



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 (C)

Alleluia

25th May, 2025



*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
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon Ballina**

ADORATION FRIDAY

11.00 am to 11.45 am

RECONCILIATION

9.00 am Saturday

St Francis Xavier Church

Feast Days

St Philip, Neri ~ Monday

St Augustine of Canterbury
Tuesday

St Paul VI, Pope ~ Thursday

The Visitation of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday



We invite everyone to our faith community.



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Kai Robert McManus** son of Scott and Sarah; **Keeley Robert Patrick Field** son of Blake and Brianna.



FUNERAL NOTICE

Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Michele Thorman** who has sadly passed away.
A Funeral Prayer Service will be held **this Monday 26th May** at 10.30 am in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.



PENTECOST MULTICULTURAL MASS AND CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 8TH JUNE ~ 9.00 am

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

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

Please share this invitation with your family members, neighbours and friends.

Parishioners new to our parish are warmly invited to attend.

Everyone is very welcome to participate in this annual parish event.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY: The next Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held **THIS Monday 26th 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.



Charismatic Healing Mass ~ Pentecost Eve

2.00 pm ~ Saturday ~ 7th June, 2025

Celebrant Father Erick Quinteros
St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina

The CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale following each weekend Mass. \$2.00

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 Associates: email: pastoralassociate@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

The Ascension of the Lord Year C: 31st May/1st June 2025
Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24:46-53

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Pauline Fingleton Trish Bazar</i>	Emma McFadden Mark McDonald	Annette Reen Gary Reen	Leanne Robbins Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	<i>Yvonne Head Phil Chapman</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Murray Deeps</i>	<i>Denise Miller Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maxine Cole</i>
Offertory Procession			

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Michele Thorman (*daughter of Dave Wilson*) Frank Grotowski, Dot Egan, Jenny McCormack (*Woodburn*) Len Moore,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Frank Cumiskey, Bernardien van Nispen, Shirley Parr, Jean Shay, Cecilia Condon, Aub Sainsbury
AND ALSO FOR: *Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, 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: Alisha Nobbs (*Brisbane*), Severina Nady Verdeflor, Gloria Greguric, Anne Louise Dillon (*Melbourne*), Steven Kennessey & family, Maureen Borthistle (*Dalby*), Kevin Sullivan, Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Beryl Reed, Daphne Sweeney (*mother of Sr Kathryn*), Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fève (*London*), Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Knightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden,

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

26th May	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
26th May	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé
26th May	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
27th May	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
27th May	Tuesday 10.00	Devotion to the Holy Face Lennox Head
28th May	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
29th May	Thursday 2.00 pm	Season 2 The Chosen MTR
1st June	Sunday 9.45 am & 11.45 am	Parish Cuppa
7th June	Saturday 2.00pm	Healing Mass SFX Church
21st June	Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30 pm	Parish First Holy Communion
29th June	Sunday 9.45 am	'Thank you' Cuppa for Fr Anselm

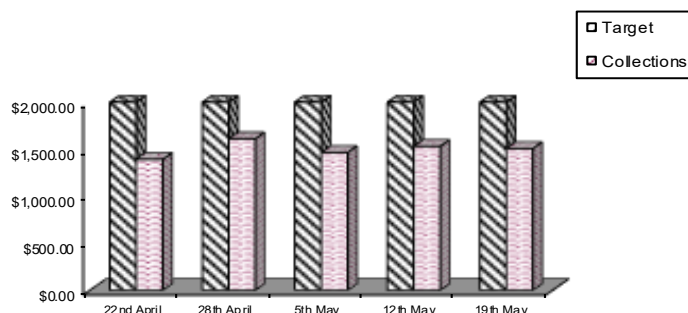
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter and Father Anselm**

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE 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 3.90% 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	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 1,150.35
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 184.25
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,507.60
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Learning to be at peace with God

We are still in the Easter season celebrating a new creation. But John's gospel takes us back before the Easter event as we hear another part of the farewell spoken by Jesus before his death.

Jesus seeks to give his disciples hope in the face of what is to come. Of course, they don't know what's coming, but at this moment he says to them that, if they love him, they will keep his word and Jesus and 'my Father' will make their home with them.

It's quite breathtaking, revealing to us an intimacy we're unexpectedly invited to share in. And that home is being made whenever we are present to one another, not using one another, or fantasising about one another, but are able to be with each other.

Jesus then speaks out of this love when he says that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in his name, will reveal everything, deepening our understanding of what has been said to us. And more, Jesus continues to reveal the great generosity of God and gives his peace to us, a peace quite unlike what the world offers.

The emphasis isn't on stopping hostilities, which is what we understand peace to mean in international affairs, or closer to home, or a peace of mind which brings with it the 'power of inner peace', crucial and helpful as they might be at moments. But rather it is a peace centred on relationship, on a person, on Jesus Christ, on one another.

As we learn to love one another, to be with each other, through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus and the Father come to be with us, to live in us. And the peace this love brings is not a DIY peace, but a gift to be received. We can't simply will it into being, or program it; we have to learn to receive it. That's the part we find difficult. Letting go of our old, comforting habits.

Often, we prefer to hold tight to what we know because letting go seems risky. But that's what Jesus is speaking of: trusting in God's love, this peace, as revealed in him and made real in our lives by the Holy Spirit. This is the intimacy we're invited to share in, where 'on the far side of my letting go is myself in God'.

It's the vision revealed to us in the second reading from the Apocalypse where 'the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the Temple' and we live in them, opening our hearts in praise, as in the psalm. It reminds us that, empowered by the Holy Spirit, there will be decisions to be made, and work to do, to enable the Good News of God's love to be heard.

But now, in the light of Easter, we know, as do the disciples in the first reading, nothing can prevent God making a home with us.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2025

DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS Tuesday 27th May 10.00 am Holy Family Church Lennox Head.

TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 26TH MAY 12.00 NOON
SFX CHURCH

Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation through Meditation, Music and Silence



POSITION VACANT

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre is seeking a cook to work on Wednesdays 7.00am-2.00pm to prepare and cook meals for children Birth to 5 yrs of age (76 in total attend on Wednesdays). Position to commence Wednesday 4th June.

Please contact Narelle Dewhurst 66875961 or ndewhurst@stannesldcc.org.au for further information.

Would you like to know more about **volunteering** to take Holy Communion to **aged care home residents**? Please join the aged care volunteers for a coffee on Tuesday 27th May at 3.00pm at the Bowling Club. Contact Pauline 0438 435 566 for further information.

PEACE

"Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience." - Thomas Merton



Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Lismore Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process. For further information please phone the Lismore Office of the Tribunal on 6622 7288 or Email: tribunal@lismore.catholic.org



PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of

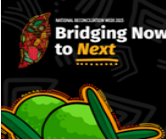
St Francis Xavier Church,

NEXT Sunday 1st June,

following the 9.00 am Mass and the

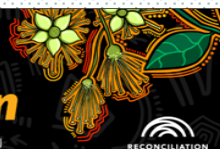
11.00 am Mass.

Everyone is very welcome.



**Voices for
Reconciliation**

27 MAY - 3 JUNE | #NRW2025 | RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



The National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2025 theme, **Bridging Now to Next**, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

Bridging Now to Next calls on all Australians to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

In the #NRW2025 theme artwork created by Kalkadoon woman Bree Buttenshaw, native plants – which are known for regenerating after fire and thriving through adversity – symbolise our collective strength and the possibilities of renewal. This is a time for growth, reflection, and commitment to walking together.

Australia's history of reconciliation is not a linear one, we have made great strides and experienced disappointing setbacks.

Twenty-five years ago, Corroboree 2000 brought together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous leaders in a historic call for reconciliation. We continue that work in 2025, inviting all Australians to join us in **Bridging Now to Next** – building a more united and respectful nation.

NATIONAL SORRY DAY MONDAY 26TH MAY

National Sorry Day, officially the National Day of Healing, is an event held annually in Australia on 26th May commemorating the Stolen Generations. It is part of the ongoing efforts towards reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.



Invest with peace of mind

www.dif.org.au 1800 802 516

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 CDFP 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 15:1-2,22-29
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Revelations 10-14;22-23
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 27th MAY ~ FEAST OF AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

Entrance Antiphon: Let us rejoice and be glad and give glory to God, for the Lord our God the Almighty reigns, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: The Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead, and so enter into his glory, alleluia.

WEDNESDAY 28th MAY

Entrance Antiphon: I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of your name to my kin, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, and have appointed you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last, alleluia.

THURSDAY 29th MAY ~ FEAST OF ST PAUL VI, POPE

Entrance Antiphon: O God, when you went forth before your people, marching with them and living among them, the earth trembled, heavens poured down rain, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

FRIDAY 30th 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



If you have any Safeguarding concerns contact the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au.