

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 in
Ordinary Time (B)**

21st January, 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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Feast Day

St Francis de Sales

Wednesday

The Conversion of St Paul

Thursday

Australia Day

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: **Isobel Nicolson** daughter of Adam and Natalie.



‘CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY BLESSINGS’
Natalie Scicluna and Pieter Greyling
on their Marriage at Holy Family Church, Lennox Head,
on Friday 19th January.
Love and prayers to you both from all the Parish.



SINCERE SYMPATHY
Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of
Nola Rodey who has sadly passed away.
A Prayer Service will be held on **Thursday 25th January at 10.00 am,**
in Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.



‘PARISH ‘CUPPA’
Sunday 4th February, following the 9.00 am Mass,
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church
Everyone is very welcome.

CATECHISTS: A Catechist meeting will be held next Monday 29th January at 9.30 am in the St Teresa Room, Parish Admin building to plan for the new year. If you are an existing catechist or considering to be a helper you are most welcome to attend. Morning tea will be provided.

Holy Family menALIVE Lennox Head~ will meet on **Wednesday 31st January** in the **Sacred Heart Room**, Holy Family Church from **8.00 to 9.00 am**
Contact Murray Parr for further information 0414 399 658.

TAIZÉ IS BACK FOR 2024 ~ FORTNIGHTLY
COMMENCING MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 12.00 NOON IN
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ENJOY
45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted

BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALKS ~ Themes of St Therese of Lisieux
Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Mondays and will begin at 6.00pm at St Mary's Chapel: *All Most Welcome*
Monday 19th February ~ Monday 26th February
Monday 11th March ~ Note: No talk will be given 4th March
It will be available to view on YouTube channel from 28th February 2024
<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAu>

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 Ordinary Time, Year B: 27th/28th January 2024
Readings : Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 94; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

	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</i> <i>Matt Ritchie</i>	<i>Sue Hetherington</i> <i>Damien Kennedy</i>	<i>Mark Biddle</i> <i>Nicole Sullivan</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i> <i>Maxine Cole</i>
EMOHC	<i>Katrina Miles</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony</i>	<i>Denise Miller</i> <i>Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Cathy Andrews</i> <i>Diana Evans</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Nola Rodey, Lilli Vandk, Mick Ronan, Joan Flew (*mother of Kathy Finch*), Michael Stokes, Pat O'Mara, Noel McDonald (*Murwillumbah*),

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Stan Parry, Jack Patch, Camille Martin, Coralie Moreland, Joan Charteris

AND ALSO FOR: *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 SERIOUSLY ILL: Hallie Butler (*18 mths*), Lynette Holland (*Tasmania*), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Hugo Long (*14 mths*), Patrick O'Mara, 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, 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 2024

23rd January	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
29th January	Monday 9.30 am	Catechist Meeting
31st January	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
4th February	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Cuppa
5th & 19th February	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>45 min of praise meditation & music uninterrupted</i>
17th February	Saturday 7.30 - 10.30 am <i>Crowley Care Activity Centre</i>	menALIVE Breakfast
14th February	Ash Wednesday	
Good Friday	29th March	
Holy Saturday	30th March	
Easter Sunday	31st March	

Quote: Pope Francis ~ "Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbours, in the faces of those at our side."

www.catholicapostolatecenter.org

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*

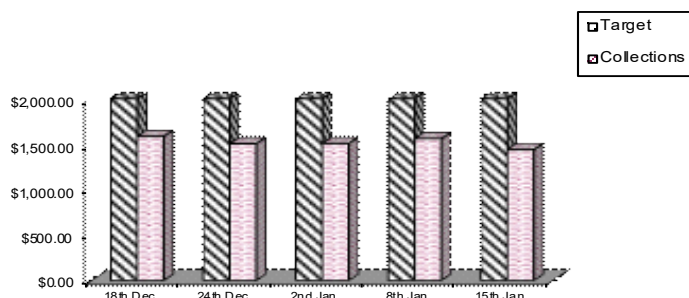
- 2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218 Please use your Planned Giving number as reference.

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	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 730.90
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 411.40
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,439.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



A call to conversion

The Greek word “metanoia” is often used by theologians as well as psychologists to describe a deep change of heart and mind, which results from having our previous beliefs and values challenged and consequently, turning towards a way of living which embraces a greater openness to growth and to God. It is this invitation which Jesus put to his disciples by the sea of Galilee in today’s gospel.

Erik Varden, a Trappist monk whom Pope Francis appointed bishop of Trondheim, Norway, described his own experience of conversion in his book *Entering the Twofold Mystery: On Christian Conversion* (Bloomsbury, 2022) Returning home one night to the priory he was living at, while he was a research student in Paris, he was shocked to find a dishevelled, homeless man sleeping in the doorway.

Annoyed at first, he collected his thoughts and roused the man, who was irate at being wakened. Bishop Varden offered to help the man find accommodation. As they walked through the streets of Paris, the man said his name was Manu (short for Emmanuel) and in the darkness pointed out the vague outlines of homeless people known to him, who were sleeping. He saw to it that the man had warm, safe accommodation for the night. As they parted, the man took his hand, thanked him warmly and expressed the hope that perhaps one day, they would meet again.

Bishop Varden writes that “my heart previously dark, was charged with a joy so profound it was painful.” Although he had previously intended to return to a secure job after his studies, this encounter made him feel a deep call to commit his life to praying for the world “in union with the sacrifice of Christ.” To him, this would be a way to “breathe hope into our too often hopeless world.” This experience set him on the life-changing path to becoming a monk.

For some, responding to a call may set us on a path to the consecrated life or priesthood. For all of us though, it is an invitation to turn away from a world view which is egocentric, narrow, exclusive, or judgmental; to both ourselves and others, towards a broad empowering vision. It is saying yes to a way of being which is intimately grounded in God.

Thomas Merton writes of his moment of insight “In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the centre of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realisation that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs.”

A call to conversion helps us realise that it is the deep reality of beauty, mystery, awe and generosity to which we are ultimately called to commit ourselves. May this sacred commitment to be in intimate communion with God and with all creation, inspire us to live in a way which makes a radical difference to our communities and to the world.

Sophie Clements

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MEN'S BREAKFAST
~ SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2024 ~
CROWLEY CARE ACTIVITY CENTRE
7.30 am to 10.30 am
\$30.00 per person

Registrations and payment to Parish Admin Office by Friday 9th February.
Guest Speaker : Robert Falzon cofounder of menALIVE



PARISH ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
Australia Day Public Holiday
Friday 26th January, the Parish Office will be closed.
We will reopen on Monday 29th January at 8.30 am
If you urgently require a priest please call 0423 445 639

PRAYER – AUSTRALIA DAY

We pray to God for Australia.

- For the first people of our Country: Praise to God.
- For refugees and those fleeing violence: Australians to help.
- For our neighbours: Help us build community.
- For where there is division and hurt: Open our hearts to forgiveness.
- For the riches of our country: Help us share.
- For our grandmothers and grandfathers: We are grateful
- For our Pacific and Asian neighbours. May Australians care for you as brothers and sisters.

God our Father we thank you for Australia. For its beauty in its land, its people and its environment.

Call us to renew us as one people. May Australia be an instrument of goodness to shape the world and its future. Amen.



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office—Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: **safeguard-**

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



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: Jonah 3:1-5, 10;*A reading from the prophet Jonah*

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31;*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

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

The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News!

Alleluia!**Gospel: Mark 1:14-20***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark*

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

*The Gospel of the Lord.***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 23rd JANUARY**

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place

Communion Antiphon: I live by faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself up for me.

WEDNESDAY 24th JANUARY ~ FEAST OF ST FRANCIS de SALES

Entrance Antiphon: I will look after my sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God.

Communion Antiphon: It was not you who chose me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

THURSDAY 25th JANUARY ~ THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

Entrance Antiphon: I know the one in whom I have believed and I am sure that he, the just judge, the mighty, will keep safe what is my due until that day.

Communion Antiphon: I live by faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself up for me.

FRIDAY 26th JANUARY ~ AUSTRALIA DAY

Entrance Antiphon: I will praise you, Lord, among the peoples, among the nations sing psalms to you, for your mercy reaches to the heavens, and your truth to the skies.

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, my soul, and never forget his benefits.

FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL

DID YOU KNOW? • John the Baptist was arrested and ultimately killed by Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, who ruled over the region of Galilee. John had been highly critical of the behaviour of Antipas in marrying Herodias who was his niece and the former wife of his brother.

• The Sea of Galilee is also known as Lake Tiberias and Lake of Gennesaret. It is the largest freshwater lake in Israel, and is approximately 53 km in circumference, 21 km long and 13 km wide.

• Each gospel account of the calling of the disciples is slightly different. Compare this gospel to last week's reading.

• Simon and Andrew, James and John lived in the town of Capernaum on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Look at a map of Palestine. Most Bibles include one.

MAKING CONNECTIONS • If you cast out your net, what might you catch?

• Let go of something that makes it difficult for you to follow Christ.

• Share together some experiences of leaving things behind and embarking on a new way of life: leaving home to study, travel or marry; changing jobs to something completely different; moving to a different country or city. How was the experience for you? What challenges were involved?

• This week's Psalm offers a wonderful prayer for catechumens:

*Teach me your ways, O Lord. Lord, make me know your ways.**Lord teach me your paths.**Make me walk in your truth and teach me,**for you are God, my Saviour.**Teach me your ways, O Lord**www.cam.org.au/summit*