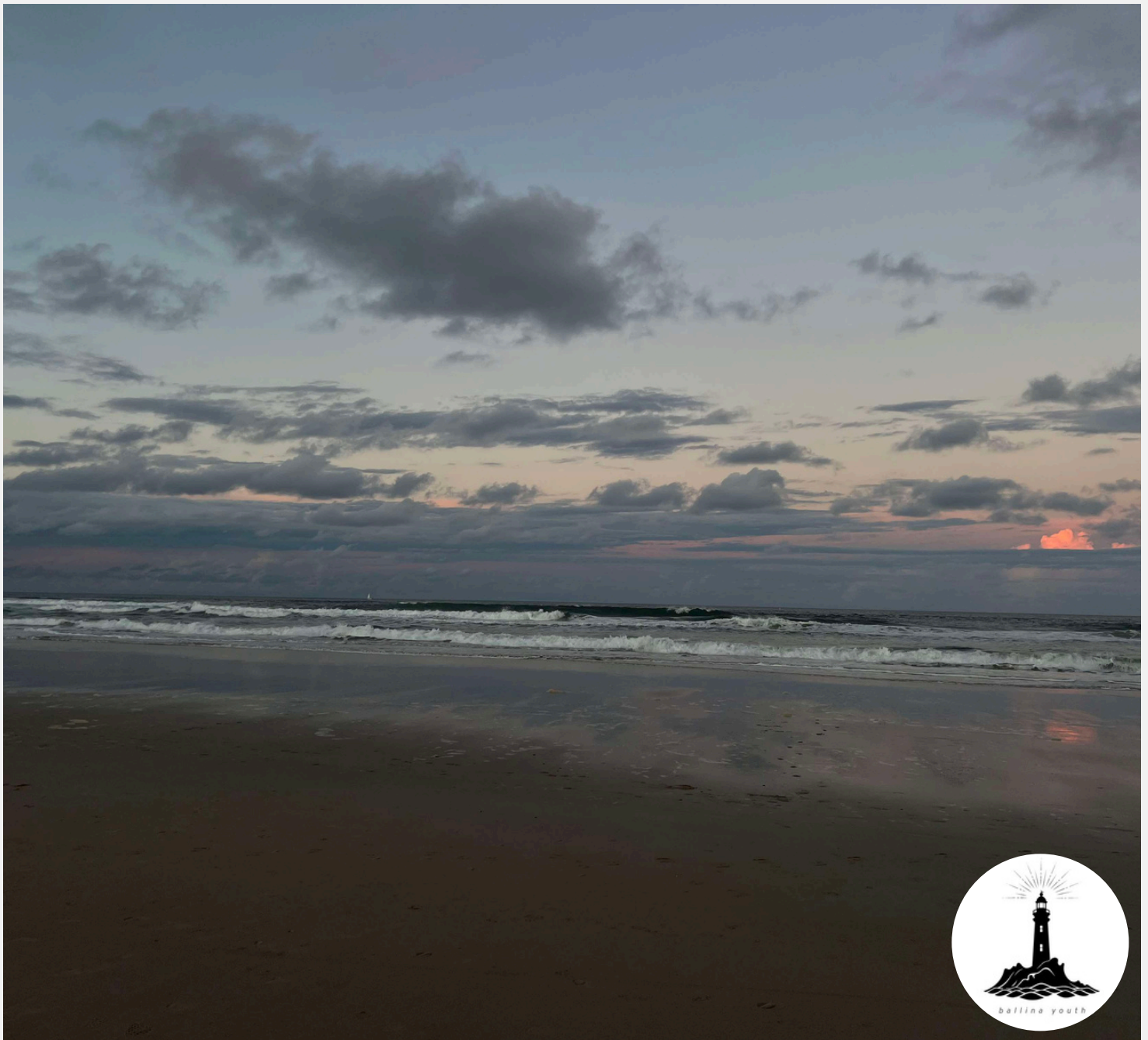


# NEOTÈS

M A G A Z I N E

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA  
BY THE YOUTH, FOR THE YOUTH

---





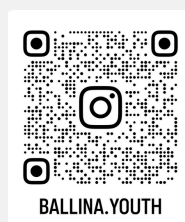
# BALLINA YOUTH

*Previously known as SFX Youth, the Parish youth program has been updated and renamed.*

## What you need to know:

*The St. Francis Xavier Youth Group for high school students has been renamed to the Upper Room Youth Group and moved to **Sunday** afternoons 6:00-8:00pm during school term in the Parish Upper Room. They are a warm and welcoming group, who aim to provide a sense of community, culture and belonging to the youth of the Ballina Parish through the development of their social and spiritual needs.*

*The instagram and facebook pages have updated their logos and changed names from @sfx\_youth to @ballina.youth*



# IN THIS ISSUE

---



THE PARISH

1.



OUR YOUTH  
MINISTERS

2.



YOUTH GROUP

3.



SAINTS THIS  
MONTH

4.



WHAT'S ON

5.



IGNITE  
CONFERENCE

6.

# BALLINA PARISH

---

*SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC  
PARISH, BALLINA*



The St Francis Xavier Ballina Parish is a vibrant parish where people from all cultures will be warmly welcomed into our faith community; people will share their baptismal calling to witness the love of God in action; people will receive the Sacraments throughout their life journey in a community embraced with encouragement and love.

## **Brief History**

- 1890 Parish of Ballina established – Ballina population 1000
- 1901 New St Francis Xavier Church opened
- 1955 Holy Family Church opened in Lennox Head
- 1962 New brick church opened at Ballina by Bishop Farrelly

## **Vision Statement of St Francis Xavier's Parish Ballina/Lennox Head**

- **Celebrate:** We are disciples of Jesus and celebrate his presence amongst us.
- **Evangelise:** We are called to recognise Jesus, accept him in our lives and spread the GOOD NEWS of salvation.
- **Develop:** We are committed by developing the life and mission of our parish
- **Collaborate:** We are a community who welcome everyone without exception.
- **Care:** We are a people who acknowledge the worth of every individual and the environment in which we live.



*“It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards one’s progress, not the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken.”*

*St Francis Xavier*

# MEET OUR YOUTH MINISTERS

---

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC  
PARISH, BALLINA



**Brendon Clarke**  
Xavier College  
Youth Minister



**John Kearney**  
Ballina Parish  
Pastoral Associate



**Kailani Tiernan**  
Ballina Parish Youth  
Coordinator



**Oliver Dwyer**  
Richmond Regional  
Ministry Assistant

The Ballina Parish has been running a youth group since 2015 in conjunction with the parish priests and local Youth Ministers. We have a team of experienced Leaders who have worked in both Parish and School roles as Youth Ministers, participated in Diocesan run events, attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival and recently represented the Parish at World Youth Day in Portugal.

*“These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture,[a] to exhorting, to teaching.” 1 Timothy 4:11-13*



*Photo taken at the Xavier Catholic College Winter Sleep-out run by the Senior Ministry Team in collaboration with the St Vincent de Paul society to raise funds and awareness for those sleeping it rough this winter.*



# YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

---

*BY THE SPIRIT OF FAITH*

The St. Francis Xavier Youth Group is a warm and welcoming group, who aim to provide a sense of community, culture and belonging to the youth of the Ballina Parish through the development of their social and spiritual needs. Following the Saturday 5:30pm Mass, the Youth Group is held in the Ballina Parish Upper Room from 6:30-8:00pm, during school term for local High School students.

At Youth Group each week, we discuss the life of a particular saint. Learning about the lives of saints is important in inspiring us to lead lives for God.

We only had one Youth Group in July due to the school holidays. The theme of the night was 'AUSSIE NIGHT!' Where we celebrated all things Australian. We were joined by exchange



### UPDATE CONTINUED...

students visiting from Japan, who were very excited to try all things Aussie. We started the night off with home cooked Aussie treats, graciously donated by some of our Youth Group parents, including sausage rolls, party pies, Vegemite twists, and of course fairy bread!

Taking a moment to bond with our visitors over the medal tallies at the Olympics we played a few rounds of indoor soccer, and Oliver introduced the group to 'Clumps' where we were impressed with the students' creativity and ability to think outside of the box. Before Brendon lead a new game of 'Whoop', a game our students may remember from being in Year 4 and visited by the Year 10 Ministry Class.

Our saint of the week was Australia's very own, St Mary MacKillop, members of the youth group who are in MacKillop house at Xavier took the lead in explaining who she is to our visitors. We reintroduced the chair game, learning some Japanese words for left (Hidari) and right (Migi) along the way, and took a break to participate in some indoor bowling, before teaching our new friends the classic Australian dance, 'The Nutbush'. We finished the night with prayer and some milo and tim tams.

Thank you to our parents who contributed to the food, we appreciate and value your continued support.

---

*Reminder: Youth Group is now Sundays, 6:00-8:00pm in the Parish Upper Room*

*Reminder: Pick-up after Youth Group is 8:00-8:10pm in the Parish car park*



# YOUTH GROUP GALLERY



# YOUTH GROUP GALLERY

# SAINTS THIS MONTH

---

“They experienced many of the same inner struggles, challenges, and joys that we do. They were extremely human but despite their weaknesses, they were used by God as his instruments. They differ greatly in their backgrounds but they are similar to one another in their deep love for God and their desire to serve him. I think of the saints as a network of friends in heaven who help us through their guidance, protection and intercession.” - All Saints Roman Catholic Parish

## *SAINT MARY MACKILLOP*

Feast: 8th August

Patron Saint of Australia, Brisbane, Knights of the Southern Cross



Saint Mary of the Cross was born in Fitzroy as the eldest of eight children, Mary began working from the age of 14 to help provide for her family. She began teaching as a governess in 1860 where she extended her service to the poor children of the town, encouraged by a young priest Fr Julian Tenison Woods. In 1866 Mary and Fr Tension Woods founded Australia's first order of nuns, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. They established St Joseph's School in a converted stable in Penda, South Australia where they provided free education.

In 1867 the Josephites opened other schools in Australian cities, an orphanage and a refugee for women released from prison. The Order took vows of total poverty, trusting in Divine Providence. Others were hostile towards Mary due to the degree of autonomy the Josephites had and to her rejection of federal funding for the schools, and in 1871 Mary was briefly excommunicated for insubordination. In 1873, she won papal approval with modifications that relaxed the degree of poverty (for the Josephite rule), and was appointed Superior General in 1885. She was canonised in 2010, and is the first Australian Saint.

*Image: A musician, identified as Saint Genesius, playing a lute by Nicolas Tournier c. 1624*

---

## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Feast: 27th September

Patron Saint of charitable societies and workers, horses, hospitals and hospital workers, lepers, lost articles, prisoners, spiritual help, and volunteers

Born into in a small village in southern France in the late 16th century, Saint Vincent de Paul came from humble beginnings. He showed his intellectual gifts from a young age, studying theology, and working as a tutor to students in Toulouse. In the year 1600 he was ordained as a priest, with the intention of securing a life of security for himself.

In 1605, whilst on a sea voyage, Vincent was captured by Turkish pirates and sold into slavery for two years. During his time in captivity he continued to preach his faith, converting his owner to the Christian faith, this ultimately lead to his escape. After escaping captivity he spent time studying in Rome, working as an educator and spiritual guide to members of an upper-class French family.

After hearing the confession of a dying peasant, Vincent underwent an extreme change of heart. Moved with compassion for the poor he redirected his time and energy to begin his mission for the poor, founding institutions to help them both materially and spiritually.

In 1625 he established the Congregation of Priests of the Mission as part of an effort to evangelise rural populations, fostering vocations to remedy the priest shortages at the time. He met and worked with Saint Louise de Marillac, organising the Daughters of Charity, first congregation



*Image: Portrait of Vincent de Paul by Simon François de Tours (c. 1600s)*

of women religious whose consecrated life involved an extensive apostolate among the poor, the sick, and prisoners.

Under Louise's direction, the order collected donations which Vincent distributed widely among the needy. These contributions went toward homes for abandoned children, a hospice for the elderly, and an immense complex where 40,000 poor people were given lodging and work. Vincent was involved in various ways with all of these works, as well as with efforts to help refugees and to free those sold into slavery in foreign lands.

St. Vincent de Paul died on Sept. 27, 1660, only months after the death of St. Louise de Marillac in March of the same year. Pope Clement XII canonised him in 1737. In 1835, the French scholar Blessed Frederic Ozanam took him as the inspiration and namesake for the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, a lay Catholic organisation working for the relief of the poor.

# WHAT'S ON



## Parish Mass Times

Ballina St Francis Xavier Church

- Saturday Vigil– 5.30 pm
- Sunday – 9.00 am
- Sunday – 11.00 am
- Tuesday to Friday - 12:00 noon

Lennox Head Holy Family Church

- Sunday –7.30 am

**Reconciliation** is 9:00am Saturdays at the Ballina St Francis Xavier Church

**Eucharistic Adoration** is 11:00 - 11:45am on Fridays before midday Mass.

---

## Parish Cuppa - Parishioners

After the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of the month the Ballina Parish holds Morning Tea on the Church grounds. This coming month's will be held on the Sunday the 4th August. All are welcome.

## Aspire - Young Adults (18-35 years)

Bishop Greg's monthly young adult spiritual formation began this month. The next meeting will be Monday 19th August in Lismore, 5:30-6:30pm. We encourage everyone to try attend in person, but if you are unable to there is a zoom link you can join: <https://lismorecatholic.zoom.us/j/2996657662?omn=82183637889>

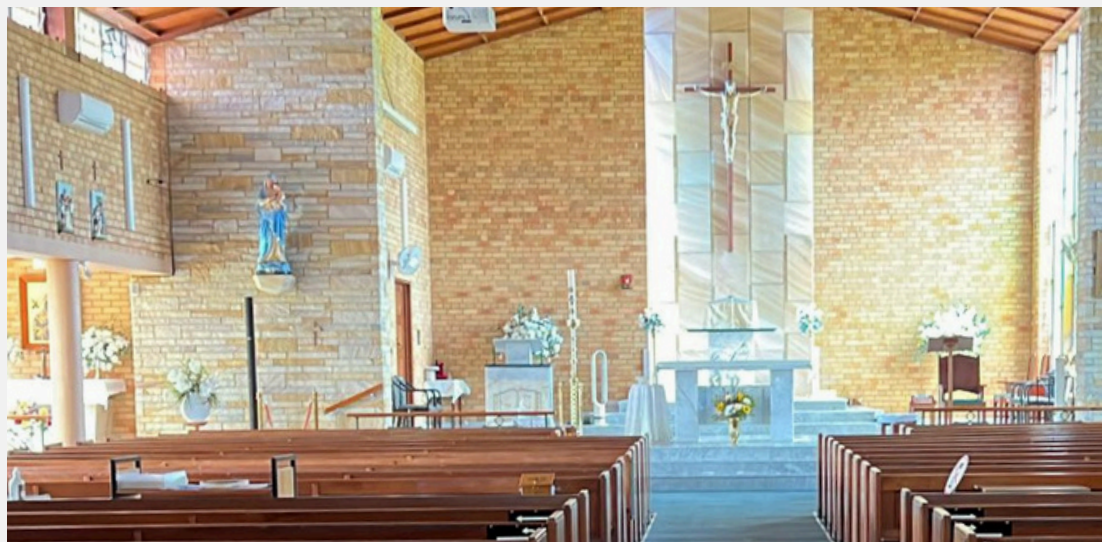
Zoom Meeting ID: 299 665 7662

For more information, contact: [youth@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:youth@lismore.catholic.org.au) or 02 6626 0253

---

*"What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"*

*- Matthew 16:26*



## Festa Chrsti 2024 - Year 8 Students

A discipleship gathering for Year 8 students from across the Diocese, Festa Chrsiti is a time of reflection, prayer and faith, teaching our students to learn more about social justice and walking in the shoes of others. There are also some great outdoor challenges that explore the themes of helping others, growing in our relationships and making a difference.

Members of our youth group are attending next month and we are excited to hear all about it.



*Youth group members at Festa Christi in 2019*



*Shine 2023*

## SHINE 2024 - Years 9 to 12 Students

Next month students from years 9 to 12 will travel to John Paul College in Coffs Harbour for the Lismore Diocese's largest annual Youth Gathering.

Shine is an overnight gathering of Youth Ministry Classes and Senior Ministry Team leaders from across our Diocese, offering students an opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ and the Church, to experience dynamic faith formation, become equipped for ministry, and to be empowered to impact the Church and the world. It is an opportunity to gather and share an experience of faith.

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8*

## **Ignite Conference Brisbane - Youth and Young Adult Event**

Hosted at St Laurence's College, South Brisbane from the 19th to 22nd of September, Ignite Conference is a gathering of Catholics for four days of real-world formation, renewal of faith, great people and powerful worship. Join over 2000 high schoolers, young adults, leaders, teachers, priests and religious taking part in a life changing encounter with God and His Church.

*"St Clement of Rome retells an ancient myth that he heard about the Phoenix. The only bird of its kind, it lives for 500 years, then travels across land and sea to build itself a nest of frankincense and myrrh, then enters into it to die. Only, amazingly, it rises from its ashes and is reborn in a flame of fire.*

*Emmanuel Worship wrote a lyric I've been singing in my head on repeat this past year: 'From the ashes we rise, above all the lies...' I think life can sometimes feel like ashes. I keep hearing how so many teenagers and young adults are struggling just to get through each year, each exam block, each family tension or relationship change. I can relate personally to the weariness the Phoenix must have felt as he journeyed across land and sea to make its nest. But we need to remember that was not the end of the story. It was a brand new beginning!*

*I believe this generation needs to 'rise up from the ashes' of Covid, our mental health, our personal challenges, and to breathe*

*again. To step into a rebirth and renewed life. To discover hope and meaning and purpose again. Don't you?*

*It's time for all of us to rise up from our ashes and live with renewed purpose. To ascend like that Phoenix in the power of the Holy Spirit. To hold on to Jesus and the hope of his words when he says, "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me will live forever..."*  
- John 11:25

*Ignite Conference 24 promises to be a powerful experience of life-giving hope that no-one should miss. Hosted at St Laurence's College, Brisbane QLD, and Light of Christ Centre, Waitara NSW, I invite everyone to join me for four days of unforgettable Catholic music, speakers, dance, media, sacraments, workshops and worship. Let's invite the Holy Spirit to breathe into our lives, our Church and nation, so that together we RISE UP with renewed strength together!*

- Kym Keady (Director of Ignite Youth)



*Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." - Acts 3:6*

## Commitment to Safeguarding Statement

The emotional, physical and spiritual well-being and dignity of all people is an integral part of the Catholic Church. The Diocese of Lismore is committed and dedicated to safeguarding all those within our community, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Diocese of Lismore is committed to fostering communities of safety and care. We acknowledge our legal, moral, and spiritual responsibilities to care for - and uphold the dignity and rights of - children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

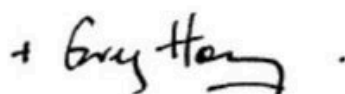
The Diocese of Lismore has;

1. a zero tolerance to the abuse or neglect of children, young people or vulnerable adults and commits to acting in their best interests at all times;
2. established a policy and developed a range of procedures that work together to protect, and, where required, to respond immediately and compassionately to any harm, or risk of harm; and
3. safeguarding procedures and practices underpinned by legislation – ensuring ongoing compliance, accountability and transparency in all ministries undertaken by the Church.

Creating safe environments is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by parishes, schools, families and communities. Safe environments are marked by collaboration, vigilance and a proactive approach to safeguarding. Workers have a responsibility to safeguard children, young people and the vulnerable through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment. All workers, including clergy, employees and volunteers are to be educated as to their responsibilities to undertake their roles in a way that enhances a safe and caring environment.



**BISHOP of LISMORE**  
— GREGORY HOMEMING OCD —



19<sup>th</sup> May, 2020



# Diocese of Lismore

is committed to implementing the Child Safe Standards



## STANDARD 1

Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture



## STANDARD 3

Families and communities are informed and involved



## STANDARD 2

Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously

## STANDARD 4

Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account



## STANDARD 5

People working with children are suitable and supported



## STANDARD 6

Processes to respond to complaints of child abuse are child focused



## STANDARD 7

Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training



## STANDARD 8

Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur

## STANDARD 9

Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved



## STANDARD 10

Policies and procedures document how the organisation is child safe

For more information on the  
Child Safe Standards visit  
[www.ocg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ocg.nsw.gov.au)



Office of the  
Children's Guardian



# SUPPORT SERVICES



care | protect | act

**Child Protection Hotline**  
**13 21 11 (24 hours/7 days)**

**NSW Police Emergency**  
**000 (24 hours/7 days)**

**NSW Victims Access Line: 1800 633 063**

**NSW Victims Support Scheme:**  
[www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au](http://www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au)  
Counselling, financial support and a recognition payment to victims of a violent crime in NSW.

**Child Wise**  
**1800 991 099**

Phone and online counselling for all forms of childhood abuse - [www.childwise.org.au](http://www.childwise.org.au)



**Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636**

Information and support for mental health.  
[www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)



**Headspace:** Free counselling services to help young people with mental health, physical health (including sexual health) alcohol and other drug services - [headspace.org.au/](http://headspace.org.au/)



**Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800.**  
24/7 phone and online counselling for young people aged 5-25.  
[www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)



**Lifeline: 13 11 14**  
Crisis support 24/7.  
[www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)



**Link Up NSW**  
**Aboriginal Corporation**  
**1800 624 332**

(not available to mobiles)  
or **02 9421 4700**. Counselling, healing and culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Australians -  
[www.linkupNSW.org.au](http://www.linkupNSW.org.au)



**MensLine Australia**  
**1300 789 978**  
Phone/online support.  
[www.mensline.org.au](http://www.mensline.org.au)



**Youth Beyond Blue**  
**1300 224 636**  
Information and support for young people about issues associated with mental health conditions.  
[www.youthbeyondblue.com](http://www.youthbeyondblue.com)



## ABUSE OF ELDERLY / DISABLED

**NSW ageing and disability Abuse Hotline**  
**1800 628 221**

## BULLYING

**Bullying No Way:**  
[bullyingnoway.gov.au/](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au/)



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463**

**1800 Respect: 1800 737 732**  
[www.1800respect.org.au/](http://www.1800respect.org.au/)



**Services Australia**  
[www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/family-and-domestic-violence](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/family-and-domestic-violence)



## ONLINE SAFETY

**eSafety Guide: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>**



## SEXUAL ABUSE

**NSW Rape Crisis: 1800 424 017**  
Health Sexual Assault Services.  
[www.health.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/)

**Sexual Assault Counselling Australia**  
**1800 211 028.** Telephone counselling.  
[www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au](http://www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au)

**Bravehearts Inc**  
**1800 272 831**

Advice and support to those affected by sexual assault.  
[www.bravehearts.org.au](http://www.bravehearts.org.au)



**Blue Knot Foundation**  
**1300 657 380.** For adult survivors of child abuse. [blueknot.org.au](http://blueknot.org.au)



**Survivors and Mates**  
**Support Network**  
**1800 472 676.**

For male survivors of childhood sexual abuse and their families.  
[www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au](http://www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au)



**Interrelate: 1300 473 528**  
Counselling and support for those affected by institutional child sexual abuse. [www.interrelate.org.au](http://www.interrelate.org.au)



## SEXUAL HARASSMENT

**Sexual harassment | SafeWork NSW**  
[www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/sexual-harassment](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/sexual-harassment)



ballina

MAGAZINE

parish

# NEOTĒS

