

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 C**

20th February, 2022

**Please continue to
wear a mask
'ALL 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—5.00pm
Sunday—7.30 am**

WEEKDAY MASS:

**at St Francis Xavier Church
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon**

NO MASS THIS TUESDAY

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

**Feast Days
The Chair of St Peter
Tuesday
St Polycarp
Wednesday**



Do good to those who hate you

In the Book of Samuel we find two mortal enemies, David and Saul, in conflict. Saul is the anointed King of Judah and David has been anointed to succeed him. What happens next is an all too familiar human story. David is jealous of Saul's power; Saul is suspicious of David's motives. How often family feuds and human relations take on these negative forces of jealousy and suspicion resulting in the breakdown of relationships. We also see this operating at the international level between ethnic groups and nations resulting in open conflict and even warfare.

To return to the story of King Saul and the yet-to-be appointed King David, there is a glimmer of light. Previously, in a rage, Saul attempted to kill David by throwing a javelin at him! In today's story, David has the opportunity to kill Saul, but relents. Choosing not to kill your enemy is a good first step! Even here we note David's motives are not entirely pure. He acts partly out of guilt, fearing divine anger if he was to kill one of God's anointed. However, fear of God has its role as a pathway to a more authentic and loving life.

Let us now compare this approach to the words of Jesus in today's gospel: "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you." At a logical level, Jesus' reasoning is difficult to dispute: "If you only love those who love you, what thanks can you expect?" No, says Jesus, you must overcome all those narrow views of love and forgiveness: "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate." Moreover, "don't judge others, don't con-

demn, always forgive."

We may complain that Jesus is asking too much of us! Surely all this love and forgiveness will be seen as pure weakness, leading us to being eaten up, spewed out and trodden underfoot by our enemies! Yet, something within us knows we must break the cycle of violence and vengeance if we are to achieve peace, harmony and goodwill among people and nations. This is the way of the Gospel as lived and proclaimed by Jesus.

This is also the centre-point of Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* (2020) where he uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to insist that love must go beyond tribe, family and nation to include stranger, migrant and refugee. We also note Francis' joint statement with Grand Imam Ahmad

Al-Tayeb in Abu Dhabi (2019) which acknowledged that "God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity, and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters."

In today's world, 'loving your enemy' is best expressed in terms of commitment to dialogue and mutual respect among peoples of diverse religions and cultures. This enables us to open our hearts to become people of love, service and compassion. This way, we allow God's love to enter our lives and world keeping in mind Jesus' words: "The amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back!"

Gerard Hall SM
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***Catholics from the Diocese of Lismore are dispensed from their
Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.***

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:

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: June Ianna, Thea Berrell, Joan Woolbank,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Mary Grant, Raymond Grant, Bill Condon Jnr, Mira Slavic

AND ALSO FOR: 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: Anna, Kerry Jones, Sr Therese Dougherty pbvm, Helen Cox, Sr Margaret Mary pbvm, Father Anthony Lemon, Mardi Seabrook, Helen Johnston, Barbara Levett, Maureen West (Sydney), Noro Ruben Mazzorchio, Dorothy Preddey (Sydney), Fr Louis Molloy sm, Kath Young, Maureen Donovan, Rose Norris, Gregory Thomas, Danny Reynolds (Caloundra), John McCoy, Greg Shore, Elsie Evans, Maureen Kearnes, Louise King, Patrick Connelly, Patricia Evans, Greg Campbell, John Heaton, Dymrna Sheehy, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Reanna Mulholland (Dubai), Corazon Accon, Pauline McLachlan, Darcy Martin, (Aunty) Julia Paden, John Moreland, Yvonne & Peter Thurtell, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Graham Robertson, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Leo Lane, Mary Topham, Bob Grant, Michael Everson, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Samantha Anderson, Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Names of those who are ill will be removed after six weeks. Please advise the parish office if you wish names to remain or be removed if good health as been restored.)

THE SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

BAPTISMS: Will be held on Saturday's at 11.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church. A week's notice prior to the preferred Baptism is essential for preparation and notification to the Priest.

Under the current restrictions of 2 square metres people to sit in pews marked with X. Please contact Parish Admin 6681 1048.

CONFIRMATION: TBA

RECONCILIATION: TBA

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: TBA

WEDDINGS: In either church. Arrange an appointment with a Priest. Please allow at least 6 months for compulsory preparation.

ANointing OF THE SICK: Please contact the Parish Office if anointing is required.

HOSPITAL: If you have a loved one in hospital and require a priest, please contact the parish office 6681 1048.

REVISED NSW GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP.

- **Hand sanitiser is provided at entrances to our Churches**
- **Please continue to wear a mask while indoors**
- **Receival of Holy Communion in the hand only**
- **Singing by choir only (until mask restriction is lifted)**
- **As the easing of restrictions occur if possible continue with 2sq metre while seated—Social distancing of 1.5m when standing where possible and practical**
- **If unwell please stay home until you feel well again.**

Any amended public health orders that come into place will be followed.

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 (1st collection).

Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy.

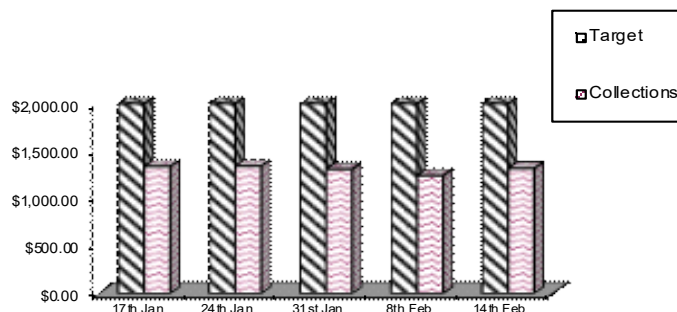
Father Peter and Father Anselm

DIF PAYS 0.45% 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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 531.00
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 234.55
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$1,317.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA - PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

If you are a new parishioner to Ballina or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, cards are available for completion at the Parish Administration Office. Your details will be processed and a tracking number provided. Contact SFX Parish Admin office on 6681 1048 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution and monthly deductions by Credit Card.

Parish Notices

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

NO MIDDAY MASS THIS TUESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY



PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM for 2022

Theme: 'REMEMBER'
Beginning Tuesday 8th March

When : Tuesdays @ 9.30 am.

Where : Upper Room, Parish Admin Centre.

Registrations: Please phone or email the Parish Admin Centre 6681 1048

Email: admin@sfxballina.org.au

All welcome to register for this combined parish gathering to prepare for Easter.

Morning tea will be supplied each Tuesday.



ASH WEDNESDAY ~ 2nd March 2022
MASS TIMES - ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH BALLINA
12.00 noon and 6.00 pm



CATECHISTS MATTER
Volunteers NEEDED for 2022
An invitation to consider and reflect
upon if you are able help in this
rewarding mission.

For more information on becoming a Catechist contact the Parish Office 6681 1048 or Peter Bowen Parish Catechist Co-ordinator phn 0421 518 371

SINCERE SYMPATHY



Our parish extends sincere sympathy to the family of **June Ianna** who has passed away. June's funeral service will be held at the Rainbow Chapel, Guardian Funeral Home, on Tuesday 22nd February at 2.00 pm.

The 2023 XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

Introduction to the Synod

The Preparatory Document (from the Vatican)

Our Bishop, Greg Homeming OCD, has asked parishioners throughout the Diocese to pray and reflect on and discuss the three themes for this Assembly, specifically in relation to the Lismore Diocese.

Theme 1 – Communion.

Theme 2 – Participation.

Theme 3 – Mission.

Individuals and or groups can make submissions. For information regarding submissions please contact Tony Worner at St Agnes Parish, Port Macquarie by Sunday 27th February tony.worner@stagnesparish.org.au

Pope Francis: 'Indeed, it is precisely in receiving forgiveness from God that we in turn are capable of forgiving others'. General Audience, November 4th, 2015



PALMS AUSTRALIA

Getting involved in people centered Human Development as an invited guest means humbly putting your person and your skills at the disposal of your trusted hosts.

You will be a stranger in the place and for six months a Pilgrim learning the wisdom of local ways.

Palm Australia has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture.

Is one of our assignments your opportunity to reach beyond? Find out more at <https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/assignments-abroad/> or call 0422 742 567.

BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALKS The Spirituality of St John of the Cross

St John of the Cross teaches us how to live authentically in the real world and in the presence of God. He shows us how to love and how to pray.

Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Thursdays and will begin at 6.00 pm in St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore.

Thursday 3rd March

Thursday 10th March

Thursday 17th March

Thursday 24th March

It will be live on the YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDiocesAU>

All are most welcome!



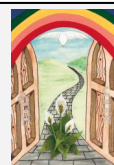
2022 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER UNITING CHURCH BALLINA

Friday ~ 4th March 2022 9.30 am

Theme ~ 'I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU'

Host Country ~ Wales, Northern Ireland and England

You are very welcome to attend.



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 (02) 6621



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.

All enquiries: Please phn 6621 7288 or email: tribunal@lismore.catholic.org.au

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00 am Friday

Sisterhood: Mondays 10.30 am St Teresa Room, Parish Administration

Parish Youth Group: Saturday, 6.00 pm Vigil Mass then Youth Group in Upper Room until 8.30 pm.

Ballina CCR : Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, Admin Centre

Prayer of the Church and Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church

Rosary at Holy Family Church Lennox Head: 8.00 am Wednesday mornings with Chaplet of Divine Mercy and 7.00 am Sunday mornings before 7.30 am Mass.

Welcome to our prayer gatherings.



First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23*A reading from the first book of Samuel*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

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 15:45-49*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Lk : 6:27-28***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS: 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
- **By completing a form that allows your bank to deduct your gift from your account into the**



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 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.