

St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



**St Francis Xavier Church,
47 Cherry Street,
Ballina**

welcome

**Holy Family Church,
94 Ballina Street,
Lennox Head.**

**7th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (A)**

19th February, 2023

'WELCOME'

**Weekend Mass Times
Ballina**

St Francis Xavier Church

Saturday Vigil — 6.00 pm

Sunday — 9.00 am

Sunday — 11.00 am

Lennox Head

Holy Family Church

Saturday Vigil—5.00 pm

Sunday—7.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

at St Francis Xavier Church

Tuesday to Friday

12.00 noon

RECONCILIATION

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

**THIS WEEK
Ash Wednesday
Wednesday**

**Mass times
12.00 noon
6.00 pm**



Learn to love not hate

In an often-violent world, the call to non-violence is counter cultural. War between Russia and Ukraine has shown us the extremes of violence where missiles bring death and destruction. However, violence is not just in a distant land but present in many of our homes.

In October, the federal government, with the support of all states and territories, released a national plan to end violence against women and children within a generation. It is staggering to learn that one in three women has experienced physical violence since the age of fifteen and one in five sexual violence. Gendered violence should have no place in our society, and this ten-year strategy aims to educate and to eliminate this behaviour.

Some have used the image of two hands to symbolise the way forward with the upright hand saying, 'stop what you are doing', to the person involved in injustice or violence and the outstretched hand saying to the same person 'we need to talk'. Rejection of physical, verbal, and mental violence needs to be accompanied by a willingness to dialogue and find ways of settling differences.

In the book of Leviticus, God establishes the moral and purity laws that serve to set Israel apart from other nations. God tells Moses to make the people aware that they are called to holiness just as their God is holy. This holiness takes the form of love of neighbour which calls us to purge from our hearts anger,

resentment, hatred, and all forms of discrimination. However, these attitudes will only be overcome if we heed the words of Jesus to love our enemies, to be merciful, to forgive, and reject violence.

Jesus also modelled non-violence by confronting injustice and violence when he challenged a group of men who accused a woman of adultery, and on the night before he died, he told Peter to put away his sword after he had struck the servant of the high priest. Jesus' non-violence is the power of love in action for the wellbeing of all.



We must stand against systemic injustice and violence not by retaliating in the same manner but with love and truth. 'Turning the other cheek' is not an invitation to passivity in the face of violence, but a way of assisting the perpetrator to begin to think about their behaviour and engage in dialogue. If we believe God loves us equally, we will work together to address racial and religious differences, oppressive gender norms, discrimination and inequality which are at the heart of violence.

The problem is that violence often begets violence so if we practised 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' we would soon have a world of sightless and toothless women and men. There are better ways to live and these better ways flow from a deep love and respect for one another.

Michael A Kelly CSsR
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We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042
***AFTER HOURS MOBILE:** 0423 445 639*

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Pastoral Associate: John Kearney **Email:** john@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



Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

ROSTER: 1st Sunday of Lent Year A: 25th/26th February, 2023
Readings: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Psalm 50; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	Sunday 9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	Trish Bazar Abbie Beecher	Gary Reen Annette Reen	Warwick Manning Leanne Robbins
EMHC	Jeanette Wilkins	Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Helen Cooney
	Lennox Head 5.00 pm Vigil Mass	Lennox Head Sunday 7.30 am	 
Readers	Mick Vella Paul Milgate	Angela Beglin	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Patricia Evans, Kevin Daley, Fay Biddle, Michael Harris, Richard Patterson (*Wardell*),

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Jim Walsh, June Ianna, Mary Grant, Raymond Grant, Bill Condon Jnr ,

AND ALSO FOR: Stan Parry, 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, Kathleen Kelly, 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: Abby Barri (*Tasmania*) Mark Skimming, Tanya White, Kathryn Nomchong, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long (*infant Brisbane*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Virginia Kohlbach and family, Aoife Stephenson 1 yr (*Brisbane*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunt 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.* (Please advise if a name is to be removed if

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

24th February	Friday 5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
27th February	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting
28th February	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry Coffee Club' <i>Morning Tea</i>
3rd March	Friday 9.30 am	World Day of Prayer
5th March	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa'

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2023

Thursday 30th March ~ 5.30 pm

St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina

Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD

For further information regarding enrolment for the Sacrament of Confirmation contact your School Office or the Office of the Parish Administration. 6681 1048

Students enrolled in Year 3 and above and have been baptised are eligible to be Confirmed.

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.

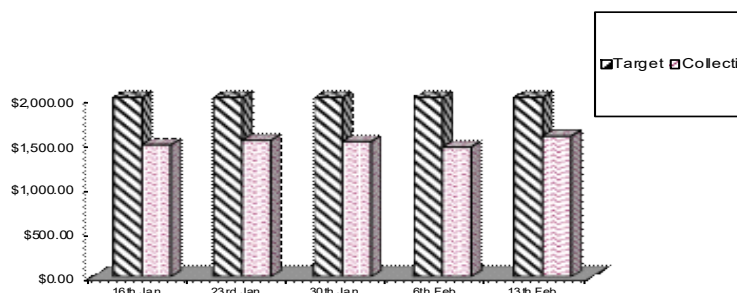
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218
- Please 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 2.60% 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	\$ 1,074.95
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 630.90
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,568.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Parish Notices

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



**2023 LENTEN PROGRAM
'TRIUMPH'**
Starting *this* Monday 20th February
10.00 am
'Upper Room'
Parish Admin Centre.
*Books can be purchased from the
Parish Office for \$10.00 each.*



SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Richard Patterson** who has sadly passed away. Requiem Mass will be held this Monday 20th February at 10.00am in St Francis Xavier Church.



ASH WEDNESDAY
22nd FEBRUARY 2023
MASS TIMES
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
12.00 noon
6.00 pm



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY
The first Crowley Auxiliary meeting for 2023 will be held **Monday 27th 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!**



'CHERRY COFFEE CLUB'
Ladies of our parish you are invited to gather for morning tea.
10.00 am Tuesday ~ 28th February 2023
Cherry Street Bowling Club.
No booking required. All welcome

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 this Friday 24th February.**



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY 3rd MARCH, 2023
'I have heard about your faith?'

*Prepared by the Taiwanese
WDP Committee*

St Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Ballina.
9.30 am



followed by morning tea.
Parishioners attending, a plate of slice or cake would be very much appreciated
Everyone is most welcome.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

- Used with permission Debby Kerner

R/: Welcome to the family, we're glad that you have come
To share your life with us, as we grow in love and
May we always be to you, what God would have us be
A fam'ly always there, to be strong and to lean on

1. May we learn to love each other, more with each new day
May words of love be on our lips, in everything we say
May the Spirit melt our hearts and teach us how to pray
That we.....might be, a true family

R/: Welcome to the family, we're glad that you have come
To share your life with us, as we grow in love and
May we always be to you, what God would have us be
A fam'ly always there,
Repeat x 3 to be strong and to lean on



Catholic Mission is standing in solidarity with the Church to provide pastoral and practical support to the people of Turkey and Syria. Your generous donation can make a real difference.

catholicmission.org.au/earthquake-appeal



PROJECT COMPASSION 2023

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations.** With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

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 donations boxes and envelopes available on the church pews, or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



PARISH 'CUPPA'
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church
Sunday 5th March, 2023
following the 9.00 am Mass.

Everyone is very welcome.



BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALK
THE SPIRITUALITY OF ST TERESA OF AVILA
This great 16th Century mystic helps us to understand ourselves and shows us how to pray.
Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Thursdays and will begin at 6.00 pm at St Carthage's Cathedral: **Thursday 23rd February, 2nd March and 16th March.**

It will be available to view on the You Tube channel the next day. <https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office:
If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone 6621 9444 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

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: in recess.

Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church
Parish Youth Group: in recess
Ballina CCR : Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

First Reading: Lev 19:1-2,17-18;
A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.
"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Cor 2:6-10;

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

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise.

Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 5:38-48,

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



FOR THIS WEEK'S MIDDAY MASS—PLEASE PRAY TOGETHER

ASH WEDNESDAY ~ WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY, 2023

Entrance Antiphon: You are merciful to all, O Lord, and despise nothing that you have made. You overlook people's sins, to bring them to repentance, and you spare them, for you are the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory.

Communion Antiphon: He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield fruit in due season.



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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 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.