy Land, for the people of Israel and Palestine who are under the grip of unprecedented violence, for the victims, especially the children, for the wounded, for those held hostage, for the missing and their families."

"In these hours of anguish and suspension, we join our voices to that of the Pope and to the choral prayer of those around the world who implore peace."

"Help us, Lord, to commit ourselves to building a fraternal world so that these peoples and those in the same conditions of conflict of instability and violence may find the path of respect for human rights where justice, dialogue and reconciliation are the indispensable tools for building peace." Amen.

This prayer was recited during the Synod's morning prayer, the President of the Focolare Movement, Margaret Karram, a Palestinian Catholic, invited prayers for peace. www.vaticannews.va

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

Welcome to our prayer gatherings.

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: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

A perfect wife – who can find her?
 She is far beyond the price of pearls.
 Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will
 derive no little profit.
 Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life.
 She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work
 with eager hands.
 She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the
 spindle.
 She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the
 needy.
 Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise
 is the one to praise.
 Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let
 her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
 and walk in his ways!
 By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
 You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
 in the heart of your house;
 your children like shoots of the olive,
 around your table. **(R.)**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
 the man who fears the Lord.
 May the Lord bless you from Zion
 in a happy Jerusalem
 all the days of your life. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1Thessalonians 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you,
 brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well
 that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the
 night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it
 is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour
 pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way
 for anybody to evade it.
 But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that
 Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light
 and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to dark-
 ness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does,
 but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
 my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of
 heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his
 servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave
 five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion
 to his ability. Then he set out. Now a long time after, the mas-
 ter of those servants came back and went through his ac-
 counts with them. The man who had received the five talents
 came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrust-
 ed me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."
 His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant;
 you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust
 you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

The Gospel of the Lord.

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER ~ FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Entrance Antiphon: Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King who rules heaven and earth for ever.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

WEDNESDAY 22nd NOVEMBER ~ FEAST OF ST CECILIA

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, now she follows the Lamb who was crucified for us, powerful in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity

Communion Antiphon: The Lamb who is at the centre of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.

THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Communion Antiphon: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER ~ FEAST OF STS ANDREW DUNG-LAC, COMPANIONS & MARTYRS

Entrance Antiphon: May we never boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the word of the Cross is the power of God to us who have been saved.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL

DID YOU KNOW? • A Jewish talent was a very substantial sum of money. A shekel contained about 14.5g of silver; a talent contained more than 43,000g! It was about the price of an ox.

- Being an absentee landlord was as common in the time of Jesus as it was in later history.
- The 'talents' are not equally distributed. In God's plan all are endowed with different 'talents' so that we will recognise our need for each other and practice generosity kindness and the sharing of the abilities we have.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: • What image of God is presented in this passage? Is he the stern task-master who judges harshly or the generous one who entrusts great treasure which must be used wisely so that it will grow?

- What is your image of God? Spend time in reflection on that this week.
- Share stories of times when you were too afraid to take a risk. What was the outcome? How do you feel now about opportunities lost through being overly cautious?
- This week, use your talents explicitly for the good of others.

Repeat this Psalm often this week:

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

Happy are those who fear the Lord. (Psalm 127: 1-2 www.cam.org.au/summit)