



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

5th Sunday of Lent Year A

PARISH NOTICES

22nd 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

EUCCHARIST28

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



BAPTISM

Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church **Elsie Rose Hepworth daughter** of Alex and Louise;
Max Joshua McFadden son of Joshua and Emma.

WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

We joyfully welcome **Jarrold Willam Brown** who was baptised this week.
May God bless him as he begins his new life in Christ.



FUNERAL NOTICE: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **George Cox** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass will be held Monday 30th March at 11.00am in St Francis Xavier Church.

2026 CHRISM MASS : The Chrism Mass will be at St Carthages Cathedral **THIS MONDAY 23rd March at 11.00 am.** It is a time when clergy renew their vows. Parishioners are encouraged to attend this Mass as it celebrates the priesthood, the sacraments and our unity as a Diocese.



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



The next meeting of the **Auxiliary** will be held on **THIS 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.*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- **Monday 23rd March 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anawim Room**
- **Tuesday 24th March 10.00 am Cherry Coffee**
- **Monday 5.30 pm & Thursday 10 am 23rd & 16th March Gospel of Matthew STR**
- **Monday 30th March TAIZE at 1.00pm St Francis Xavier Church**
- **Tuesday 24th March 10.00 am Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus LH (in recess from this week)**
- **Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm (final this Friday)**
- **menALIVE Wednesday 25th March 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head**
- **THIS 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**
- **Divine Mercy Sunday 12th April Holy Family Church 2.00 pm**

Palm Sunday Year A: 28th/29th March 2026

Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

	5.30 pm Mass	7.30 am Mass L H	9.00 am Mass	11.00 am Mass
1 st Reader 2nd 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)
EMOHC	Kristie Coster Phil Chapman	Maddy Pride	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Kailani Tiernan
Gifts			Ron Hughes Joan Hollingsworth	
Announcer	Peter Bowen	Sue Hetherington	Richard Goss	Bernadette McQuillan
Laptop	Helen Lockton		Jo Hurley	Maxine Cole

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Glenn Cox, Joy Long, George Cox, Paul Land, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr rsm, Lois McNamara,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Tony Lannan, Betty Flakelar, Kathryn Nomchung, Kath Hankinson,

AND ALSO FOR: Peter Tiernan, Dympna Sheehy, Jack & Marie Flood & family, Cooper, Lynch & Howard families, 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 Kerlake, 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*

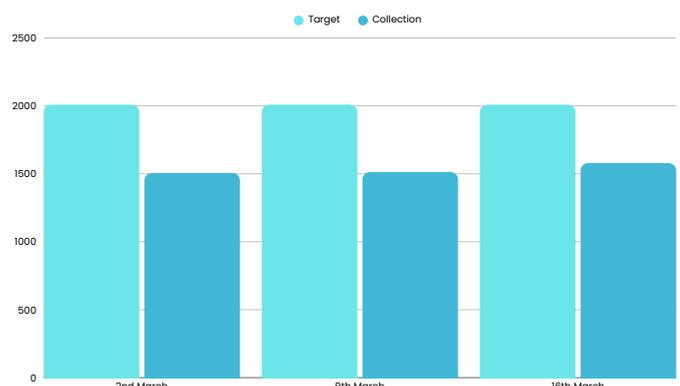
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COLLECTED SEPARTELY AT MASS COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit 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	\$929.00
2nd Collection Support of the Parish	Loose Plate	\$319.85
	Planned Giving	\$1,579.60
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



Fifth Sunday of Lent
21–22 March 2026

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



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 24TH MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Wait for the Lord; be strong; be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord!

Communion Antiphon: When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all to myself, says the Lord.

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said, as he entered the world: Behold, I come to do your will, O God.

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Christ is mediator of a New Covenant, so that by means of his death, those who are called may receive the promise of an eternal inheritance.

Communion Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son, but handed him over for us all; with him, he has given us all things.

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in distress. Deliver me from the hands of my enemies and those who pursue me. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Communion Antiphon: Jesus bore our sins in his own body on the cross, so that dead to sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds we have been healed.



EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION- AT LENNOX HEAD 5th APRIL, 2026
Lennox Park-opposite Holy Family Catholic Church
8.30am to 9.00am

The Easter Story with singing and prayer

Sponsored by Lennox Head Anglican and Catholic communities

LENTEN REFLECTION MORNING

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

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

- Exposition
- Adoration
- Reflection
- Reconciliation

Everyone is Welcome



REMINDER:

Daylight saving ends **Sunday 5th April** (Easter Sunday)

Clocks are turned back 1 hour at 2.00 am

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS final this Friday 27th March
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: TRIDUUM AND HOLY SATURDAY

	HOLY THURSDAY 6:00 pm	GOOD FRIDAY PASSION 3:00 pm (HF)	GOOD FRIDAY PASSION 3:00 pm (SFX)	HOLY SATURDAY 7:00 pm Vigil Mass
1 st Reader 2 nd Reader	Marie Sullivan Shylaja Gooley	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
EMOHC	Densie Miller Phil Chapman	Sue Hetherington	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Peter Bowen Phil Chapman

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: Ezekiel 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.**

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. **(R.)**

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. **(R.)**

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) **(R.)**

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed, he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:8-11

A reading from the letter from St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45 (shorter form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in 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