

# 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 in Ordinary Time (B)**

**4th February 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**

**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY MASS 12.00 noon**

**RECONCILIATION**

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

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**Feast Days**

**St Agatha**

*Monday*

**St Paul Miki & companions**

*Tuesday*

**St Scholastica**

*Saturday*

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

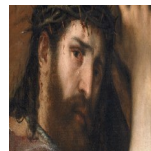
### PARISH NOTICES



**BAPTISM :** Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Harvey Dane Wing** son of Ashley and Rachelle.

### 2024 LENTEN PROGRAM ~ 'A RESURRECTED LIFE'

The Lenten program will begin next week. Please contact the parish office to register and join a group. Ph 6681 1048 or e: [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:admin@sfxballina.org.au) Reflection books are now available at \$8.00 each



### MEN'S BREAKFAST ~ SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2024 ~ CROWLEY CARE ACTIVITY CENTRE

7.30 am to 10.30 am

\$30.00 per person

Registrations and payment to Parish Admin Office by THIS Friday 9th February.

*Guest Speaker : Robert Falzon cofounder of menALIVE*



**WELCOME BACK TO TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**



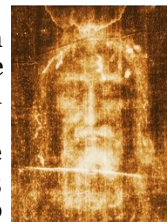
### DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

You are invited to join in devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus at 10.00 am in Holy Family Church Lennox Head. **We will begin on Tuesday 13th February, (Shrove Tuesday)** which is the feast of the Holy Face of Jesus, we will continue every Tuesday at this time and place.

This beautiful devotion goes back to the passion of Christ, when the veil of Veronica soothed the injuries of the Holy Face of Jesus. In 1843 Sister Marie of St Peter had visions of Jesus requesting a devotion to his Holy Face. Then again in 1938 Jesus appeared to Blessed Mother Maria Pierina de Micheli requesting that his Holy Face be venerated on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday and that it be preceded by a novena in reparation to Him and joining in His Sorrows. (*The nine day novena to the Holy Face can be found on the internet by typing the words: 'The Nine Day Novena to the Holy Face of Jesus'.*)

The primary purpose of this devotion is to make reparation for the breaking of the First Three Commandments of God. In 1936 Our Lady said to Blessed Mother Maria Pierina de Micheli 'In these times of sensuality and hatred against God and the Church a Divine Remedy is required and that remedy is the Holy Face of Jesus'.

For further information contact Hilda Carter on 0458 662 828.



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](mailto:john@sfxballina.org.au)

**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Kailani Tiernan Email: [ktiernan@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:ktiernan@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

**ROSTER: 6th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year B: 10th/11th February 2024**  
**Readings : Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46; Psalm 31; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45**

	<b>Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday ~ 7.30 am Lennox Head</b>	<b>Sunday 9.00 am Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00 am Ballina</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Peter Fear Matt Ritchie</i>	<i>Mark McDonald Emma McFadden</i>	<i>Nicole Sullivan Richard Goss</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Peter Bowen</i>	<i>Murray Deeps</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Amy Derrick &amp; Frank</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Nola Rodey, Lilli Vandk, Mick Ronan, Joan Flew,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Fay Biddle, Richard Patterson, Roslyn Evans, Laurie Ianna, Dean Russell Redford

**AND ALSO FOR:** *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:** *Hallie Butler (18 mths), Lynette Holland (Tasmania), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Hugo Long (14 mths), Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Ken Delany, 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, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, 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.*  
*(Please advise if a name is to be removed if good health has been restored).*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024**

<b>5th &amp; 19th February</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Taizé</b> <i>45 min of praise meditation &amp; music uninterrupted</i>
<b>6th February</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>7th &amp; 14th February</b>	<b>Wednesday 8.00 am</b>	<b>menALIVE Lennox Head</b>
<b>14th February</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Mass 12.00 noon 5.30 pm</b>
<b>16th February</b>	<b>Friday 5.30 pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>17th February</b>	<b>Saturday 7.30 - 10.30 am Crowley Care Activity Centre</b>	<b>menALIVE Breakfast</b>
<b>2nd March</b>	<b>Saturday 8.00am</b>	<b>Rosary @ Holy Family Church</b>

**TONY PADEN**

**'Happy 63rd Birthday' to Tony Paden.**  
**Tony celebrated his birthday during January and the faith community of St Francis Xavier parish wish Tony a speedy recovery from the traumatising assault he has endured. Our love and prayers are with you.**



**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

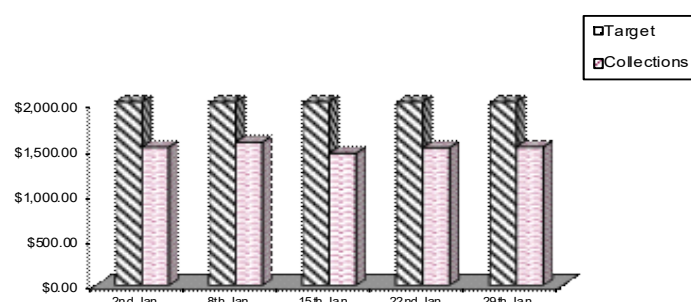
- 2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218 Please use your Planned Giving number as reference.

**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](http://www.dif.org.au)

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,011.40
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 652.20
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,508.75
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## HOW TO STOP THE SUFFERING

The story of Job was a huge challenge to the accepted moral outlook of the Old Testament people: namely, that suffering was God's way of punishing the sinner. Yet, Job was convinced of his innocence and was not afraid to bemoan his lot, complaining to God, despite his friends' admonitions that he must be guilty.

I doubt whether, at times, there is anyone who is unable to identify with Job's sentiments. For example, the times when we have cried out, at least internally: *Is not ... life on earth nothing more than pressed service, ... time no better than lived drudgery?... Like the slave, sighing for the shade... months of delusion I have assigned to me... nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, "When will it be day?" Risen I think, "How slowly evening comes!"*

Job, possibly more than anyone else in the Scriptures, is the one who cries out on behalf of all those who want an explanation for the suffering of the innocent.

In every generation people yearn to be released from their pain and suffering, yearn for a messianic figure to transform their lives. The Old Testament people were convinced that when that day came, there would be an end to the suffering, which was why they did not recognise Jesus as the one. As we listen to how Jesus reached out to all those who came to him for healing or for release from the enslavement of the devil, we can glimpse how we are to deal with suffering.

Jesus entered into the pain and suffering of our world, identified himself with those who were suffering and would eventually endure his own passion and death. In entrusting his mission to the disciples, he tried to prepare them, not only for his passion and death, but also for their own. Paul, who originally thought that his mission was to persecute the early Christians, came late to discipleship, but his encounter with Jesus taught him that in fact he needed liberating from his enslavement.

Accordingly, he was able to proclaim: *So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.*

Our age is no different to any other, except perhaps that, as we discover more and more ways of alleviating the suffering that accompanies so many of our ailments, we seem less able to conquer the evil spirit that sows the seeds of discord and division, leading to ever greater violence and conflict. The call to discipleship for you and me is undoubtedly to seek every possible means to bring Christ's peace and healing to our broken world. What are we waiting for?

Timothy J Buckley CSsR  
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### MESSAGE FROM THE HON SUSAN CARTER Member of the Legislative Council

You may be aware that in the last State budget \$150 million of allocated funding was cut from palliative care and end of life care. This will have a major impact on how people in NSW are able to face death.

In the same budget, \$97 million of new funding was allocated to support the implementation and operation of Voluntary Assisted Dying (euthanasia).

I have been trying to raise awareness of these cuts and put pressure on the government to maintain support and true palliative care for those facing death. As part of this campaign I am circulating a petition which will be presented to NSW Parliament after the petition closes in April. The petition is designed to:

- Indicate to the government how strongly their citizens believe in palliative care;
- Oppose these cruel cuts in funding;
- Hopefully restore this funding to the dying, or at least quarantine palliative care from any further funding cuts;
- Provide an opportunity for this issue to be raised again in Parliament and in public debate; and
- If we get enough signatures, require the government to provide a formal answer to the matters raised in the petition.

The link to the petition is: [LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - Signing ePetition - Restore palliative care funding to support people throughout New South Wales with a life-limiting illness \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/legislation/other-legislation/petitions/ePetition-Restore-palliative-care-funding-to-support-people-throughout-New-South-Wales-with-a-life-limiting-illness)

It is an on-line petition, conducted by the Parliament of NSW, so the data of those signing remains with the Parliament and is not available for any other purpose.

*(The NRMA have recently achieved 20,000 signatures on a petition to double booze buses. I am hoping we can do at least as well to support the dying.)*

The Hon Susan Carter MLC

02 9230 2725

[officeofmlccarter@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:officeofmlccarter@parliament.nsw.gov.au)



### PRAYER MEETING OF CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL EVERYONE IS WELCOME

COME and PRAISE God in SONG  
LISTEN to His Word in SCRIPTURE SPEAK to  
Him in PRAYER

Our first meeting will be this Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February,  
2.15 pm – 3.45 pm  
Anawim Room (In Parish Admin Building)  
Contact: Maxine 0429 669 029

### ASH WEDNESDAY

14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

### MASS TIMES

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

12.00 noon & 5.30 pm



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place **on  
Friday's during Lent** at 5.30 pm in  
St Francis Xavier Church

**commencing Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February.**



**Bishop Greg's Lenten Talks** ~ Bishop Greg will be holding his Lenten Talks in St Mary's Chapel, Lismore 6.00pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> March. Please note there will no talk on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March. This year he will speak of "Themes From St Therese of Lisieux".

*All are most welcome to attend.*



**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](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



# Invest with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://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: Job 7:1-4,6-7;***A reading from the book of Job*

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,  
his time no better than hired drudgery?Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,  
months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,  
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**1. Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due. **(R.)**2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.  
He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name. **(R.)**3. Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never be measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust. **(R.)****Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23;***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which  
has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach  
it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paidfor it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been  
put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is  
this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free,  
and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the  
slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the  
weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men  
in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the  
sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.*The Word of the Lord.***Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Mark 1:29-39***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark*On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John  
straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's  
mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him  
about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand  
and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to  
wait on them.That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were  
sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town  
came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were  
suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast  
out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, be-  
cause they knew who he was.In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the  
house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon  
and his companions set out in search of him, and when they  
found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He an-  
swered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country  
towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I  
came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their  
synagogues and casting out devils.*The Gospel of the Lord.***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**Taizé:** From 5th February Every second Monday SFX Church  
from 12.00 noon**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am **Ballina****CCR:** From 5th February Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Ana-  
wim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029**Parish Youth Group:** From 10th February 6.30 pm to 8.00  
pm Saturdays following Vigil Mass, Upper Room, Parish Admin.**You are welcome to our prayer gatherings.****FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS****Entrance Antiphon:** The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ,  
and since for love of him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.**Communion Antiphon:** It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord,  
that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.**WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY ~ THURSDAY 8th FEBRUARY ~ FRIDAY 9th 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.**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL****DID YOU KNOW?** • In Capernaum, archaeological excavations have uncovered a house, close by the synagogue, which has  
ancient inscriptions suggesting it is the house of Peter.

• Capernaum was a thriving town and was a centre for the local fishing industry.

• The Jewish Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and lasts until sunset on Saturday. As the day of God's rest, work was not  
permitted. That is why Jesus only begins his work of healing after sunset.**MAKING CONNECTIONS** • 'Jesus took her by the hand and helped her up.' Who has taken you by the hand and helped  
you when you needed it? What would you like Jesus to help you with?• Reflect on and then share your experiences of a time in your life when you felt empty or desolate; when you were gripped by  
a 'demon' you could not shake. By contrast, describe other times when life was full of promise and satisfying.• Make a special effort this week to extend a helping hand to someone in need. If you know someone who is gripped by some  
'demon', offer them a word of encouragement.• In quiet moments alone this week, recite the response to the Psalm: *Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted**www.cam.org.au/summit*