



ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH

BALLINA

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
47 CHERRY STREET
BALLINA

WELCOME

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
94 BALLINA STREET
LENNOX HEAD

Respecting the traditional people of this land-past, present and future, the Bundjalung people

4th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

PARISH NOTICES

1st February 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH BALLINA

SATURDAY VIGIL - 5.30 PM
SUNDAY - 9.00 AM
SUNDAY - 11.00 AM
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
LENNOX HEAD
SUNDAY - 7.30 AM

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
5.00 PM
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
12.00 NOON

ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 AM TO 11.45 AM

RECONCILIATION
9.00 AM SATURDAY

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Father Peter Padsungay

ASSISTANT PRIEST
Father Erick Quinteros

DEACON
Rev Assoc Professor
Anthony Gooley

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
Mr Brendon Clarke

**PARISH BUSINESS
MANAGER**
Mr Michael Penhey

FEAST DAYS

The Presentation of
the Lord

Monday MASS 12.00 noon

St Agatha
Thursday

St Paul Miki and companions
Friday



**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
THIS MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
MASS AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
AT 12.00 NOON**

Our first for 2026 'PARISH 'CUPPA' in
the grounds of St Francis Xavier
Church, **THIS Sunday 1st February**,
following the 9.00 am Mass and
11.00 am Mass.
Everyone is very welcome



**BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALKS
'THE SPIRITUAL LIFE'**
MONDAYS AT 6.00 PM AT
ST MARY'S CHAPEL
Monday 23rd February - Prayer
Monday 2nd March - Detachment
Monday 9th March - Union with God

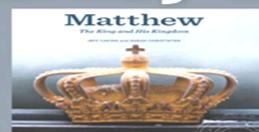
**Join us as we journey through
THE GOSPEL
OF MATTHEW**



Monday's at 5.30 pm
From 2nd Feb



Thursday's at 10 am
From 5th Feb



8 session video series
presented by Jeff Cavins
with time for questions
and discussion.

Discover how Jesus
fulfills God's promises
to Israel and establishes
his kingdom on earth.

Saint Teresa Room
Ballina Parish Admin Centre

Phone 6681 1048 for more
info and to register.



**JOURNEY THROUGH LENT WITH THE 'COMPASSIO'
LENLEN PROGRAM
GROUPS WILL COMMENCE THE WEEK BEGINNING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 16TH.**

This Lent, enter into the heart of compassion - to 'suffer with' - a grace-filled invitation to stand with Christ and with one another. Let this beautifully designed 79 page, full-colour companion guide you through daily reflections, Sunday Gospel readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers and group discussion questions, all crafted to deepen your encounter with God's mercy.

Drop into the Parish Office to purchase a book \$8.00 each or phone 02 6681 1048 to register to join a group.

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- Monday 2nd February 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
- Tuesday 3rd February 10.00 am Cherry Coffee
- Sunday 1st February 9.45 am & 11.30 am Parish Cuppa Church Grounds
- Monday & Thursday 2nd & 5th February Gospel of Matthew St Teresa Room
- Tuesday 3rd February 10.00 am Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus LH
- Ash Wednesday 18th February

	5.30pm Vigil	7.30 am L H	9.00 am	11.00 am
1st Reader	John Jarzynski	Sue Hetherington	Nicole Sullivan	Maxine Cole
2nd Reader	Jeanette Wilkins	Damien Kennedy	Wendy Hughes	Bernadette McQuillan
EMOHC	Trish Bazar Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Tony Hunter
Offertory			Amy Derrick Livia Kenk	
Announcer	Katrina Miles		Richard Goss	Maxine Cole
Laptop Operator	Pauline Fingleton		Jo Hurley	Maxine Cole

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Rasan Ilamurugan (father of Naz Ilamurugan)

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Michael Harris (Bendigo), Boleslaw Jarzynski, Fay Biddle, Richard Patterson, Roslyn Evans, Laurie Ianna, Dean Russell Redford

AND ALSO FOR: Gino Bordin, Jack & Marie Flood, Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Margaret Moreland, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, 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: Julia Paden, Brian Dye, Andrea Bernabey, Caceres family, Gustavo Caceres, Daniel Freeman, Luke Willett, Gloria Bordin, Veronica Bennett (Gold Coast), Nancy and Joan Obonyo, Nate Doolan, Kevin Sullivan, Joy Schneider, Gloria Greguric, Annemarie Higgins, 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 or if good health has been restored.)

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 Erick*

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COLLECTED SEPARATELY AT MASS

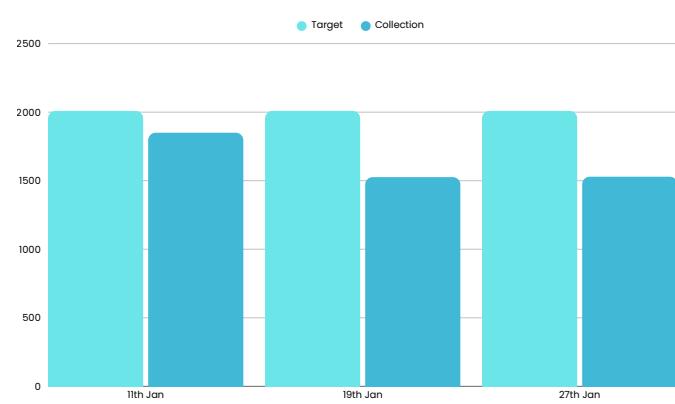
COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY By making an EFTPOS 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 3.40% PER ANNUM - BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker 87-89 River Street Ballina 02 6686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry Street Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS		
1st Collection	Support clergy	\$1,150.20
2nd Collection Support of the Parish	Loose Plate	\$326.70
	Planned Giving	\$1,529.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



JESUS SHOWS US THE WAY TO CARE

In this liturgical year, Year A, we focus on readings from Matthew's Gospel. Matthew writes towards the end of the first century AD, for a Christian community comprised of Jewish converts. In his gospel, he strives to demonstrate for them how Jesus is the fulfilment of the faith, hopes and promises of their Jewish faith, the fulfilment of all that is in "the law and the prophets" (Mt 5:17).

The reading from Matthew's Gospel is arguably the most famous and oft-quoted of all passages in the New Testament. It is known as The Sermon on the Mount or The Beatitudes (Blessed are they ...). It is Matthew's masterful summary of Jesus' teachings.

The passage follows not long after Matthew's account of Jesus' early public life and the call of the first disciples. Matthew gives a brief description of Jesus' activity: "He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people" (Mt 4:23).

In this one verse, Matthew effectively summarises the ministry of Jesus: teaching and healing. Jesus teaches with extraordinary authority, interpreting the Torah for his Jewish followers, and he heals the sick and afflicted, lifting the burden of suffering. These two dimensions of his ministry – teaching and healing – are inextricably linked and intertwined. His teaching offers healing and his healing expresses his teaching.

Matthew tells us that, on this occasion, Jesus goes up the mountain, draws his disciples to him, and sits down (as Rabbis do) and teaches them. His going up the mountain reminds us of Moses who went up the mountain of Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. This teaching is as important as that!

"Blessed (i.e., happy, fortunate) are they who . . ." Jesus repeats nine times, each time noting the God-given blessing that is the corresponding reward for those who act in that way. With these Beatitudes, Jesus effectively instructs his disciples on the nature of true holiness and the promise of true happiness. The Beatitudes reflect the merciful and compassionate character of God as revealed by Jesus (and as expressed in the Psalm). And they articulate the attitudes, values and spirit of the way of life we are to live and the way we are to act as Jesus' disciples in our care and concern for each other, our fellow human beings, and indeed all creation.

The list of Beatitudes is not like the list of the Ten Commandments, a definitive list of commands (Thou shalt not . . .). Rather, they are commendations for a way of living, of being in the world, of caring for others, especially the sick, powerless, poor and afflicted.

Our gospel reading challenges us to reflect on our attitudes and values in the light of Jesus' teaching and his compassion for all those in need of healing.

Sophie Clements © Majellan Media 2026

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ON SALE FOLLOWING EACH WEEKEND MASS. \$2.00 EA**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 10.00 AM HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD**

Murray, Chris, Richard,
Frank, Peter

menALIVE Rise Café Lennox Head 8.00 to 9.00 am fortnightly on a Wednesday
We're a small but deeply welcoming group of men who come together with open hearts, mutual respect, and a genuine desire to be led by the Holy Spirit. Each time we meet, we reflect on the daily Mass reading, explore its meaning and context, and share how the Scriptures speak into our everyday lives. There is something quietly powerful about godly men meeting in a public place – opening the Word together, listening, and engaging in thoughtful, life-giving conversation in full view of the café and its patrons. It feels like a gentle but visible witness of faith lived simply and authentically. Contact Murray 0414 399 658 for further information.

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY ~ FEAST PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Communion Antiphon: My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

TUESDAY 3rd AND WEDNESDAY 4th FEBRUARY

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Communion Antiphon: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

THURSDAY 5th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF ST AGATHA

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.

FRIDAY 6th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF ST PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS

Entrance Antiphon: The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.

Communion Antiphon: It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office: Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please contact the Safeguarding Office 6621 9444 or email safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au. Procedures are in place to guide how best to help victims – whether children or vulnerable people at risk.



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE PRIEST AT ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 2:3;3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find
shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the
name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the
perjured

tongue will no longer be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to
disturb them.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **(R.)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

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

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were
called: how many of you were, wise in the ordinary
sense of the word, how many were influential people,
or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the
wise that God chose what is foolish by human
reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose
what is weak by human reckoning;

those whom the world thinks common and
contemptible are the ones that God has chosen –
those who are nothing at all to show up those who
are everything. The human race has nothing to boast
about to God, but you, God has made members of
Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our
wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our
freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast,
let him boast about the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Matthew
Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat
down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began
to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute
you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my
account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be
great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Just as Moses received the Law on Mt Sinai Matthew situates Jesus giving the new law on a mountain.
- There are a number of instances in his Gospel where Matthew parallels Jesus with Moses.

Again, this may be to appeal to the largely Jewish audience of his own community.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Administration Centre: 53-57 Cherry Street Ballina Phn 02 6681 1048 P.O. Box 46 Ballina 2478
email: admin@sfxballina.org.au Office hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Parish website: www.sfxballina.org.au

SCHOOLS

St Francis Xavier Primary: Swift Street Ballina Phn 02 6686 3370 Principal: Mr Tony Hunter

Holy Family Primary: 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 5311 Principal: Mr Murray Deep

Xavier Catholic College: 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 6484 Principal: Mr Michael Campbell

LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

St Anne's: Phn: 02 6687 596142 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head. Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst

AGED CARE

Crowley Care Services: 154 Cherry Street, Ballina Phn: 1300 139 099 CEO: Mr Michael Penhey