

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.**

**3rd Sunday of
Lent (B)**

3rd March 2024



**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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We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CONNECT NEWSLETTER

The First edition of the parish 'CONNECT' is now available in our Churches and on line. Don't miss out on your **FREE** copy of this much anticipated publication.

**'PARISH 'CUPPA' AND 'WELCOME'
TO ALL THOSE NEW TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**
Families who are new to our Parish together with those who have moved to Ballina are most welcome to morning tea and to meet your fellow parishioners.



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

**'Strangers are friends you have not as yet met'
All welcome.**



THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM HOLY THURSDAY ~ MASS

6.00 pm ~ Ballina

GOOD FRIDAY ~ LITURGY

3.00 pm ~ Lennox Head

3.00 pm ~ Ballina

HOLY SATURDAY ~ VIGIL

6.00 pm ~ Ballina

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

7.30 am ~ Lennox Head

9.00 am & 11.00 am ~ Ballina



2024 PARISH REFLECTION MORNING SATURDAY 23rd MARCH ~ 9.00 am ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH.

**Morning tea will complete this special morning of prayer,
reconciliation, and reflection as we prepare for Holy Week.**



THE PRESENCE: Come on a pilgrimage to Easter watching **The Presence** videos. Rediscover the beauty and reality of Jesus in the Eucharist. **'Come and see'** 1 video or all 5 over the Lenten weeks. **4.15 pm to 5.15 pm Mother Teresa Room, Admin Building.** Afternoon Tea provided, then follow with Stations of the Cross at 5.30 pm.

'Inspiring and insightful' You are Welcome!

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

Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@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

ROSTER: 4th Sunday of Lent, Year B: 9th/10th March 2024
Readings : 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Psalm 136; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

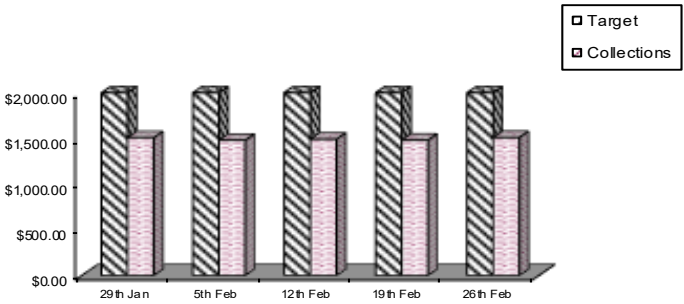
	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday ~ 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Kristie Coster Pauline Fingleton	Jack McKenzie Jean Mackay	Julie McKinnon Margaret Tay	Leanne Robbins Maxine Cole
EMOHC	John Jaryznski	Deacon Anthony	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Maurice Gahan
Offertory Procession			Cathy Andrews Diana Evans	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Fay Herrick, Diane Lannoy, Sr Antoinette Walsh rsj (Sydney), Keith Smith, Stephen James Fox, Suzanne Wall (Melbourne), Father Kevin Bates SM, THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Michael Kearney, 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 the faithful departed. AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL: Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (Dalby), Peter Groom (Dalby), David Le'Fevre (London), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (Sydney), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Robert Ireland, Hallie Butler (infant), Lynette Holland (Tasmania), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Hugo Long (infant), Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Ken Delany, Peter Mazzer, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham 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), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (Sydney), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty 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	UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024		
	4th & 18th March	Monday 12.00 noon	Taize 45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted
	5th March	Tuesday 10.00am	'Cherry' Coffee
	5th March Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
	8th March	Friday 12.45 to 3.00 pm Mother Teresa Room Admin Centre	Friday Lunch Alpha Series
	8th March	Friday 4.15 to 5.15 pm	The Presence Mother Teresa Room
	8th March	Friday 5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
	13th & 27th March	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
	15th March	Friday 12.00 noon	Parish Anointing Mass
	23rd March	Saturday 9.00 am	Parish Reflection Morning

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 use your Planned Giving number as reference.

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	\$ 748.90	
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 346.90	
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,509.90	
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00	

JESUS' DIVINE MISSION

If there is one incident in Jesus' life that leads us to question his judgment, the story of him taking a whip and angrily driving people out of the temple must rank as a strong contender. We have heard in recent weeks that Jesus can be forthright in challenging people – even calling pharisees 'hypocrites' to their faces!

But our major image is of a patient and forgiving Jesus rather than someone striking out at people with a raging temper.

So, how are we to understand this story? A good place to start is another story of Jesus visiting the Jerusalem temple with his mother and father when he was a twelve-year old boy. On that occasion, Jesus becomes so caught up by the temple experience he misses the caravan taking his family back to Nazareth. When his parents realise Jesus is missing, they hasten back to find him among the temple priests and elders, engaging with them about the meaning of the Scriptures.

Now, the temple for traditional Israelites was the holiest of all places on earth enabling people to experience the presence of the living God in their lives in an unsurpassed way. This must have been Jesus' boyhood experience evident in his response to his confused parents: "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?"

So, when Jesus returns to the temple some twenty years later and finds it filled with hawkers, merchants and other traders, he is incensed that greed and money-lust have turned his "Father's house" into a marketplace.

However, rather than directing his anger to the little people who are simply trying to make a living in a hostile world, surely Jesus should have confronted the temple priests who allowed – no doubt benefited financially from – this defilement of God's house.

Jesus has this opportunity to respond to the chief priests when they challenge him for his table-turning, whip-lashing behaviour. In answer to their question – "On what authority do you do this?" – Jesus' strange response confounds everyone: "Destroy this temple and I will raise it up again in three days".

Somehow, this is a moment of insight for Jesus. He begins to realise his mission of communicating God's love and forgiveness will result in the destruction of the other temple – his own body – on a Cross. Yet, God's glory will always shine through beyond suffering, cruelty and death itself.

This is the paradox St Paul writes about in his letter to the Corinthians. He realises how preaching a crucified Christ is folly to Jews and Greeks alike. Yet Paul also knows we must acknowledge our own sinfulness and stupidity if we are to experience God's power and wisdom.

Too often, we are like the temple traders busy with our own pursuits rather than seekers of the living God. We often ignore God's covenant because we are afraid to witness to a crucified-and-risen Christ who heals our weakness and failures with divine love and mercy.

Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2024



3rd SUNDAY IN LENT
2nd & 3rd March



Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for **Leaia** and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**



You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 4TH MARCH 12.00 NOON

DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS TUESDAY 10.00 AM AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD.

Bishop Greg's Lenten Talks ~ Bishop Greg will hold his final Lenten Talk in St Mary's Chapel, Lismore 6.00pm on Monday 11th March. There will not be a talk this Monday 4th March.

SINCERE SYMPATHY



Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Fay Herrick** who has sadly passed away.

A Funeral Prayer Service will be held on **Friday 8th March at 1.30 pm** in Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.

READERS ROSTER : PALM SUNDAY, TRIDDUM AND EASTER SUNDAY 2024

	Palm Sunday 5.30 pm Vigil	Palm Sunday 9.00 am	Holy Thursday 6.00 pm	Good Friday 3.00 pm	Holy Saturday 6.00pm Vigil	Easter Sunday 9.00 am
Readers	Jeanette Wilkins Pauline Fingleton Passion Bryan Marriott Narrator John Jarzynski Crowd/other Jesus—Priest	Wendy Hughes Margaret Tay Passion Gemma Duffy Narrator Nicole Sullivan Crowd/other Jesus—Priest	Nicole Sullivan Maxine Cole	Pauline Fingleton Leanne Robbins The Passion Trish Bazar Narrator John Jarzynski Crowd/other Jesus—Priest	Trish Bazar Pauline Fingleton Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole Epistle	Nicole Sullivan Margaret Tay
EMOHC	Yvonne Head	Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Pauline Fingleton	Denise Miller	Jeanette Wilkins Phil Chapman	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell
Readers		11.00 am Maxine Cole Maurice Gahan Passion Warwick Manning Narrator Leanne Robbins Crowd/other Jesus—Priest				11.00 am Maxine Cole Warwick Manning
EMOHC		Peter Bowen				John Jarzynski



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: Exodus 20:1-17*A reading from the book of Exodus*

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) Lord you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **(R.)**

4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25;*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!***

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

***Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!***

Gospel: John 2:13-25*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**TUESDAY 5th March**

Entrance Antiphon: To you I call, for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Communion Antiphon: Lord, who may abide in your tent, and dwell on your holy mountain? Whoever walks without fault and does what is just.

WEDNESDAY 6th March

Entrance Antiphon: Let my steps be guided by your promise; may evil never rule me.

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

THURSDAY 7th March

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

FRIDAY 8th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, for you are great and do marvellous deeds; you alone are God.

Communion Antiphon: To love God with all your heart, and your neighbour as yourself, is worth more than any sacrifice.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL: DID YOU KNOW? • The only coins acceptable in the Temple were half shekels. Roman coins were not acceptable because they were imprinted with the image of the Emperor and the Commandments clearly state that there should be no graven images used by Jews. The money-changers were actually performing a necessary task for the proper functioning of the religious life of Israel. What may Jesus really have been angry about?

MAKING CONNECTIONS: • What are the abuses we should be angry about today?

• Express some 'righteous anger' this week about something which disorders our world; for example, inequality, human rights abuse, exclusion. How are Christians called to respond to these injustices?

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.