



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 of Lent Year A

PARISH NOTICES

15th March 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 & WEDNESDAY
5.00 PM**

**THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
12.00 NOON**

**ADORATION FRIDAY
EUCHRIST28**

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

 **St Patrick
Tuesday** 

**St Joseph
Thursday**



BAPTISM

Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church **Ziggy Edward Emery** son of Jade and Renee.

FUNERAL NOTICE: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Glen Cox** who has sadly passed away. A Funeral Prayer Service will be held this Friday 20th March at 9.30 am in St Francis Xavier Church.



The next meeting of the **Auxiliary** will be held on **Monday 23rd March** at 3.00 pm in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending as you be assisting the Aged Care Centre. *You will be most welcome.*



THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY ~ MASS

6.00 pm - Ballina

GOOD FRIDAY ~ LITURGY

3.00 pm - Lennox Head

3.00 pm - Ballina

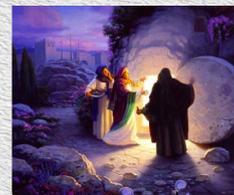
HOLY SATURDAY~ VIGIL MASS

7.00 pm - Ballina

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

7.30 am ~ Lennox Head

9.00 am and 11.00 am ~ Ballina



**TAIZE THIS MONDAY 16TH MARCH
12.00 NOON**

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
*Encouraging the Spirit of Kindness,
Simplicity and Reconciliation through
Meditation Music and Silence*

**PARISH ANOINTING MASS THIS
FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 12.00 NOON
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH**

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- **Monday 16th March 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anawim Room**
- **Tuesday 17th March 10.00 am Cherry Coffee**
- **Monday 5.30 pm & Thursday 10 am 16th & 19th March Gospel of Matthew STR**
- **Monday 16th March TAIZE at 12.00 noon St Francis Xavier Church**
- **Tuesday 17th March 10.00 am Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus LH**
- **Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm**
- **menALIVE Wednesday 25th March 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head**
- **Monday 23rd March Chrism Mass 11.00 am St Carthages Cathedral Lismore**
- **Saturday 28th March Lenten Reflection Morning 9.00 am St Francis Xavier Church**
- **Parish Cuppa Sunday 5th April (Easter Sunday) following 9.00 am & 11.00 am Masses**

	5.30 pm Mass	7.30 am Mass L H	9.00 am Mass	11.00 am Mass
1 st Reader 2nd Reader	Jeanette Wilkins Kristie Coster	Michael Piccoli Damien Kennedy	Richard Goss Julie McKinnon	Kailani Tiernan Bernadette McQuillan
EMOHC	Peter Fear Phil Chapman	Murray Deeps	Deacon Anthony Margaret Tay Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Gifts			Cathy Andrews Diana Evans	
Announcer	Mick Vella	Sue Hetherington	Richard Goss	Maxine Cole
Laptop	SFXPS		Teresa Cunial	Maxine Cole

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Glen Cox, Joy Long, George Cox, Paul Land, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr rsm, Lois McNamara, Roy Thwaite, Aileen Lane (*Dalby*), Kevin Sullivan,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Elizabeth Townsend, Poolina Climich, Alan (Ace) Ayton, Rose Mulgrew, Elne Verdeflor, Boleslaw Jarzynski, Maureen Sullivan, Yvonne Tagget, Monica Dwyer, Margaret Clissold, Kerry Rouge

AND ALSO FOR: Peter Tiernan, Deidre Cox, Dympna Sheehy, 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: Ros Spiteri, Mele Taufaeva, Sr Patricia O'Brien PBVM, Julia Paden, Samantha Anderson, Brian Dye, Andrea Bernabey, Caceres family, Gustavo Caceres, Daniel Freeman, Gloria Bordin, Nancy and Joan Obonyo, Nate Doolan, Joy Schneider, Gloria Greguric, Annemarie Higgins, unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.
(Please advise after six weeks 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 SEPARTELY 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	\$1,316.50
2nd Collection Support of the Parish	Loose Plate	\$362.20
	Planned Giving	\$1,513.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



INTEREST RATE — 3.40% FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND OUR CURRENT RATE, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.DIF.ORG.AU OR CONTACT US ON 1800 802 516

Life was hard for **Manaini** and her children living in rural Fiji. With the support from Caritas Australia's partner, FRIEND, she learnt food processing and gardening skills, improving nutrition and creating new income opportunities to support her children's education.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 17TH MARCH ~ FEAST OF ST PATRICK

Entrance Antiphon: Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

Communion Antiphon: What I say to you in the darkness speak in the light, says the Lord, what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.

WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: I pray to you, O Lord, for a time of your favour. In your great mercy, answer me, O God, with your salvation that never fails.

Communion Antiphon: God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH ~ FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, a faithful and prudent steward, whom the Lord set over his household.

Communion Antiphon: Well done, good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy.

FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: O God, save me by your name; by your power, defend my cause. O God, hear my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth.

Communion Antiphon: In Christ, we have redemption by his Blood, and forgiveness of our sins, in accord with the riches of his grace.

LENTEN REFLECTION MORNING

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Commencing at 9am and finishing with morning tea at 10:15am

Everyone is Welcome

- Exposition
- Adoration
- Reflection



THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ON SALE FOLLOWING EACH WEEKEND MASS. \$2.00 EA

STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm in St Francis Xavier Church

THE CHOSEN ~ SEASON 5
'PALM SUNDAY TO HOLY THURSDAY'
Thursdays 2.00 pm Mother Teresa Room



READERS ROSTER: PALM SUNDAY, TRIDUUM AND EASTER SUNDAY

	PALM SUNDAY 5:30 pm Vigil Mass	PALM SUNDAY 7:30 am HF	PALM SUNDAY 9:00 am	PALM SUNDAY 11:00 am	HOLY THURSDAY 6:00 pm	
1 st Reader 2 nd Reader Passion	Mick Vella Jeanette Wilkins John Jarzynski (N) Trish Bazar (C/O)	Angela Beglin Marie Sullivan Damien Kennedy (N) Sue Hetherington (C/O)	Donna Sison Wendy Hughes Nicole Sullivan (N) Richard Goss (C/O)	Maurice Gahan Brendon Clarke Warwick Manning (N) Leanne Robbins (C/O)	Marie Sullivan Shyla Gooley	
EMOHC	Kristie Coster Phil Chapman	Maddy Pride	Deacon Anthony Tony Hunter Cathy Campbell	Kailani Tiernan	Densie Miller Phil Chapman	
	GOOD FRIDAY 3:00 pm (HF)	GOOD FRIDAY 3:00 pm (SFX)	HOLY SATURDAY 7:00 pm Vigil Mass	EASTER SUNDAY 7:30 am	EASTER SUNDAY 9:00 am	EASTER SUNDAY 11:00 am
1 st Reader 2 nd Reader Passion	Damien Kennedy Angela Beglin Jean Mackay (N) Marie Sullivan (C/O)	Nicole Sullivan Trish Bazar John Jarzynski (N) Warwick Manning (C/O)	Trish Bazar John Jarzynski Mick Vella Maxine Cole Epistle	Marie Sullivan Michael Piccoli	Wendy Hughes Donna Sison	Bernadette McQuillan Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	Sue Hetherington	Deacon Anthony Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Peter Bowen Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony Maddy Pride	Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE ASSISTING WITH OUR CELEBRATIONS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

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.



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

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**(R.) *The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

1. 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, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Jesus' time, blindness and other illnesses were seen as punishment for sin.
- The Sabbath was a day for God and no work could be done. The action of 'making a paste' was considered as work and so the Pharisees accuse Jesus of breaking the Sabbath laws.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.
The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38 (shorter form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe,' and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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 Deeps

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