

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 Lent C

6th April, 2025



PRAY FAST GIVE

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
12.00 noon MASS**

**ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 am to 11.45 am**



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



**UPCOMING PARISH
EVENT FOR
JUBILEE YEAR 2025
'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'**

**PARISH REFLECTION
MORNING
THIS SATURDAY 12th APRIL
9.00 AM
REFLECTING ON
POPE FRANCIS
LENTEN MESSAGE**

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES



DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS THIS SUNDAY 6TH APRIL

*Remember to turn your clocks **back** 1 hour*



**PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church,
THIS Sunday 6th April, following the 9.00 am Mass and the
11.00 am Mass. *Everyone is very welcome.***

**'CONGRATULATIONS' OANH HOANG LE TRAN
being commissioned this weekend for our Parish as an
Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion.**



PARISH ANOINTING MASS THIS FRIDAY 11th APRIL 12.00 NOON



THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY ~ MASS

6.00 pm ~ Ballina

GOOD FRIDAY ~ LITURGY

3.00 pm ~ Lennox Head

3.00 pm ~ Ballina

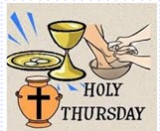
HOLY SATURDAY ~ VIGIL

6.00 pm ~ Ballina

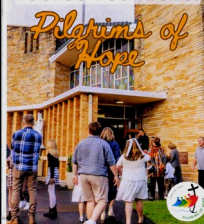
EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

7.30 am ~ Lennox Head

9.00 am & 11.00 am ~ Ballina



Jubilee Year 2025:



**JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE**

**A FREE booklet is available in the foyer of our two
Churches for your information regarding the
Jubilee Year 2025.**

**Please take one as you leave our weekend Masses to find
out what is happening in our Diocese for this wonderful
Holy Year of celebration.**

Save the Date : **Alpha 2025** Morning Sessions 10am - 11.45am.

Commencing Monday, **May 5th - June 30th.** Gather together, watch a video on a topic of faith and share your thoughts in a friendly environment.

Everyone is welcome, bring a friend who wants to learn more about the Christian faith! Watch this space for more details.



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

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042
AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Palm Sunday Year C: 12th/13th April, 2025
Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Phiippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14—23-56

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Trish Bazar Pauline Fingleton Passion Narrator: Bryan Marriott C/O: John Jarzynski Jesus: Priest	Michael Piccoli Angela Beglin Passion Narrator: Murray Deeps C/O: Mark McDonald Jesus: Deacon Anthony	Gary Reen Annette Reen Passion: Narrator: Richard Goss C/O: Nicole Sullivan Jesus: Priest	Brendon Clarke Maurice Gahan Passion: Narrator: Tony Hunter C/O: Maxine Cole Jesus: Priest
EMOHC	Katrina Miles Phil Chapman	Deacon Anthony Sue Hetherington	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell	Cheryl Bowen
Offertory Procession			Amy Derrick & Frank	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Keith Donnelly, Elizabeth Townsend, THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Colleen Gray, Mary (Gay) Topham, Mary Jack, John Condon, Nancy Grant AND ALSO FOR: <i>Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick 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.</i> AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL: Sr Mary McFadden PBVM, Pope Francis, Maureen Borthistle (<i>Dalby</i>), Kevin Sullivan, Sr Moria (<i>Bathurst</i>), Father Bob Bossini (<i>Fairfield</i>), Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Beryl Reed, Daphne Sweeney (<i>mother of Sr Kathryn</i>), Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (<i>Ireland</i>), Semmens family (<i>Tas</i>), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (<i>Dalby</i>), Peter Groom (<i>Dalby</i>), David Le'Fevé (<i>London</i>), Jackie Wotton, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (<i>infant</i>), Lynette Holland (<i>Tas</i>), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (<i>Inverell</i>), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty	UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025		
	7th April	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
	7th April	Monday 2.30—3.30 pm	Lenten Reflection <i>MTR</i>
	8th April	Tuesday 10.00 am <i>Lennox Head</i>	Devotion to the Holy Face,
	8th April	Tuesday 10.00 am	‘Cherry’ Coffee
	9th April	Wednesday 9.00—10.00 am	Lenten Reflection <i>MTR</i>
	10th April	Thursday 2.00 pm	‘The Chosen’ <i>St Teresa Room</i>
	11th April	Friday 9.30 am	Bible Study Gospel of St John
	11th April	Friday 12.00 noon	Parish Anointing Mass
	11th April	Friday 5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
	12th April	Saturday 9.00 am	2025 Parish Reflection Morning
	14th April	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé

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 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			<div> <div>Target</div> <div>Collections</div> </div>
First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 705.10	
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 364.10	
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,479.00	
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00	

THE ART OF FORGIVENESS

During Lent have we passed judgment on anyone? On social media say, which thrives on it, or at home, at work, perhaps in church, wherever we find ourselves. Often, we criticise others so we feel satisfied we're not like them, and as we do, we happily deflect attention from our own lives.

However, in this week's gospel Jesus shines a light on the woman brought before him where he sits in the Temple teaching the people; on the scribes and Pharisees who want to trap him; and on us. There's a lot riding on what Jesus says to the woman's accusers because they hope he condemns himself, whatever about her. She might soon be dead because the Law stipulated, she be killed for adultery, though it called for the man's death too, revealing that for her accusers she is simply a means to an end.

Initially Jesus says nothing, so they persist with their questioning. Then he looks up and asks them to consider their own lives if they are to cast the first stone, turning the spotlight back on them: feeling exposed, they move silently away.

Jesus now speaks with her – he's the only one who does – and he doesn't condemn her, or excuse her, instead he offers her the possibility of a first step towards forgiveness. In doing so he reminds us that the naming of our sin and the experience of forgiveness will only happen where there is love, where we are accepted. As happened when a dying man was talking with a friend who often visited him in his flat.

At one point he said, 'Can I just tell you?' He was scared, afraid God wouldn't forgive him. She replied: 'Why don't you say the names of people who hurt you and the people you hurt.' He started calling out names and after each one they said, 'Lord have mercy.' It's mercy we need, and like these friends we need to create spaces in our lives where it might happen.

With the woman in the gospel, we're invited to take a first step towards forgiveness, towards a renewed relationship with each other and with God; so that, no longer 'burdened by our persistent judgment, our constant exclusion and our withholding', we might take a first step towards the scribes and Pharisees too. For if we stop condemning her only to turn upon them, we have misunderstood Jesus, who doesn't condemn them. Instead, he encourages in us all, a change of heart.

We're invited to experience the joy of reconciliation in Lent; to experience a change of heart, so we might see a new deed come to light, a vision of new life, which the prophet Isaiah speaks of in the first reading. And this new life doesn't simply depend on our own effort, which Paul powerfully affirms in the second reading, but is God's gift to us, in Jesus: we have only to receive him into our lives.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2025



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

5th and 6th of April 2025

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



ST FRANCIS XAVIER
Catholic Church Ballina
PRESENTS

**Reflecting on Pope Francis
Lenten Message**

**2025
PARISH MORNING
of Reflection**

9AM SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA
All parishioners are warmly invited to
join this Parish event in preparation for
Holy Week and Easter

We will conclude with morning tea - a chance to
meet and chat with other parishioners

ROSARY

REFLECTIONS

ADORATION

RECONCILIATION

BENEDICTION

READERS & EMOHC ROSTER : TRIDDUM AND EASTER SUNDAY 2025

	Holy Thursday 6.00 pm	Good Friday 3.00 pm	Holy Saturday 6.00pm Vigil	Easter Sunday 9.00 am	Easter Sunday 11.00 am
Readers	Marie Sullivan Richard Goss	Nicole Sullivan Pauline Fingleton The Passion Trish Bazar Narrator Leanne Robbins Crowd/other Jesus—Priest	Trish Bazar Pauline Fingleton Mick Vella Maxine Cole Epistle	Richard Goss Wendy Hughes	Clare McKendry Mary McKendry
EMOHC	Kailani Tiernan Phil Chapman	Mick Vella Phil Chapman	Peter Bowen Phil Chapman	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Kailani Tiernan
Readers		Holy Family Church Damien Kennedy Jean MacKay The Passion Sue Hetherington Narrator Amanda Deeps Crowd/Other Jesus Deacon Anthony		7.30 am Holy Family Church Damien Kennedy Angela Beglin	
EMOHC		Murray Deeps		Sue Hetherington	



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: Isaiah 4.3:16-21;*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Thus says the Lord,
 who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters;
 who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army,
 which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.
 The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches,
 because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
 we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
 it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
 on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
 the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
 as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
 will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
 carrying seed for the sowing;
 they come back, they come back, full of song,
 carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the

perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
 king of endless glory!***

With all your heart turn to me,
 for I am tender and compassionate.

***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
 king of endless glory!***

Gospel: John 8:1-11*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES**TUESDAY 8th APRIL**

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 9th APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: My deliverer from angry nations, you set me above my assailants; you saved me from the violent man, O Lord.

Communion Antiphon: God has brought us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through his Blood, the forgiveness of sins.

THURSDAY 10th APRIL

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 11th APRIL

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



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our parish community.

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 The Kids Helpline is a free 24 hour telephone counselling service for children and young people aged between 5 and 25.