

# 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.

### Ascension of the Lord (C)

29th May, 2022

Alleluia



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

**'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**

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**Feast Days**

**The Visitation of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Tuesday**

**St Justin, martyr**

**Wednesday**

**St Charles Lwanga & Companions  
Friday**

### Mary's shared experience

This is the age of celebrity. To have a selfie taken with a famous person seems to be the ambition of half the population. After all, in every generation people have looked up to those who have made their grand mark in life.

Any association with them would become more significant if they were to have a conversation with us and share some confidential information. Then we would truly feel privileged. To some extent this instinct explains the cult of devotion to the saints in the history of the Church.

We recognise that those who have been faithful to the Lord's teaching and lived their lives close to him provide us with models for our imitation and, by association, they are able to share privileged information about him with us. Among the saints, Mary, the mother of



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Jesus, holds a unique place. Scripture scholars agree that the evangelist, Luke, had a close friendship with Mary. Luke tells us more about Mary than any of the other gospel writers.

Luke, both in his gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles, describes the Ascension, the event which marked the completion of Jesus' ministry on earth. In neither account is there

mention that Mary was there, but in Acts, Luke goes on to tell us that when the apostles gathered back in Jerusalem and waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit, Mary was with them.

Luke refers to the fact that Jesus, after his Passion and over a period of 40 days, had shown himself to be alive on many occasions. Interestingly, all the resurrection stories are shrouded in mystery and the apostles will need the gift of the Spirit to help them put the

jigsaw together. Their hopes were duly fulfilled at Pentecost when they were given the power to witness fearlessly to the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.

We are all being called to be Christ's witnesses in our own time and place. It is not surprising that the Church came to the conclusion that Mary

must have shared the experience of the Ascension. Later in the liturgical year, we celebrate her Assumption into heaven. Ultimately, this gives meaning to today's feast for all of us.

Timothy Buckley CSsR

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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](mailto:john@sfxballina.org.au)

**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Bianca McInnes Email: [bianca@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:bianca@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

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

**SCHOOLS:**

**AGED CARE:**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Bernardien van Nispen (*mother of Doris Chapman*), Rhonda Lollback (*sister of Frank Lynch*), William (Bill) Parsons, Jeff Mather (*Brisbane*), Sr Florence Tobin rsj (*Sr Frances Mary*), Joan Shumack,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Jean Shay,

**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 Shay, Cecilia & Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all faithful departed.

**AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:** Louise King, Greg Campbell, John and Conchita Schroder, Tommy Roskell, Leila Aitken (Sydney), Estelle Anderson, Tony Smith, Helen Cox, Sr Margaret Mary pbvm, Mardi Seabrook, Barbara Levett, Maureen West (Sydney), Noro Ruben Mazzorchi, 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, Patrick Connelly, Patricia Evans, 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

### 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.

**CONFIRMATION:** 9th June, 2022

**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.

**FUNREALS:** In either church. Requiem Mass or Funeral Prayers. Church booking arrangements with Funeral Director of choice, Liturgy arrangements with our priests.

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

#### PLACES OF WORSHIP ~ KEEPING US SAFE.

- Hand sanitiser is provided at entrances to our Churches
- Masks are not mandatory, but encouraged in our churches
- Receival of Holy Communion in the hand only
- Singing is allowed
- Social distancing not mandatory, but encouraged
- Density limits are not mandatory
- If unwell please stay home until you feel well again.

**Thank you.**

#### THE DIOCESE OF LISMORE 2022 FLOOD APPEAL



**The Most Reverend Gregory Homeming OCD, Bishop of Lismore offers his message of comfort, support and hope to the people of Northern NSW.**

The Diocese of Lismore has launched its 2022 Flood Appeal. To donate in Australia, please transfer funds to the account: BSB: **037-889** Account No: **1061 5829**  
Account Name: **DOL Flood Appeal**  
To donate from other countries please use this [PayPal link](#). This link can also be used within Australia. Unfortunately this appeal is not tax deductible. If you are having trouble donating, please email: [appeals@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:appeals@lismore.catholic.org.au).

**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 (1<sup>st</sup> collection).

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

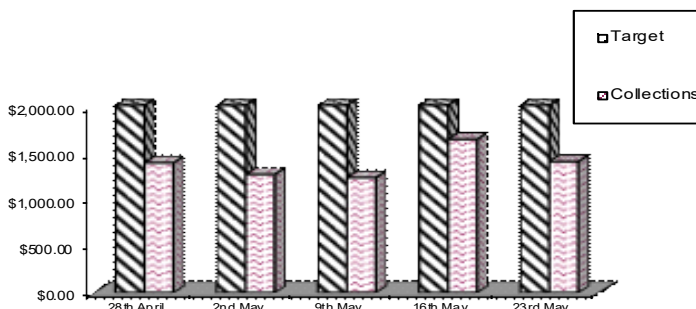
**Father Peter and Father Anselm**

#### 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

<b>First Collection</b>	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 474.75
<b>Second Collection</b> Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 243.70
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$1,397.60
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.

## 'WELCOME' 2022 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

This week the focus for our parish candidates for Confirmation is:

**'Life in the Spirit':**

Candidates art work will be displayed in the our two churches.



**We welcome each candidate and their family to our weekend Masses.**

**The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Thursday 9th June in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.**

**Candidates and their families will gather at 5.20pm to be seated by 5.30 pm to meet Bishop Greg before the Sacrament of Confirmation at 6.00 pm.**



**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Bernardien van Nispen** who has sadly passed away. Bernardien's Funeral Prayer Service will be held on Thursday 2nd June at 10.30 am in St Francis Xavier Church Ballina.

**FRENCH CORAL MUSIC CONCERT:** Sunday 29th May 3.30 pm—St Mary's Anglican Church Ballina. Tickets at the door \$15.00 or online@trybooking.com/BZLGC



## 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



## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 'BE BRAVE, MAKE CHANGE' 27th May to 3rd June.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The dates for NRW remain the same each year. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively. <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au>

## EMMAUS SONG

By Monica Brown Used with permission ONELICENCE #A-621003.

Come journey with us walk with us, listen to our story  
Our hopes, our dreams, our struggles, our joys,  
our story of life  
We share with you as we journey, Jesus our God

### Refrain

May our hearts be warmed  
And strengthened by your presence here  
In your holy word  
And bread of life in the love we share  
May we go forth on our journey with you

Come journey with us, talk with us, tell us of your story  
Open our minds to understand, the mystery of  
Your life with us Your risen life, Jesus our God. /R

Come journey with us, stay with us, make us one with you  
In the blessing of bread, the breaking of bread,  
may we truly know  
Your life in us your love for us, Jesus our God. /R

## ASPIRE

Young Adult Spiritual Formation  
with Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD via Zoom

## FOR AGES 18 – 35 YEARS OLD.

June 6 - Monday  
July 26 - Tuesday  
August 15 - Monday  
September 27 - Tuesday  
October 18 - Tuesday  
December 6 - Tuesday

For more information, contact: Sr. Di, CM  
Mobile: 0405 327 153  
Email: [youth@stcarthages.org.au](mailto:youth@stcarthages.org.au)

## SMARTLOVING BREAKTHROUGH



An Online Course for spouses in troubled marriages. If your marriage is under stress or you feel disconnected from your spouse, but don't know how to ease the pain, join us for this online course.

- \* Identify your conflict triggers.
- \* Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument.
- \* Restore hope with practical relationship strategies.

[smartloving.org/breakthrough](http://smartloving.org/breakthrough)

**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 Parish Administration Building

**Parish Youth Group:** 7.00 pm Saturday evening following 6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Upper Room Parish Admin Centre.

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

**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.

## 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: Lk 24:46-53;***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

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](http://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.