

# 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.**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ  
King of the Universe**

**26th November, 2023**



**NOVEMBER MONTH OF  
THE HOLY SOULS**

**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**  
**NO MASS**

**WEEKDAY MASS**  
**TUESDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**MASS 12.00 noon**

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

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**Feast Day**

**St Andrew, apostle**  
*Thursday*

**We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.**

### PARISH NOTICES



#### BAPTISM

Our parish family **warmly welcomes** into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Tulley James Hulme** son of James and Brooke.



**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **John Woolbank** who has sadly passed away. A Funeral Prayer Service will be held this **Wednesday 29th November at 10.00 am**, in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.

#### YOUNG ADULT ADVENT RETREAT WITH FATHER ANSELM OKEKE

**SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 9.00 AM TO 4.30 PM**

UPPER ROOM, PARISH ADMIN BUILDING, 53-57 CHERRY STREET, BALLINA  
Register by **this** Monday 27th November  
Parish Office 02 6681 1048, or Di CM 0405 327 153



#### PARISH FEAST DAY ~ OUR 'PATRON SAINT' ST FRANCIS XAVIER 'PARISH 'CUPPA'

**Next** Sunday 3rd December, following the 9.00 am Mass, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church. SVdP members to host the morning celebrations.  
*Parishioners are invited to bring a plate for our table to share.*  
**This will be our final Sunday morning tea for 2023.**  
**Everyone is very welcome.**



**COLUMBAN 2024 CALENDARS** are available after each weekend Mass. \$10.00  
**MAJELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS** are available following weekend Masses. \$10.00 each for a pack of 10.

**St Francis Xavier Parishioners:** After praying and reflecting, I acknowledge the importance of keeping you all informed in regards to any processes or decisions affecting our parish. As our parishioners, I truly value your voice and your input, and I acknowledge the importance of keeping you up to date on all matters pertaining to your parish. Communication is vital in making our very good parish a great parish. The communication will be improved in our parish. As of next year, there will be a regular quarterly newsletter, which will have information from all the different groups within our parish. Also, in the coming months, as the Parish Administrator, I will be calling for nominations for the Parish Pastoral Council, as well as with appointing parishioners to this important group. Both Fr Anselm and I look forward to working with you all, and we are both committed and united to making our very good parish, with your help, a great parish. *Thank you, Father Peter*

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 Associate:** John Kearney Email: [john@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:john@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

**ROSTER: 1st Sunday Advent, Year B: 2nd/3rd December, 2023**  
**Readings : U=Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8; Psalm 79; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37**

	<b>Saturday 5.30 pm Vigil Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 7.30 am Lennox Head ~ No Mass</b>	<b>Sunday 9.00 am Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00 am Ballina</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Pauline Fingleton Jeanette Wilkins</i>		<i>Richard Goss Wendy Hughes</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Leanne Robbins</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Kristie Coster</i>		<i>Margaret Tay Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

John Woolbank, Fredrick Ousby (Sydney), Tony Smith,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS**

**TIME :** Joan Leach, Donna Biddle, Joanne Wunch

**AND ALSO FOR:** *John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, 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, 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:** Graham Clark, Shari McLeish (Orange), Kathy Fraser, Ken Delany, Peter Mazzer, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham Mick Ronan, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (Inverell), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (Tasmania), Joan Flew, Hugo Long, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (Sydney), Aoife Stephenson (Brisbane), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, 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.*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023**

<b>27th November</b>	<b>Monday 10.30 am</b>	<b>The Cenacle Anawim Room</b>
<b>28th November</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee Club</b>
<b>28th November</b>	<b>Tuesday 7.00 pm</b>	<b>The Bible Timeline Samuel, Saul &amp; David</b>
<b>3rd December</b>	<b>Sunday Parish Feast Day 'Cuppa' in the church grounds 9.45 am SVdP members to host</b>	<b>Feast of St Francis Xavier</b> 
<b>16th December</b>	<b>Saturday 9.00 am</b>	<b>Parish Advent Reflection Day Morning tea to follow</b>
<b>19th December</b>	<b>Tuesday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Parish Volunteers Mass</b>
<b>22nd December</b>	<b>Friday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Anointing Mass</b>

**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.

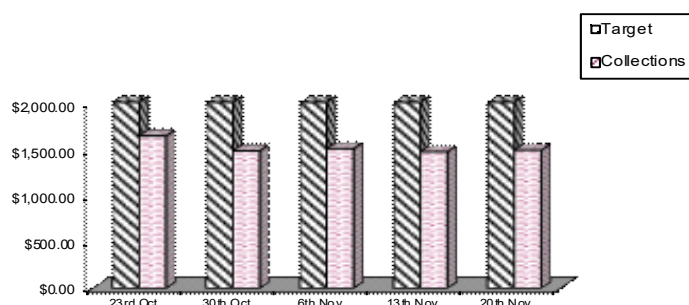
- **By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- **By making an EFTPOS donation — 1st Collection to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: your name**
- **2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish 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 4.15% 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](http://www.dif.org.au)

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 782.35
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 380.30
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,483.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00





## WE ALL BELONG TO ONE ANOTHER



What sort of king is revealed to us in today's readings? It seems he's not like other kings. In the first reading God is spoken of as 'a true shepherd', one who doesn't abandon his flock, but cares for them. Kings, who had once been thought of as shepherds, had long abandoned their people. Consequently, the reading focuses on the ways of this 'true shepherd', this true king. In the gospel there is awe and majesty and judgement and, if we wonder where this king is to be found, we hear he's to be found among the 'nobodies' and outcasts.

To which we might say, come again? We're surprised by this, as are the righteous and unrighteous in the gospel, because it's not quite what we expected. Of course, we might contribute to a couple of charities, or volunteer with St Vinnies; we might even say hello to the person sitting outside Coles, though as for her being Jesus, or bumping into Jesus on a visit, that might seem a bit of a stretch.

Still, almost unawares, we may have begun to make room in our lives for others, and in doing so, at moments, begin to see this king and recognise the ways in which he doesn't seem to resemble the popular images of Christ the King. He's more like the well-known sculpture of the Homeless Jesus lying on a bench, his body covered over, with only his wounded feet showing.

What this image suggests is that his life and death have been all about God's kingdom and Jesus is there, waiting for us in the 'nobodies' and outcasts, and we can enter this kingdom whenever we find ourselves able to be with them. Then we may realise, 'there's no more them and us, just us.'

It's a kingdom characterised by mercy and justice and this king dispenses justice mercifully, as he will at the last judgement when we're all to be judged. We shouldn't worry unnecessarily about it, however awesome and decisive it might seem, because it will come, and our lives will speak for us: they will be the answer we give to Christ. This judgment isn't meant to fill us with fear, rather, it's a cause for hope when all will be revealed to us; and this future is to be lived now, because his judgement is a call to be present to the person before me, who is my future.

Take to heart then what Mother Teresa once said about the world's problems: 'We've forgotten that we belong to one another.' Belonging to one another is the hope Christ offers us, as the second reading says, a life he wants to share with us all. Who doesn't belong in our local churches and in our lives? Where is Jesus to be found? On our streets, in prisons, in boarding houses, wherever, still waiting to be seen, to be welcomed. Whenever this happens, God's kingdom is made real on earth, as in heaven.

Damien Coleridge  
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**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH BALLINA

**2023**  
**PARISH DAY**  
**OF REFLECTION**

**16TH**  
**DEC. 2023**  
**9AM**

**FEATURING:**  
ROSARY . RECONCILIATION . REFLECTION . ADORATION . BENEDICTION

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN THIS PARISH EVENT IN  
PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

**Just a thought: 'KINDNESS is like a seed that when cultivated can grow and grow. KINDNESS is the ability to know what the right thing to do is and having the courage to do it. KINDNESS is giving hope to those who think they are all alone in the world.'** Anon

### 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](mailto:tribunal@lismore.catholic.org)

**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

**Marian Cenacle:** Every Monday at 10.30 am—Anawim Room, Parish Admin Centre, Narelle King Phn 6681 1048

**Taizé:** Every second Monday SFX Church 12.00 noon

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday

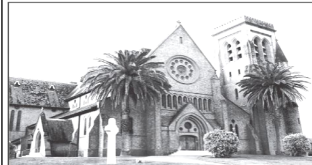
**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church.

**Ballina CCR:** Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

**You are welcome to our prayer gatherings.**

### 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. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone 6621 9444 or Email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



**Invest** with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://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.

**First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17;***A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

2. Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28:***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done

away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

*The Word of the Lord.***Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our Father David!

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.' *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER ~ WEDNESDAY 29th NOVEMBER & FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER****Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord speaks of peace to his people and his holy ones and to those who turn to him.**Communion Antiphon:** O praise the Lord, all you nations, for his merciful love towards us is great**THURSDAY 30th NOVEMBER ~ FEAST OF ST ANDREW****Entrance Antiphon:** Beside the Sea of Galilee, the Lord saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and he said to them: Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.**Communion Antiphon:** Andrew told his brother Simon: We have found the Messiah, the Christ, and he brought him to Jesus.**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL**

**DID YOU KNOW?** • Service has always been at the heart of the Church's work. Traditionally, the 'corporal works of mercy' are loosely based on Jesus' words in this gospel and include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead.

• The Church also identifies 'spiritual works of mercy' as 'instructing, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently.'

**MAKING CONNECTIONS.** To be a shepherd in the ancient world was seen as a lowly occupation. Most often the work was done by a hired hand who felt no responsibility for the sheep. But the owner of the sheep exercised both authority and care. Jesus refers to himself as the good shepherd who knows his sheep and his sheep know him.

• What is your response to those in need? How do you practise your faith in practical ways?

• Share an experience of being in need and having someone respond to that need. Did it change the way you respond to others in need?

• Repeat this week's Psalm acclamation often:

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*