

# 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.

**5th Sunday of Easter (A)**

**7th May, 2023**

*Alleluia*



The Church honours with special love Mary, the Mother of God, throughout the month of May.

### 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 MASSES\*\***

**TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY this week**  
**12.00 noon**

**RECONCILIATION**  
**9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina**  
**St Francis Xavier Church**



**Feast Day**

**Our Lady of Fatima**  
**Saturday**



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

### PARISH NOTICES

Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Molly Dawn and Lucy Agnes O'Connell** daughters of Bradley and Patricia.

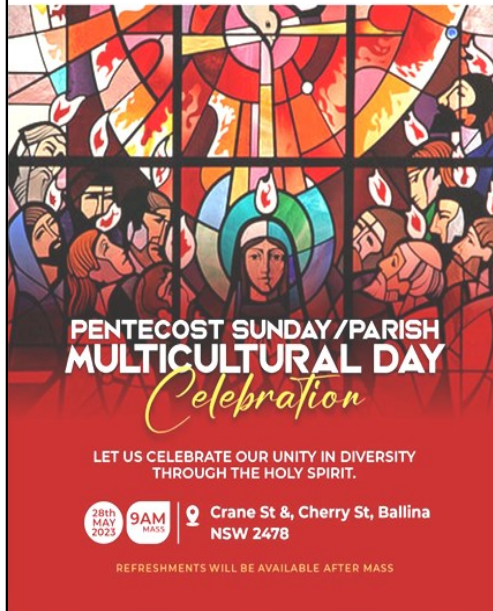
**\*\*N.B. NO MIDDAY MASS THIS WEDNESDAY 10TH MAY.**



**PARISH 'CUPPA'**  
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church,  
This Sunday 7th May,  
following the 9.00 am Mass.  
*Everyone is very welcome.*



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BALLINA



**CROWLEY CARE**  
**AUXILIARY**  
**ANNUAL**  
**MOTHERS' DAY**  
**LUNCHEON**  
**THIS Thursday**  
**11th May,**  
Crowley Activity Centre  
12.30 pm to 3.30 pm



**MEN'S GATHERING**  
**WITH BISHOP GREG**

The event was a great success and certainly, it

won't be our last one.

A sincere appreciation for every member of the organising team.

Especially, Richard, Tony, Murray, Frank and David.

Thank you so much for organising a wonderful event.

**Father Anselm Okeke**  
**Acting Parish Administrator**

### SCAM ALERT

Parishioners please be advised that in the absence of Father Peter Padsungay please do not reply to any emails, texts or phone calls that you may happen to receive from him, asking for money or bank details. This will be a scam.

**Administrator of Ballina Parish:** Father Peter Padsungay (long service leave)

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke (acting parish administrator)

**Deacon:** Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney Email: [john@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:john@sfxballina.org.au)

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; Email: [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto: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](http://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

**PRESBYTERY:** Phone: 6686 2042

**\*AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639\***

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

**SCHOOLS:**

**AGED CARE:**

# ROSTER: 6th Sunday of Easter, Year A: 13th/14th May, 2023

Readings: Acts 8:5-8,14-17; Psalm 65; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

	Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Bryan Marriott Matt Ritchie	Angela Beglin Emma McFadden	Annette Reen Gary Reen	Warwick Manning Leanne Robbins
EMOHC	Yvonne Head		Gemma Duffy Cathy Campbell	Maxine Cole
Offertory Procession			Mary Goss & Ron Hughes	

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Denzil Seabrook (*grandson of John & Pam McCoy*), Martin Russell, Stephanie Lemon, Diane Dover, Rose Ryan,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Ted Murphy, Bernard Evans, Aub Sainsbury, Bishop John Carroll (*second Bishop of Lismore*), Joan Shumack

AND ALSO FOR: Kath and Kevin Hankinson, 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: Elizabeth Walsh (*Ireland*) Virginia Kohlbach and family, Anne Jackson, Michael Hains, Ronald Windall, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long (*infant Brisbane*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Aoife Stephenson 1 yr (*Brisbane*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John Moreland, 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

7th May	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Morning tea
9th May	Tuesday 10.00 am	Cherry Coffee Club
10th May	Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30 am 7.00 to 8.30 pm	Journey through the Bible
11th May	Thursday 12.30pm	Crowley Auxiliary Mothers Day Lunch
28th May	Pentecost Sunday	Parish Multi-Cultural Day Celebration

**From today's Gospel:** How would you explain God and Trinity to someone who is not a Christian? **\*\*What does the Trinity mean to you? Does understanding God as Trinity make a difference in your relationship with God?**

Who is God the Father to you? What part does the Father play in your life? What characteristics of God does the father help you see? Who is the Holy Spirit to you? What part does the Holy Spirit play in your life? What characteristics of God does the Holy Spirit help you see? Who is Jesus to you? What part does Jesus play in your life? What characteristics of God does Jesus help you see? Through our actions how can we reveal the Father to others? The Holy Spirit? Jesus? Why was Jesus' humanity important to our salvation? How is the belief that we are created in God's image and likeness reflected in the humanity of Jesus? **Gospel Action:** Consider how your life can better reflect Jesus' Life. Do something good for another person this week without letting them know you did so.

**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 Presbyterian 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.

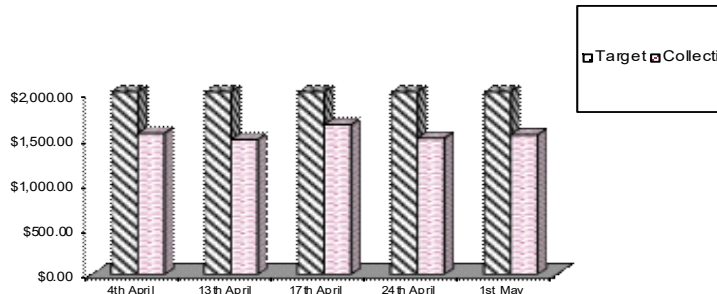
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterian BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier 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 3.20% 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](http://www.dif.org.au)

## THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 1,021.55
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 587.05
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,528.35
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00





## CALLED OUT OF ISOLATION



We all know isolation in our lives and the harm it can bring. It's why there are many organisations to help us when we need them, old and young alike, but what's it got to do with today's gospel?

Perhaps we're like the disciples, uncertain, puzzled by what we're hearing from the 'Farewell Discourse' in John's gospel; but, whatever our response, at the heart of this gospel is relationship, with Jesus, the Father and one another. Here they are in a room, just prior to Jesus' arrest and death, and he says he's leaving them, but won't abandon them.

The disciples are unnerved by this, which is why he prefaces it by saying have faith and do not fear. 'Go to the place where fear lives' and begin to find there a deep-rooted trust in Jesus, in the Father. This isn't simply some life coach positivity, as he's soon to show them on the cross. For those who follow him on his way through death into the love of God, Jesus says, he's going to prepare an 'abiding place' – a room in my Father's house, where we might be at home.

It seems homelessness is not on offer, for God is relationship. This is what God wants for us.

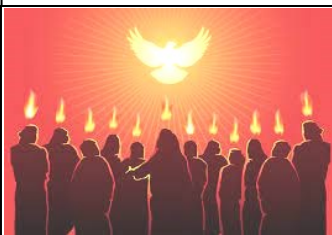
In the first section the disciples are puzzled by what Jesus says of his death and his return and more so when he tells them, he is 'the Way, the Truth and the Life'. Then, he further reveals his relationship with the Father when he says that seeing me you've seen the Father, because 'I am in the Father and the Father is in me.' At which point, understanding the disciple's bewilderment, Jesus says, but for now, see the works that have been done and trust in me: trust him to bring us out of our isolation.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles we hear of the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to be with us after his resurrection releases the Holy Spirit and fifty days later, at Pentecost, we witness the power of this release. The question for us is, are we able to see the Lord at work in our lives, however undramatic it might seem? Are we able to reveal his way of being in the world?

Because it's this that the church reveals to the world, and his going enables us, as he says, 'to perform even greater works.' Come what may, nothing can separate us now from the love of God revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus; it's the promise of Easter.

As this promise is gradually made real in our lives we are able to 'ring out your joy to the Lord', as the psalm says, because the Lord is with us and we're called, in the words of the second reading, 'out of darkness into his wonderful light.' We're called out of our isolation into relationship with one another and God, forever.

Damian Coleridge  
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**PENTECOST MULTICULTURAL MASS AND CELEBRATION**  
**SUNDAY 28TH MAY ~ ~ ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH ~ ~ 9.00 am**  
**Come dressed in the traditional clothes from your ancestral country and please**  
**bring a plate of traditional food to share for morning tea after Mass in**  
**the grounds of the Church.**  
**Please share this invitation with your family members, neighbours and friends.**  
**Everyone is warmly welcome.**

**QUICK JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE:** An 8 session overview of Scripture from a Catholic perspective. Wednesdays 10-11:30 am **OR** 7-8:30 pm - beginning 10<sup>th</sup> May Saint Teresa room, Parish Admin Building. In this video series you will discover the amazing story that is woven through scripture. Phone the office on 6681 1048 to register or phone Maxine on 0429 669 029 for more information.

**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. All enquiries: Please phn 6621 7288 or email: [tribunal@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:tribunal@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**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. To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone 6621 9444 or email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday

**Sisterhood:** Monday 11.00 am St Teresa Room Parish Admin.

**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX

Church.

**Parish Youth Group:** 6.30 pm Saturday evening, Upper Room Parish Admin Centre following 5.30 pm Vigil Mass.

**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.**

**EASTER DUES ARE BEING RECEIVED AT THIS TIME:** The Easter offering is an offering to the Bishop and clergy of the diocese. In the same way as all in receipt of an income have an obligation to support the works of the Church through the Planned Giving Program, it is a responsibility of all of us to support the clergy, keeping in mind that they need to eat too. We offer this support by giving to the 1st collection on Sundays and through the Christmas and 'Easter Dues'. Those with Planned Giving envelopes will find a special envelope in the box, and others could place an offering in an envelope and write 'Easter Dues' on the outside. Thanks for your support. The offering does not go to individual priests, but is added to the overall Clergy Fund collections for the whole year for the whole diocese.



# Invest with peace of mind

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**dif**  
DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

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: Acts 6:1-7***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 1Peter 2:4-9***A reading from the first letter of St Peter*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to

be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Jn 14:1-12***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 9th MAY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of his Christ, alleluia.

**Communion Antiphon:** If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia.

**WEDNESDAY 10th MAY ~ NO MASS****THURSDAY 11th MAY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let us sing to the Lord, for he has gloriously triumphed. The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation, alleluia.

**Communion Antiphon:** Christ died for all, that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for him who died for them and is risen, alleluia.

**FRIDAY 12th MAY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour, alleluia.

**Communion Antiphon:** The Crucified is risen from the dead and has redeemed us, alleluia.



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