

# 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.

**6th Sunday of Easter (A)**

**14th May, 2023**

*Alleluia*



The Church honours with special love Mary, the Mother of God, throughout the month of May.

### 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\*\***

**FRIDAY only this week**  
**12.00 noon**

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



**Feast Day**

**St John I, pope**  
**Thursday**

# Happy Mothers' Day

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

### PARISH NOTICES

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



**INVITATION:** We, in the Ballina parish, are all on a journey back to God. We are blessed with faith to guide us and parishioners to support us. For some, Mass is often turning up, celebrating the Mass and going home. The support of parishioners we see every week is often not tapped into.

To help parishioners have a conversation with and to get to know one another, the Holy Family Lennox Head Committee, in 2022, successfully initiated an informal meal, at the Lennox Head Bowling Club, on the last Saturday of every month.

Newcomers can take advantage of this opportunity; singles can dine with a welcoming group and families with children are well catered for with meals and room to move. As with all families, all ages are included.

This invitation is extended to every parishioner who attends any Mass at St Francis Xavier and Holy Family churches. The next dinner begins at 6:30 pm on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May. The reserved tables are ready, booked as *Holy Family*. Text of call Sue Hetherington on 0400 052 505 beforehand and come as you are.

Lennox Head Bowling Club, 10 Stewart Street, Lennox Head. Phn 6687 4313



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Ruby Lane and Frankie Jean van Twest children** of Kent and Hayley.

### **NO MIDDAY MASS THIS WEEK UNTIL FRIDAY**

**Father Anselm will attend the annual Clergy Retreat.**  
**Please keep Father and all our clergy in your prayers.**

**FRIDAY 19TH MAY**  
**ADORATION 11.00 AM**  
**MASS 12.00 NOON**



### **CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY**

Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be held **Monday 22nd May 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!**

**QUICK JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE:** An 8 session overview of Scripture from a Catholic perspective. Wednesdays 10-11:30 am **OR** 7-8:30 pm - Saint Teresa room, Parish Admin Building Phone the office on 6681 1048 to register or phone Maxine on 0429 669 029

**CLAIM THE DATE: 'Come together' Parish Spring Lunch ~ Sunday 10th September, 2023. Further information to follow.**

**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 (long service leave)

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke (acting parish administrator)

**Deacon:** Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney Email: [john@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:john@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

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

**ROSTER: Ascension of the Lord, Year A: 20th/21st May, 2023**  
**Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Eph 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20**

	<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>Jeanette Wilkins Pauline Fingleton</i>	<i>Amanda Deeps Murray Deeps</i>	<i>Nicole Sullivan Julie McKinnon</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	Peter Fear		<i>Gary Reen Cathy Campbell</i>	Leanne Robbins
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Cathy Andrews Diane Evans</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Denzil Seabrook, Martin Russell, Stephanie Lemon, Diane Dover, Rose Ryan,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Chentelle Lozano, Brian Tarlinton, Cecilia Condon

**AND ALSO FOR:** *Kath and Kevin Hankinson, 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 faithful departed.*

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Elizabeth Walsh (*Ireland*) Virginia Kohlbach and family, Anne Jackson, Michael Hains, Ronald Windall, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long (*infant Brisbane*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Aoife Stephenson *1 yr (Brisbane)*, David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymphna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John Moreland, 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.*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023**

<b>16th May</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>Cherry Coffee Club</b>
<b>17th May</b>	<b>Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30 am 7.00 to 8.30 pm</b>	<b>Journey through the Bible</b>
<b>22nd May</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Auxiliary Monthly Meeting</b>
<b>28th May</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	<b>Parish Multi-Cultural Day Celebration</b>
<b>10th September</b>	<b>Sunday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Parish Spring Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club</b>

**QUOTE: LIFE DOES NOT COME WITH A MANUAL. IT COMES WITH A MOTHER.**



**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.

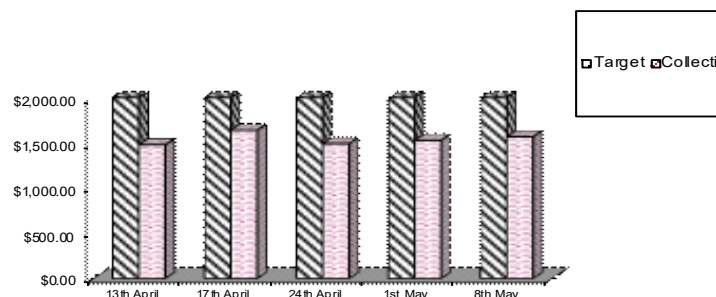
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 *ref: your name*
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218
- Please ensure you **use your Planed Giving number as reference**, place your envelopes in the collection boxes provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience.

**DIF PAYS 3.20% 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>	\$ 871.70
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 546.30
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,568.45
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00





**NEW LIFE WITH THE SPIRIT:** Today's readings prepare us for Ascension Sunday next week, as they instruct Christians on how to live in the world while we wait for Christ's return. Although Jesus' defeat of death has forever transformed what it means to be human, we live in this waiting period where salvation has already been won for us, but not yet fulfilled.

Jesus comforts all Christians by promising us that, although we cannot see him face to face, we will know that "I am in my Father, and you are in me and I in you." And in today's readings, we see that Jesus will fulfil this promise by sending the Holy Spirit. The coming of the Holy Spirit inaugurates a new way of living for Christians that Paul elsewhere describes as the 'new life in the Spirit'.

The first reading reveals the joy that this new way of living can bring. Reading from Acts, we see the power of the Holy Spirit setting the people of Samaria free from suffering and disease and coming to dwell with them permanently.

And as Peter tells us in the second reading, the new life in the Spirit continues even when we need to persevere in our faith through trials. When proclaiming Christ is received with rejection rather than joy, the Holy Spirit is still just as present as ever. Indeed, the Holy Spirit will help us respond to the world with "gentleness and reverence".

The coming of the Holy Spirit is Jesus' promise to all of us who have faith in him. The word that Jesus uses here for the Holy Spirit, *paraclete* in Greek, means advocate, defender or consoler and is often used to describe a helper or witness in a court of law. Just as Peter tells his readers to be ready for whenever they are called to make a defence for themselves, Jesus promises a defender who will always be with them.

The Holy Spirit is an advocate and witness for our faith. Not just against the hostile world, but against our own shortcomings, doubts and trials, the Holy Spirit also testifies to Christ's saving work in our lives. In a world that sometimes seems devoid of God's presence and action, the Holy Spirit dwells within us to help us "sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts." The Holy Spirit also provides the grace to help us trust and persevere when it is difficult to keep his commandments. And, when we listen, we are reminded that our new life with God is better than anything the world can offer us.

When the world rejects Christ and his good news, we have the Holy Spirit to help us follow Christ, loving as he loved, suffering as he suffered, and living in unity with the Father as he has made possible. And when we do this, God himself, in the fully divine person of the Holy Spirit, advocates for us, defends us and comforts us. Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2023

**POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2023: Ecclesial movements and groups:** We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

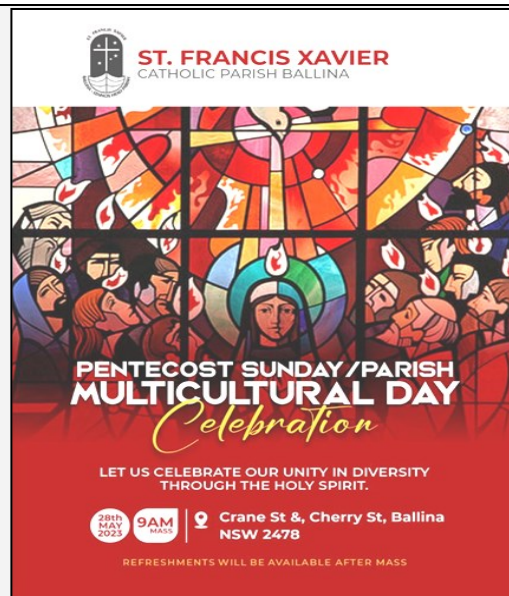
**Christian Meditation Group:** Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday

**Sisterhood:** Monday 11.00 am St Teresa Room Parish Admin.

**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX

**EASTER DUES ARE BEING RECEIVED AT THIS TIME:** The Easter offering is an offering to the Bishop and clergy of the diocese. In the same way as all in receipt of an income have an obligation to support the works of the Church through the Planned Giving Program, it is a responsibility of all of us to support the clergy, keeping in mind that they need to eat too. We offer this support by giving to the 1st collection on Sundays and through the Christmas and 'Easter Dues'. Those with Planned Giving envelopes will find a special envelope in the box, and others could place an offering in an envelope and write 'Easter Dues' on the outside. Thanks for your support. The offering does not go to individual priests, but is added to the overall Clergy Fund collections for the whole year for the whole diocese.



### PENTECOST MULTICULTURAL MASS AND CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY 28TH MAY ~ ~ ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH ~ ~ 9.00 am**

**Come dressed in the traditional clothes from your ancestral country and please bring a plate of traditional food to share for morning tea after Mass in the grounds of the Church.**

**Please share this invitation with your family members, neighbours and friends. Everyone is warmly welcome.**

**LinC—Love in the name of Christ** is a National organization with a local Branch based in Alstonville, it is a registered, not-for-profit organization consisting of volunteers from each of the local Christian Churches. We are mainly involved in providing transport services to medical appointments, but also for people who need to go shopping or to get to other activities like rehab post hospital, occasionally we will do mowing or small gardening jobs or minor house repairs. We do provide reimbursement for petrol if the transport job is outside the immediate local area.

Increasingly we have clients who live in Ballina—not just on the Plateau—and so are looking for 3 - 4 volunteers to be able to drive these clients to their appointments, we are also looking for volunteers to work in our office - based at the Alstonville Baptist Church - on Thursday mornings from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm once a fortnight for three weeks.

If you are interested and would like an application form or more information please contact the Catholic Church co-ordinator Therese Crollick on either mobile 0403 070 063 or email [therese.crollick@bigpond.com](mailto:therese.crollick@bigpond.com)

Church.

**Parish Youth Group:** 6.30 pm Saturday evening, Upper Room Parish Admin Centre following 5.30 pm Vigil Mass.

**Ballina CCR :** Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

**Welcome to our prayer gatherings.**



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**dif**  
DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

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: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R.)**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'   
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. **(R.)**

3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. **(R.)**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 1Peter 3:15-18***A reading from the first letter of St Peter*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Jn 14:15-21***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASS FRIDAY 19th MAY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** You have redeemed us, Lord, by your Blood from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us into a kingdom, priests for our God, alleluia.

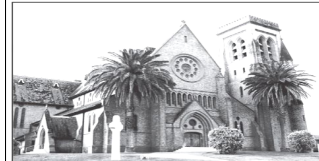
**Communion Antiphon:** Christ our Lord was handed over for our transgressions and was raised again for our justification, alleluia.

**From today's Gospel:** How do you communicate with the Holy Spirit? How does the Holy Spirit help you to live a Christian life? How can you be more open to the Holy Spirit working in you? What are the characteristics of someone who is filled with the Holy Spirit? Is there a way you can work toward gaining those characteristics? How much of your life are you willing to turn over to the will of God?

- Imagine what might happen if everyone who professes to be Christian decided to let their lives be guided by the will of God through the Holy Spirit. What kinds of changes might we see in our world?

Does your Christian community profess to be led by the Holy Spirit? How does a community go about becoming Spirit-filled? As an adult, how can you pass on your trust in God and your desire to be filled by the Holy Spirit to young people and to others around you? In which sacraments is the Holy Spirit invited to dwell with us? How can the sacraments change us? How can eucharist change us?

**Gospel Action:** Pick out the most difficult area in your life right now, and turn it over to God. Find time this week to specifically pray for the Holy Spirit to grace your life and your actions. Look for the workings of the Holy Spirit in someone around you.



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