



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 Ordinary Time Year A

PARISH NOTICES

8th 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

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FEAST DAYS

St Scholastica
Tuesday

Our Lady of Lourdes
Wednesday

**World Day of
Prayer
for the Sick**



**ASH WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
MASS TIMES**

**12.00 NOON AND 5.00 PM
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH**

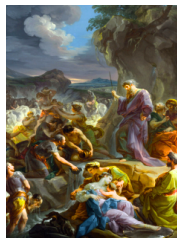


CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY MEETING

The first meeting for 2006 will be held on **Monday 23rd February at 3.00 pm** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina.

Please consider attending as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.

You will be most welcome.



LENTEN PROGRAM 'COMPASSIO'

Reflection Books available from the Parish Office \$8.00 each.

Begins the Week beginning 16th February.

Phone the Parish Office 02 6681 10498
if you would like to join a group.

THE MARIST HOUSE OF LIGHT

The Marist Brothers have opened a retreat house in Lismore. Three comfortable refurbished ensuite rooms offering a welcoming and tranquil environment. Stay for a day, or a weekend or extended personal retreats.

February Events: Reflection morning 9.30 am to 12.00 noon Cost \$20.00

Tuesday 10th Feb The Wisdom of Julian of Norwich

Thursday 19th Feb Journeying into Lent with an open heart

Friday 27th Feb The Silent Book Club

Contact 0438 689 137 or email maristhouseoflight@gmail.com



FUNERAL NOTICE: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Gerald Buttrose** who has sadly passed away. A funeral Prayer Service will be held **this Monday at 10.00 am** in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.

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

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- Monday 9th February 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
- Tuesday 10th February 10.00 am Cherry Coffee
- **Monday & Thursday 9th & 12th February Gospel of Matthew St Teresa Room**
- Tuesday 10th February 10.00 am Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus LH
- menALIVE Wednesday 11th February 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head 8.00 am
- Ash Wednesday 18th February Mass 12.00 noon and 5.00 pm
- Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 5.30 pm from Friday 20th Feb
- Monday 23rd February Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting 3.00 pm
Education Centre at Crowley Care
- World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March Uniting Church Ballina 9.30 am

| | 5.30 pm Mass | 7.30 am Mass L H | 9.00 am Mass | 11.00 am Mass |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 st Reader 2nd Reader | Pauline Fingleton Mick Vella | Angela Beglin Amanda Deeps | Donna Sison Margaret Tay | Leanne Robbins Maurice Gahan |
| EMOHC | Yvonne Head Phil Chapman | Deacon Anthony Sue Hetherington | Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell | Peter Bowen |
| Gifts | | | Ron Hughes Joan Hollingsworth | |
| Announcer | Peter Bowen | Sue Hetherington | Margaret Tay | Maxine Cole |
| Laptop | Trish Bazar | | Colin Mumikwa | Maxine Cole |

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Faye Clements, Rasan Ilamurugan

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS Time: Jim Walsh, Richard Patterson, Eileen Cook

AND ALSO FOR: Michael Harris (*Bendigo*), 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: Sr Patricia O'Brien PBVM, Joy Long, Julia Paden, Samantha Anderson, 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 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 | \$1,391.60 |
| 2nd Collection Support of the Parish | Loose Plate | \$364.30 |
| | Planned Giving | \$1,538.00 |
| Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target | | \$2,009.00 |



PREACHING WITH OUR LIVES

According to a book called The Life of Francis of Assisi, Francis invited a young monk to join him on a trip to town to preach. Honoured to be given the invitation, the monk readily accepted. All day long he and Francis walked through the streets, byways, and alleys, and even into the suburbs.

They rubbed shoulders with hundreds of people. At day's end, the two headed back home. Not even once had Francis addressed a crowd, nor had he talked to anyone about the gospel. Greatly disappointed, his young companion said, "I thought we were going into town to preach."

Francis responded, "My son, we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. We were seen by many, and our behaviour was closely watched. It is of no use to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere as we walk!"

Most of us will never stand in a pulpit to preach a homily, but we do preach by the witness of our lives. This is not explicit preaching, but rather the example of lives of integrity which are often more eloquent than lengthy biblical reflections.

The prophet Isaiah tells us of the need to share bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless, to clothe the naked, and never to turn our backs on our own. This is what makes our light shine before others. The psalm spells out how our lives can make a difference when they are characterised by generosity, mercy, trust, and a steadfast heart committed to reaching out to the poor. This is the challenge given us by Pope Leo XIV in his recent Apostolic Letter, Dilexi te (I have Loved You), where he insists that we must be concerned about the lives of the most marginalised in our society.

In a world of inequality, we are often separated from those who are on the margins who struggle to pay rent, to cope with the rising cost of living, and to manage on the minimum wage. We do not necessarily inhabit their world. But we need to be mindful that the blessings we have received in terms of employment, family stability, education, economic security and lifestyle, should not isolate us from, or blind us, to the needy in our world.

Salt was traditionally a food preservative and a condiment to enrich food, so we are called to enrich the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. In Australia, first among these must be our indigenous brothers and sisters, as well as migrants and citizens who have fallen through the cracks in our society. There are also the victims of domestic violence whose lives are in turmoil. We must pray and stand in solidarity with all those in need.

There is much to do in being daily witnesses to the gospel and preaching with our lives.

Michael Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2026

PRAYER GROUPS IN OUR PARISH

Prayer of the Church and Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am

Christian Meditation: Saturday 9.00 am Anawim Room

CCR: Monday 1.45 to 4.00 pm Anawim Room

Marian Cenacle: Monday 10.0 am Anawim Room

menAlive: fortnightly Wednesdays 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head

Parish Youth Group: Upper Room Sundays 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus: Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Family Church Lennox Head

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



**SCAN CODE TO
FIND OUT MORE
FROM OUR
PARISH YOUTH
GROUP**



FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF ST SCHOLASTICA

Entrance Antiphon: Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ.

Communion Antiphon: Behold, the Bridegroom is coming; come out to meet Christ the Lord.

WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Entrance Antiphon: Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King who rules heaven and earth for ever.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

THURSDAY 12th AND FRIDAY 13th FEBRUARY

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

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. February edition of Safeguarding News available in the Church stand



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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:7-10
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin.

Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you

and the glory of the Lord behind you.

Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
 he is generous, merciful and just. The good
 man takes pity and lends,
 he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**

2. The just man will never waver: he will be
 remembered for ever.

He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he
 trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**

3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the
 poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

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

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



DID YOU KNOW?

- At the time of Jesus, the main source of oil for lamps was the olive. A saucer-shaped lamp held the oil, and a wick, made of flax or a similar material, burned from a small opening on the rim. Such lamps were often placed in a niche in the walls of rooms.
- Lamp oil was a precious commodity. Once lit, a lamp was often placed high to give maximum illumination.
- Ancient cities were often built on hilltops so that they were easily defended against invaders and were visible for many miles around.

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