

St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish of Ballina

Respecting the traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people



**St Francis Xavier Church,
Cnr Cherry & Crane Streets,
Ballina**

welcome

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

Ascension of the Lord (B)

16th May, 2021

Alleluia



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

**Weekend Mass Times
St Francis Xavier Church
Ballina**

Saturday Vigil — 6.00 pm

Sunday — 9.00 am

Sunday — 11.00 am

**Holy Family Church
Lennox Head**

Saturday Vigil—5.00pm

Sunday—7.30 am

**PLEASE REGISTER AT
PARISH OFFICE TO ATTEND a
weekend Mass by phoning
6681 1048**

**or use the QR codes located on
the doors of both Churches**

WEEKDAY MASS:

**At St Francis Xavier Church
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY**

12.00 noon

**Please register with Parish Office
or use the QR codes on the doors
of the Church**

RECONCILIATION

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

Feast Days

St John I, pope ~ Tuesday

**St Christopher Magallenes
and Companions ~ Friday**

A shared mission with Jesus

The Gospel of Mark says that after Jesus was taken from their sight, the apostles went out, preaching and performing signs and wonders. It's now *their* responsibility to continue Jesus' mission of proclaiming the Kingdom of God. The time has come for them to embrace their new found "adulthood" and accept their personal commission to go. Leaving the family home is one of life's biggest transitions for children. There are many reasons why they 'leave the nest'. It may be to go to university, to start a job, to assert independence from parental control, to live with friends, to travel the world, to get married or to break free from difficult family situations. Leaving can be exciting and adventurous, as well as frightening and overwhelming; not only for children, but also for their parents and siblings. Yet, it seems almost a law of nature that we have to leave home at some point in order to embrace adulthood and take responsibility for our life and its direction.

The Feast of the Ascension recognises and celebrates the truth that the Risen Jesus *leaves behind* the human realm to take his place in glory, "*higher than all the heavens to fill all things.*" (Ephesians 4:10) With his departure, Jesus and the apostles enter into a different kind of relationship. It will no longer be dependent on time or a place, but on faith. Just as children and parents have a real, yet very different relationship once children leave home, so also for the apostles in the way they relate to the Ascended Christ.

out and bring the love, healing and compassion of Jesus to individuals and communities. Their mission, which is ultimately the mission of Jesus, is to "*equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the*

body of Christ." (Ephesians 4:12)

Jesus leaves the apostles to prepare them to receive the gifts of the Spirit at Pentecost. It's the grace of the Spirit's gifts that will inspire the apostles' preaching and teaching and that will give life to new generations of followers, even in times of persecution and division. As Pope St John Paul II remarked, "*The Holy Spirit makes them witnesses and prophets. It fills them with a serene courage which impels them to pass on to others their experience of Jesus and the hope which motivates them.*" (Redemptoris Missio, 24).

The same Spirit is gifted to us in baptism and confirmation; calling us to follow the lead of the apostles and to embrace our responsibility for the mission of Christ in our time. The Ascension reminds us that we are called to greater things: nothing less than sharing with others our own experience of the Risen Christ. This is what the apostles did and what we too are also called to do.

David J Hore CSsR
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Our Parish Churches are both registered Covid-19 Safe places of worship .

**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:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay

Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke

Pastoral Associate: John Kearney **Email:** john@sfxballina.org.au

Parish Youth Group Co-Ordinator: Amelia Kearney **Email:** ameliarose_k@hotmail.com

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: June Koplick, Bruno Storti, Tom Pyne, Sr Juliana Dwyer, Alan Yap, Kerry Robic,

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

AND ALSO FOR: James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerlake, 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: Fr Louis Molloy sm, George and Kath Young, Andrew Ellis, Una Smith, Narelle King, Tom Mills, Maureen Donovan, Rose Norris, Kathleen Campbell, Gregory Thomas, Barbara Levett, Lee Cowdrey, Kath Young, Danny Reynolds (*Caloundra*), John McCoy, Cathy Campbell, Greg Shore, Elsie Evans, Maureen Kearnes, Louise King, Patrick Connelly, Patricia Evans, Greg Campbell, June Ianna, John Heaton, Dympna Sheehy, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Reanna Mulholland (*Dubai*), Corazon Accon, Nola Johnson, Pauline McLachlan, Chanice Wills, Shokat Forghani & family, Margaret Murphy, Kaia Randall, Darcy Martin, Charlie Clements, Charlie Scotcher, (*Aunty*) Julia Paden, Glenn Campbell, 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.*

(Due to privacy laws, names are only placed on this list when requested, for six weeks)

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 4 square metres people to sit in pews marked with X. Please contact Parish Admin 6681 1048.

CONFIRMATION: Thursday 10th June 2021 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.

GUIDELINES WHEN ATTENDING MASS IN BOTH OUR PARISH CHURCHES.

- **If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend Mass.**
- Register prior to attending Mass is preferred by ringing the parish office 6681 1048.
 - QR check-in is also available.
 - **Use hand sanitiser provided at entrance and exit doors.**
- **Sit on crosses (X) allocated in the pews** to comply with the required social distancing rules of 2 square metres (*families can sit together*).
 - **Singing** within the body of our Churches is allowed.
- 5 x weekend Masses and 4 x weekday Masses are celebrated each week in our parish.
- Our churches are open for private prayer Monday to Friday, please sign the sheet provided when visiting.



You are very welcome to our places of worship.

Thank you.

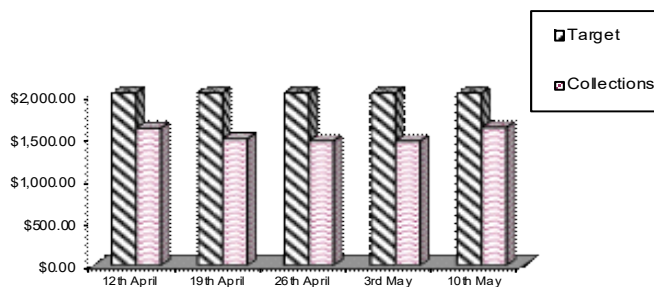
Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.

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**

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 808.70
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 280.10
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,600.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



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

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.

Parish Notices


PARISH WEEKLY BULLETINS: DUE TO COVID-19 HEALTH REGULATIONS PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME OR USE BIN PROVIDED TO DISCARD. DO NOT RETURN OR LEAVE IN CHURCH.

 **BAPTISM:** Our parish family welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Stella Ashley Steel** daughter of Dane and Heather; **Zali Kate and Ella Emily Logan** daughters of Brendan and Sarah. Our parish family also 'Welcomes into the Catholic Church' **Eva Woodburn**, daughter of Andrew and Helen.

'WELCOME' 2021 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.



This week there are 'Pray for Me' cards in baskets on the altar. Parishioners are asked to take a card and pray for that candidate whose name is inscribed on it.  **The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Thursday 10th June in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.**

 **CATECHISTS MEETING**
Upper Room, Parish Admin Centre.
Tuesday 25th May at 10.00 am.
Catechists and helpers are encouraged to attend. Morning Tea provided.
Volunteers STILL URGENTLY NEEDED
PLEASE CONSIDER THIS INVITATION
You will be most welcome.

 **CROWLEY AUXILIARY:** After a long break due to Covid19 we have great news! Our first meeting will be held on **Monday 24th May at 3.00 pm in The Crowley Education Centre.** A welcome to all members and an invitation to new members. Join us for a special 'welcome back' afternoon tea. We are looking forward to continuing the wonderful work of the Crowley Auxiliary in supporting Crowley Care. *Helen Cooney, President.* 0467 445 377

 **Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Count of Attendance.**
The National Count has begun over covering the first four weekends in May. The count is conducted in the same year as the Australian Census (which will be held on 10th August 2021) so that the information collected can most effectively be used in association with results from the other project. It is intended that the 2021 count will be conducted in all parishes and other Mass centres, such as migrant community centres, throughout Australia. The count will be as comprehensive as possible and include people of all ages at Mass (including babies), and other types of Sunday Assemblies. It will be a simple head-count: no other information about individual attenders will be collected. As we already have a count each week due to the Covid Regulations the first two weeks of May are easily completed. This weekend **May 15th/16th** we also will be recording **males and females.** A simple form will be completed as you enter the Church and placed in a basket before entering for Mass. For Week 4 (**22nd/23rd May**) we will simply tick a box corresponding with your **age group** and place in the box before entering the Church. We ask for your assistance in this weekend and next weekend. Thank you.

ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT
The annual Clergy Retreat will take place from this Tuesday 18th May until Thursday 20th May.
Masses in our Parish Church will be as normal, 12.00 noon Tuesday through to Friday.
Our prayers are with the Clergy of the Diocese.

 **LAP PROGRAM**
Holy Family Catholic Primary School is looking for any interested parishioners who are willing to give up an hour of their time each week, to work with children on a one to one basis. No skills are necessary, just a little time, care and concern.  It is based on a scheme called the Learning Assistance Program which was successfully implemented into our school twenty one years ago. The program is based on five simple principles:

- It is always one to one
- Is about relationships
- Builds confidence and self esteem
- Takes a creative approach to learning

 Promotes parent and community participation
Volunteers benefit as much as the children they work with. If you are interested, please contact the school office on 66 875311 and ask for Cheryl Winkler.


GO TELL EVERYONE
By Richards/Dale MAY
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1.
God's spirit is in my heart
He has called me and set me apart
This is what I have to do
What I have to do.

Refrain:
He sent me to give the good news to the poor
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more
Tell blind people that they can see
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell ev'ryone
The news that the kingdom of God has come
And go tell ev'ryone
The news that God's kingdom has come.

2. Just as the father sent me
So I'm sending you
out to be
My witness throughout
the world
The whole of the world.
R/:

3. Don't worry what
You have to say
Don't worry because on
that day
God's spirit will speak in
your heart
Will speak in your heart. **R/:**

'SINCERE THANK YOU' to the very kind person who leaves a weekly parish bulletin at my home. 
From Jean Ellis, Lennox Head.

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.

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **(R.)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 16:15-20

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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 account of the Parish, available from the Parish Office or, place your envelopes in the baskets provided in the church or bring them to the Parish Office at your convenience. Thank you



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 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.