

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.**

Easter Sunday (C)

20th April, 2025



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

Sunday — 7.30 am

**WEEKDAY MASS
TUESDAY TO THURSDAY
12.00 noon Ballina**

FRIDAY 9.00 AM

**RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday
St Francis Xavier Church
+++++**

**ANZAC DAY
THIS Friday 25th APRIL
MASS 9.00 AM
ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH**

We invite everyone to our faith community.

HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL



BISHOP GREG'S EASTER MESSAGE 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters

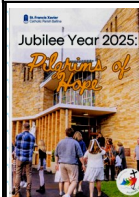
This year as we approach the great Feast of Easter we cannot ignore natural disasters and worrying international problems. Lismore Diocese had floods and heavy winds courtesy of Cyclone Alfred, but luckily survived. Despite our prayers, peace is not a reality in our world, and the international economic order is being undermined. Poverty and displacement are everywhere.

Today I read the section of Genesis in which Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers. This horrible offence against family and love proves to be the salvation of the sons of Jacob who find safety and food in Egypt. From this Moses emerges as the leader of Israel who, after the Passover, takes the Jewish people to the frontier of Israel.

Easter reminds us that in spite of darkness and seeming impossibility, God is greater and can bring out much good from human despair and negative experience. The Resurrection crowns the despondency following the death of Jesus. We are Easter people who daily look for experiences of resurrection. If we look beyond ourselves to the abundant goodness which surrounds us, we shall see the Risen Christ.

With my prayers and Easter wishes,

Bishop Greg



JUBILEE 2025 ~ PILGRIMS OF HOPE
A FREE booklet is available in the foyer of our two Churches for your information regarding the Jubilee Year 2025.

Please take one and find out what is happening in our Church for this wonderful Holy Year of celebration.



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 Associates: Kailani Tiernan/Pauline Fingleton

Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@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

2nd Sunday of Easter Year C: 26th/27th April, 2025
Readings: Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 117; Revelations 1:9-13, 17-19; John 20:19-31

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Pauline Fingleton</i> <i>Mick Vella</i>	Marie Sullivan Amanda Deeps	Kailani Tiernan Brendon Clarke	Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole
EMOHC	<i>Peter Bowen</i> <i>Phil Chapman</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony</i> <i>Murray Deeps</i>	<i>Julie McKinnon</i> <i>Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Greg, Katie & Family</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Sr Moria Sullivan RSM (*Bathurst*), Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*),
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS ,
TIME: John Hayter, Mick Maloney, Dianne Dover, Danzil Seabrook, Marie Flood, Barry Schneider, Bishop John Satterthwaite, Danny Sheahan, Gabrielle & Robert Raicevich, Anna Russo, Neil Land, Grant McCoy
AND ALSO FOR: *Philippe Picquet, Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Margaret Moreland, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerslake, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Bill & Jean Shay, Cecilia & Bill Condon Snr, Stan & Mary McKeough, Members of the SVdP Conference & Auxiliary & for all the faithful departed.*

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL: Sr Mary McFadden PBVM, Pope Francis, Maureen Borthistle (*Dalby*), Kevin Sullivan, Father Bob Bossini (*Fairfield*), Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Beryl Reed, Daphne Sweeney (*mother of Sr Kathryn*), Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Feve (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Jocelyn O'Brien,

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

22nd April	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
25th April	Friday 9.00 am Mass	Anzac Day
27th April	Sunday 2.00 pm	Divine Mercy Lennox Head
28th April	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
28th April	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation & music</i>
28th April	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting
30th April	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
4th May	Sunday 9.45 am & 11.45 am	Parish Cuppa Grounds of Church
8th May	Thursday 11.30 am	Annual Mothers' Day Lunch Crowley Care
11th May	Sunday (all day)	Mothers' Day

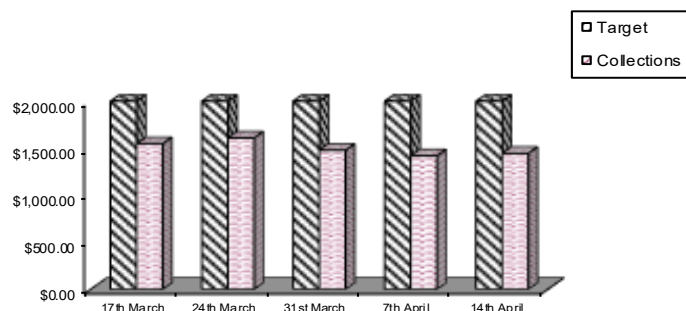
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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 use your Planned Giving number as reference.**

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

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 752.10
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 426.60
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,445.30
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Rejoice for Jesus is risen

There was a Russian Cossack, who had two sons in the First World War. Their names were Peter and Gregory. One day the father received a letter from the front. Unable to read he handed it to his daughter.

It was from Gregory's commanding officer and it began: "I regret to inform you that your son Gregory was killed in action on July 10.

Gregory was an excellent soldier, and you have every reason to be proud of him." The effect of this news on the father was immediate and alarming. In a matter of days he aged, turning grey overnight. His memory began to fail and even his mind was affected. He began to drink to excess. He kept the letter under an icon in the kitchen. Each day he would take it down and ask his daughter to read it to him once more.

After the local priest had offered a Requiem Mass for his son, the father felt a little better, but only a little. Twelve days went on like this. On the thirteenth day a second letter arrived from the front. It contained an extraordinary piece of news. His son was not dead! He had been wounded and left for dead on the battlefield. Next morning, he had regained consciousness and crawled four miles back to his own lines, dragging a wounded officer with him. In recognition of his bravery, he was to be raised to the rank of a corporal and awarded the Cross of St George. Right now, he was recovering in hospital, and they could expect a visit from him in a month's time.

Once again, the effect on the father was immediate, except this time it was for the better. He was a sight to see. He was filled with joy. He grabbed the letter and went into the village with it, telling everyone he met; "My son is alive! He's been awarded the St. George Cross for bravery!"

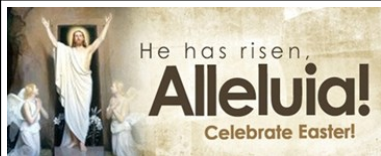
This story should give us some idea of the joy the disciples experienced on Easter Sunday morning. Just as the Cossack father gave witness to the news that his son was alive, so too Peter speaks to the household of Cornelius, the Roman Centurion.

Peter summarises for them the essence of the story of Jesus who was anointed by God, proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God, healed the sick, and liberated those who were possessed. However, having antagonised the authorities, Jesus was crucified. But he was now raised to new life. He had appeared to his disciples, shared food with them and commissioned them to bear witness to all people.

Hearing this news, the Spirit comes upon Peter's audience, and all are baptised, Jews and Gentiles. As we reflect on the resurrection of Jesus, we are reminded of this great news and renewed in our ability to bear witness to all people by our words and deeds.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2025

PARISH NOTICES



A sincere WELCOME to our Parish Family for all of you who are visiting and joining us for Masses and other Liturgies. Have a prayerful, enjoyable and safe Easter with your families and friends.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS ~ EASTER MONDAY 21st APRIL & FRIDAY 25th APRIL ANZAC DAY ~

The Parish Administration Office will be closed. If you are in urgent need of a priest please call **0423 445 639**.



Reintroduction of the Second Collection Plate

We are pleased to announce that the second collection plate will recommence **this Easter weekend**. Thank you for your kindness in helping us serve our community.



ANZAC DAY
THIS FRIDAY 25TH APRIL,
MASS ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH AT 9.00 AM
'We will remember them'.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
27th April 2025 2.00 pm
Holy Family Church, Lennox Head.



PROJECT COMPASSION

Easter Sunday
20th April 2025

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty.

Next week is Sunday of Divine Mercy. Come and pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy with Exposition and quiet moments of prayer and adoration.

Reconciliation will be available. Personal Divine Mercy Images will be blessed. Bring a 'treat' for a cuppa afterwards. Holy Family Church 2.00 pm to 3.15 pm.

PLEASE CONSIDER! Holy Family Church Lennox Head is in need of additional **Sacristans**. If you would like to assist your local faith community please contact Marie Sullivan 0409 887 677. Support and training will be provided.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON
Thursday 8th May 2025, ~ Crowley Activity Centre ~ 11.30 am—3.00pm ~
\$55.00 pp ~ BYO Drinks ~ Please RSVP and pay via cash or card at Crowley Reception by Friday 2nd May. Please advise of any special dietary requirements.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY: The next Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held on **Monday 28th April 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.**



Your free copy of CATHOLIC LIFE is now available
The CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale following each weekend Mass. \$2.00 ea

Save the Date : Alpha 2025 Morning Sessions
10.00 am - 11.45 am. Commencing Monday, May 5th - June 30th.



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.

First Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in

God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'
So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.



FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES
TUESDAY 22nd APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: He gave them the water of wisdom to drink; it will be made strong in them and will not be moved; it will raise them up for ever, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: If you have risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God; mind the things that are above, alleluia.

WEDNESDAY 23rd APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: Come, you blessed of my Father; receive the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

THURSDAY 24th APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: They praised in unison your conquering hand, O Lord, for wisdom opened mouths that were mute and gave eloquence to the tongues of infants, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: O chosen people, proclaim the mighty works of him, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light, alleluia.

FRIDAY 25th APRIL ~ ANZAC DAY

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord led his people in hope, while the sea engulfed their foes, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: Jesus said to his disciples: Come and eat. And he took bread and gave it to them, alleluia.

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office: Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please contact the Safeguarding Office 6621 9444 or email safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au. Procedures are in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk.

