

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 (B)**

17th March 2024



**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

MONDAY 18th

St Patrick's Day Mass

12.00 noon



**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
MASS 12.00 noon**

RECONCILIATION

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

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Feast Days

St Joseph

Tuesday

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Cali Reign Maxwell** son of Stuart and Samantha.

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER
Catholic Church Ballina
PRESENTS**

2024

**PARISH MORNING
of Reflection**

9AM SATURDAY, 23RD MARCH

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA.

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

You are warmly invited to join this Parish event in preparation for Holy Week/Easter

RECONCILIATION

REFLECTIONS

ADORATION

BENEDICTION

**THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM
28TH MARCH ~ HOLY THURSDAY ~ MASS
6.00 pm ~ Ballina**

**29TH MARCH ~ GOOD FRIDAY ~ LITURGY
3.00 pm ~ Lennox Head
3.00 pm ~ Ballina**

**30TH MARCH ~ HOLY SATURDAY ~ VIGIL MASS
6.00 pm ~ Ballina**

**31ST MARCH ~ EASTER SUNDAY MASSES
7.30 am ~ Lennox Head
9.00 am & 11.00 am ~ Ballina**



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ~ AGM

The Annual General Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held next **Monday 25th March at 3.00 pm**, in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street. Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre. **You will be most Welcome!**

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

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042

AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

Pastoral Associate: John Kearney Email: john@sfxballina.org.au

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

ROSTER: Passion (Palm) Sunday Year B: 23rd/24th March, 2024
Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1—15:47

	5.30 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Jeanette Wilkins, Pauline Fingleton Bryan Marriott, John Jarzynski	Wendy Hughes, Margaret Tay Gemma Duffy, Nicole Sullivan	Maxine Cole, Maurice Gahan, Warwick Manning, Leanne Robbins
EMHC	Yvonne Head	Julie McKinnon, Cathy Campbell	Peter Bowen
Offertory Procession		Amy Derrick, Frank	Lennox Head Sunday 7.30 am Readers: Marie Sullivan, Angela Beglin, Passion: Murray Deeps, Amanda Deeps EMHC: Deacon Anthony

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Peter Tiernan (*father of Kailani—our parish youth co-ordinator*), Marie Powell, Fay Herrick, Diann Lannoy, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Elne Verdeflor, Boleslaw Jarzynski, Alan (Ace) Ayton, Rose Mulgrew (*Ireland*), Maureen Sullivan, Yvonne Tagget, Monica Dwyer, Margaret Clissold, Kerry Ruge **AND ALSO FOR:** John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, 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 the faithful departed.

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL: Gay Topham, Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fevé (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (*Sydney*), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Robert Ireland, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tasmania*), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Hugo Long (*infant*), Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Peter Mazzer, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024

18th March	Monday 12 noon SPECIAL MASS	Mass St Patrick's Day
TAIZE CANCELLED FOR THIS MONDAY 18TH MARCH ~ RESUME MONDAY 15TH APRIL		
19th March	Tuesday 10 am	'Cherry' Coffee
19th March <i>Holy Family Church</i>	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
22nd March	Friday 12.45 to 3.00 pm <i>Mother Teresa Room</i>	Friday Lunch Alpha Series
22nd March	Friday 4.15 to 5.15 pm	The Presence <i>Mother Teresa Room</i>
22nd March	Friday 5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
23rd March	Saturday 9.00 am	Parish Reflection Morning
25th March	Monday 3.00 pm	AGM Crowley Auxiliary
27th March & 10th April	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
6th April Lennox Head	Saturday 8.00 am	Our Lady of Fatima

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 Anselm**

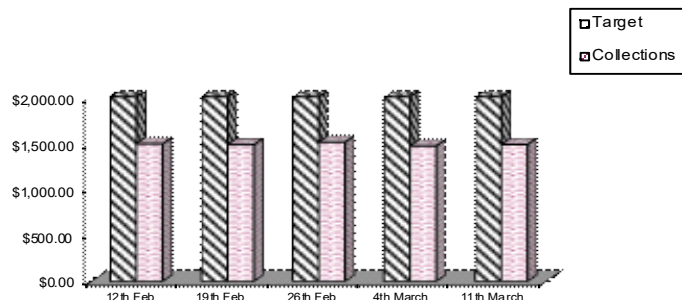
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COMBINED IN THE ONE COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card 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

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 850.75
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 487.65
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,483.50
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



LEARNING TO BE ONE WITH JESUS

How do we speak of God's commitment to us in Jesus Christ?

In today's first reading Jeremiah speaks to the Jewish people who, when the Babylonians besieged Jerusalem (597BC), had lost everything they held dear: land, temple, king. Amidst their desolation Jeremiah offers his people hope: a new covenant, a new intimacy between God and his people, a new relationship with God, this one written in their very hearts, 'deep within their being.' Their past transformed by God's forgiveness, God will now be known by the least, as well as the greatest, with no one excluded.

In the second reading, the letter to the Hebrews speaks of God being with Jesus in his death, in order that Jesus might be with us. Whatever happens, Jesus doesn't give up on us. He doesn't avoid death but rather, in dying, opens himself to the One who hears his prayer and has the power to save him 'out of death.' In following him we gradually begin to realise that now nothing can separate us from the love of God. This is the new covenant written in our own hearts, our very selves.

This God is revealed in the gospel when Jesus asks not to be saved from his forthcoming death, because 'it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.' It poses the question of who might we give our lives for? Who do we live for? Our children, our families perhaps, anyone else?

We struggle with the thought of losing our lives because we fear it will mean losing everything. Jesus' image of the grain of wheat speaks to our fears and teaches us that, if we learn to let go, if we give fully of ourselves, we will yield 'a rich harvest'. In doing so, the glory of God will be revealed. This is to be the pattern of our lives.

It's not always easy, as Jesus suggests, and as we'll hear in next week's Passion. It's what the lay missionary Jean Donovan came to understand when she was urged to leave the violence of El Salvador in 1980. She refused to leave the children, 'the poor, bruised victims of this insanity.' She didn't do 'the reasonable thing.' Consequently, she and three missionary sisters (Maura Clarke, Ita Ford and Dorothy Kazel) were murdered by government soldiers. They died because they shared their lives with the children and their families.

As we follow Jesus ever more closely, we begin to face our fears, their hold on us loosening so we might live in a bigger world, a bigger story, to which we're all invited to be part. This is what we're doing in the Mass: learning to be at one with Jesus, 'offering our lives with him for the world's sake.' Offer our own lives? If we're for real, in doing so we enter ever more deeply into relationship with God, a relationship written in our own hearts, our very selves, forever.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2024

THE PRESENCE: FRIDAYS 4.15 to 5.15 pm MOTHER TERESA ROOM ADMIN BUILDING 'COME AND SEE'



5th SUNDAY IN LENT
16th and 17th March



The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2024.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413



DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS TUESDAY
10.00 AM AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS are on Friday's during Lent at **5.30 pm** St Francis Xavier Church.



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

Contact the Safeguarding Office—Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

2024 CHRISM MASS: The Chrism Mass will be held at St Carthage's Cathedral, Monday 25th March at 7.00 pm. During this Mass the Priests and Deacons gather around the Bishop who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. It is also a time where the clergy renew their vows. Parishioners are encouraged to attend this Mass that celebrates the priesthood, the sacraments and our unity as a Diocese.

READERS ROSTER : TRIDDUM AND EASTER SUNDAY 2024

	Holy Thursday 6.00 pm	Good Friday 3.00 pm	Holy Saturday 6.00pm Vigil	Easter Sunday 9.00 am
Readers	Nicole Sullivan Maxine Cole	Pauline Fingleton Leanne Robbins The Passion Trish Bazar Narrator John Jarzynski Crowd/other Jesus—Priest	Trish Bazar Pauline Fingleton Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole Epistle	Nicole Sullivan Margaret Tay
EMOHC	Pauline Fingleton	Denise Miller	Jeanette Wilkins Phil Chapman	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell
Readers				11.00 am Maxine Cole Warwick Manning
EMOHC				John Jarzynski



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: Jeremiah 31:31-34*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9;*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

*The Word of the Lord.***Gospel Acclamation:****Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**Gospel: John 12:20-33***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

FOR THIS WEEK’S DAILY MASSES
MONDAY 18th 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: Receiving, almighty Father, the Body and Blood of your Son, we have known a foretaste of the heavenly banquet; grant that, in communion with Saint Patrick and all our forbears in faith, we may be true to your commandments on earth and so share eternal joy in heaven.

TUESDAY 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.

WEDNESDAY 20th March

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 21st 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 22nd 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.

FROM TODAY’S GOSPEL: DID YOU KNOW? • Often, people stayed outside the city because accommodation was very stretched at the times of the pilgrimage festivals. They came into the city each day to celebrate and then returned outside the walls to sleep, either in a nearby village or, often, under the stars.

• This is exactly what Jesus did on his final Passover visit to Jerusalem. After celebrating the meal he was returning to

• Bethany where his friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived. On the way, he stopped to pray at the Garden of Gethsemane and there accepted his fate. The Passover is just one of the three great pilgrimage festivals of Judaism.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: • Make choices for others this week. Die to yourself a little.

• Repeat this prayer often this week: *Lord, may I die to myself in Jesus so that through him I may have new life*