

NEOTÈS

M A G A Z I N E

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





SFX YOUTH

Following the 5:30pm Mass, the St. Francis Xavier Youth Group is held at the Ballina Parish during school term for local High School students.

The Youth Group is a warm and welcoming group, who aim to provide a sense of community, culture and belonging to the St. Francis Xavier Parish through development of their social and spiritual needs.

The Parish Youth Group has an Instagram Page: “SFX_YOUTH” and throughout the year is regularly updated with photos and videos from Youth Group, events and any partnerships with the schools.



@SFX_YOUTH



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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



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.

The first Youth Group of June saw us explore the life of Saint Joan of Arc discussing the themes of courage, faith and integrity. This introduced us to the theme of the night: 'The



UPDATE CONTINUED...

Knights of Ballina'. We had a knight dressing competition using materials such as cardboard, noodles and toilet paper. The fancy designs included armour, shields, swords, and even a clever disguising cape. The models then walked down the cardboard runway to show off their designs before partaking in an epic sword fight.

Week five saw us briefly look at the life of Saint Justin the Martyr who's feast day is celebrated on the 1st of June. We also discussed the scripture passage of the coming Sunday, the Parable of the Mustard Seed, along with the theme of creating something big out of something small. Members of the Youth Group took home small seeds and pots to begin planting. We will continue to check in throughout the rest of the year. The games of the night were many and varied including:

- Balloon Tag, where participants attempt to keep their balloons aloft the longest, whilst also trying to hit the other balloons on the ground to win. Alliances were made and subsequently broken.
- Shepard of the Sheep (a modified version of Keeper of the Keys), where one person is blindfolded a chair with Logan the sheep on the ground. Everyone else attempts to capture Logan without the 'Shepard' catching them. If they are caught, they must run a lap around the room before trying again.
- Chaos, a silent game reliant on observational skills, where eye contact with someone else in the circle means you must swap seats, but quickly before the person in the middle steals it. The game was adapted to include a variety of different movements across the circle, including zombie and crab walks, dancing, and hopping.

UPDATE CONTINUED...

- Partner Stand Ups, where a pair begin sitting back-to-back on the ground with their arms linked before attempting to stand up successfully. If that is successful, another person joins in.
- A new version of tag was invented, this included a 'mostly' silent room where the blindfolded person attempted to tag other participants with their pool noodle, relying on their other senses to locate people.

In week six we had a cards night, where spoons made a comeback and 'Uno: No Mercy' was introduced. We revisited our cricket skills and took a trip downstairs to play a few rounds of 44-Home on the Parish Green, where we ran out all our energy. We discussed the lives of Saint Thomas More and Saint John Fisher, English martyrs from the time of Henry the VIII, who's feast day occurred that night, observing their immense courage to stand for their faith and values.

In week seven, we had our last Youth Group of the term. A quiet movie night where we watched the 1967 film 'The Jungle Book'. We briefly spoke about Saint Peter and Saint Paul and their significance to the Catholic Church as in was their feast day.

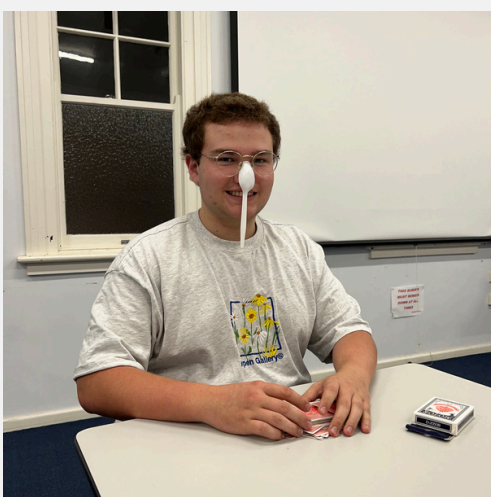
We have continued to decorate the Youth Group Photo Wall with memories from over the years, new photos from this past term will be added in the coming weeks.

Youth Group will return the in July after the school holidays.

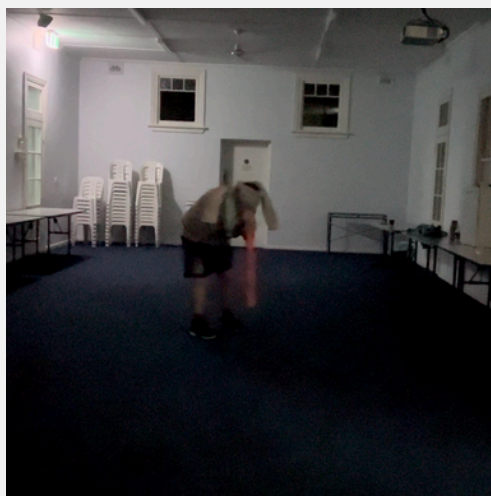




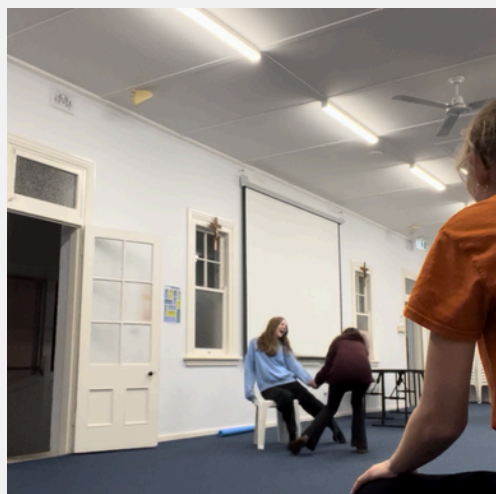
YOUTH GROUP GALLERY



YOUTH GROUP GALLERY



YOUTH GROUP GALLERY



YOUTH GROUP GALLERY

SAINTS THIS MONTH

In honour of our Youth Group members involved in the recent Musical the following Saints are patrons of music, actors, theatre, and musicians. Learning about the Saints is important, they serve as role models for the Catholic faith, leading us to lead lives for God and praying for us from their posts in heaven.

“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

JUSTIN MARTYR

Feast: 1st June

Patron Saint of philosophers, lecturers, and apologists



Image: Saint Justin dans by André Thevet, Les Vrais Pourtraits et Vies Hommes Illustres (1584)

A convert and philosophy student, Saint Justin is the author some of the important early Christian Apologetic works. After his conversion to Christianity, Saint Justin continued to study philosophy, using it to defend Christians against Roman persecution. He began a school of philosophy in Rome, and was known to publicly debate with pagan Roman philosophers.

Saint Justin used his writings to boldly and courageously defend early Christians and the Christian faith. In his First and Second Apology he implores the Roman senate to stop the persecution of Christians, defends the Christian faith against false accusations and provides descriptions of early theology which highlights the unbroken tradition of liturgical celebration from the early Church to today.

Saint Justin was arrested after a public debate with a Greek philosopher, and after refusing to turn his back on God and his faith, he was martyred along with his companions.

SAINT JOAN OF ARC

Feast: 30th May

Patron Saint of France, soldiers, prisoners, those in need of courage, those ridiculed for their faith, and youth

Saint Joan of Arc was born into the peasant class of 15th Century France during the Hundred Years' War. From an early age she experienced the grace of God, hearing the voices of Sts. Michael, Catherine and Margaret. When she was 13 years old, Joan was in her father's garden and had a vision of the three Saints, each telling her to drive the English out of France. In 1420 the Treaty of Troyes disinherited the Dauphin, the heir to the French throne Charles VII, and stated that upon the death of the king, the throne would pass to Henry V, the king of England.

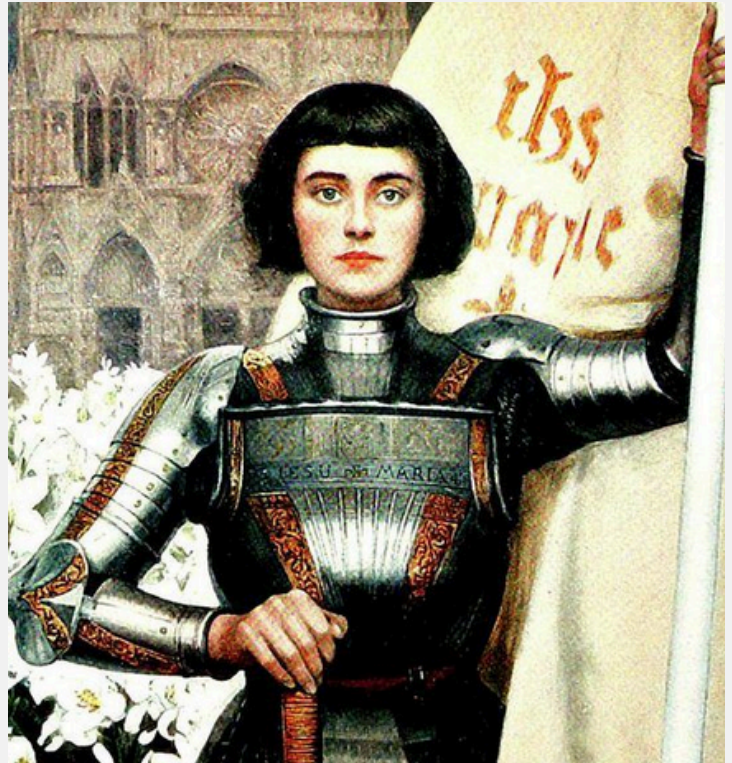


Image: Jeanne d'Arc by Albert Lynch (1903)

It became clear to Joan that her mission was to assist in restoring Charles VII to the throne and freeing France from English occupation. When she was 16 she travelled to Vaucouleurs to petition the garrison commander for permission to visit the French Royal Court in Chinon. She was denied. She returned again the next year and was denied again, but earned the support of two of Baudricourt's soldiers. On her third visit she predicted a military reversal at the Battle of Rouvray, this was confirmed several days later by a messenger's report. Realising the distance of the battle's location and the time it would have taken Joan to make the journey, Baudricourt concluded that she had seen the reversal by Divine revelation, he believed her words. In April of 1429 Joan was sent to Orléans to inspire the garrison, where she was well received and the tide of battle was turned. Originally treated as a figurehead to boost morale, Joan quickly gained the support of the Armagnac troops - flying her banner she always seemed to be present where the fighting was most intense. On May 7th she was shot by an arrow between her neck and shoulder in the trenches at les Tourelles, the English retreated the next day. Joan continued to travel across France liberating the country from the English. She served as a strategic battle planner, manning the troops and being guided by her divine connection to God. She assisted in restoring Charles VII to the French throne. In 1430 Joan was captured by her English enemies and trialled in an attempt to invalidate Charles VII's claim to the French throne. She was jailed for more than a year and originally charged with seventy crimes including theft, witchcraft, and wearing men's clothing. This was reduced to twelve with the major crime of heresy leading to her execution. On the 30th May 1431 she was burnt at the stake, aged 19. She had asked to hold a cross, and in an act of compassion an English soldier gave her one made of two sticks. In 1456, twenty-five years after her death, Pope Callixtus III opened a new trial and the court exonerated Joan, clearing her name of all charges and declaring her a martyr.



Image: Portrait of John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Confessor and Adviser to Lady Margaret Beaufort by Édouard Brun (1924)

SAINT JOHN FISHER

Feast: 22nd June

Patron Saint of the Diocese of Rochester

Born in Yorkshire, Saint John Fisher attended the University of Cambridge to study theology at the age of 15. When he was 22 he was ordained a priest and at 35 a bishop. He was appointed to the Diocese of Rochester, a small and poor diocese where he became renowned for his preaching, pastoral care and adherence to the Orthodox faith.

When King Henry VIII broke from the Catholic Church and remarried Anne Boleyn, Bishop John was opposed and refused to accept the new queen. A defender of the sacred bond of marriage, John declared that he, like St John the Baptist, was willing to die for the defence of marriage.

Arrested before he could publicly oppose the new queen's coronation, John was released and then arrested again on 26th April 1534. He remained in prison for 14 months, under harsh conditions where he was deprived of a priest to minister to him. Pope Paul III declared him a cardinal to add pressure to the king hoping that he would released him.

Whilst in prison John's defence was to remain silent before he was tricked into speaking in opposition of the king. This declaration of treason ultimately lead to his execution. His head was mounted on the London Bridge.

"Christian people, I am come hither to die for the faith of Christ's Catholic Church... Wherefore I desire you to help me, and assist me with your prayers, that at the very point and instant of death's stroke, and in the very moment of my death, I then faint not in any point of the faith. And I pray, God save the king and the realm."

SAINT THOMAS MORE

Feast: 22nd June

Patron Saint of statesmen, politicians, lawyers, civil servants, court clerks, adopted children, large families, stepparents, and difficult marriages

Born to a well-respected lawyer and judge in 1478, Saint Thomas More served in the household of Archbishop John Morton of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor of England when he was 12 years old before continuing on to Oxford University for his tertiary studies. Whilst there he lived next to a Carthusian monastery and he found himself called to follow their lifestyle of simple piety. He often joined their spiritual exercises and this influenced him to develop a strong faith.

In 1510 he was appointed as an undersheriff of London, one of the highest law enforcement positions. He was a member of the king's council, was knighted by King Henry VIII, and elected Speaker of the House of Commons.

Thomas became the first layman to hold the post of Lord Chancellor of England, the highest ranking legal position, but left after only three years. He lost favour with the crown as one of the few who opposed the king's decisions in leaving the Catholic Church and remarrying Anne Boleyn.

Thomas was arrested and tried for treason before being beheaded. His head replaced Saint John Fisher's on the London Bridge.

"One of the greatest problems of our time is that many are schooled but few are educated."



Image: Portrait of Sir Thomas More by Hans Holbein the Younger (1527)

"For if you suffer your people to be ill-educated, and their manners to be corrupted from their infancy, and then punish them for those crimes to which their first education disposed them, what else is to be concluded from this, but that you first make thieves and then punish them."

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"Two evils, greed and faction are the destruction of all justice."

"I die the King's good servant, but God's first."



Image: Saint Peter by Peter Paul Rubens (c. 1610–1612), depicting Peter, vested in the pallium, and holding the Keys of Heaven

SAINT PETER

Feast: 29th June

Patron Saint of Rome, bakers, brickmakers, masons, bridge-builders, butchers, clockmakers, cobblers, fishermen, harvesters, watchmakers, locksmiths, netmakers, the papacy, and the Universal Church

Born in Bethsaida near the Sea of Galilee, Simon was a fisherman with his brother Andrew. A disciple of Jesus called at the beginning of His public ministry (Luke 5), Simon was often at Jesus' side. Simon received from Jesus the name Cephas from the Aramaic 'Kefa' meaning Rock, or Petros (Peter) in Greek. "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it." (Matthew 16:18)

Whilst having moments of doubt due to his fear (Matthew 14:28–32), Saint Peter was known for being a fiercely loyal defender of and believer in Christ (John 18:10). After Jesus' arrest, Peter denied Jesus three times, as had been previously predicted by Christ at the Last Supper. When St. Peter realised his betrayal, he went off and wept bitterly over his unfaithfulness (Luke 22:54–62). Recounted at the end of the Gospel of John (John 22), upon hearing of Jesus' Resurrection, Peter ran to the empty tomb to see Him and when declaring his love for Jesus three times over, Christ said to him "Feed my sheep".

Saint Peter went on to lead the early Church as the first Pope, and in the years after Jesus' Ascension, he expanded the ministry of the Church, sharing the Good News with the Gentiles, spreading the Message to everyone regardless of origin, to make a truly Universal Church.

Saint Peter was crucified upside down on Vatican Hill in approximately 64AD under the orders of Emperor Nero. His martyrdom is extensively testified by sources such as Origen, Eusebius of Caesarea, St Clement I, St Ignatius of Antioch, and St Irenaeus. Although his chief feast day occurs on the 29th June, he is also honoured on February 22nd and November 18th.

SAINT PAUL

Feast: 29th June

Patron Saint of Rome, evangelists, theologians, musicians, public relations personnel, writers, publishers, and reporters; ropemakers, saddlemakers, and tentmakers, Gentiles, and Catholic Action

Born a Roman citizen in Tarsus, Saul studied in Jerusalem at the school of the Rabbi Gamaliel, one of the most noted teachers of Jewish law in history. He became one of the fiercest persecutors of the early Church, presiding over the persecutions of Christians, and was even being present for the martyrdom of Saint Stephen (Acts 7:58). While travelling the road to Damascus on his search for Christians, Saul was knocked to the ground and blinded, hearing the Lord say to him “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” (Acts 9:4). He spent three days without sight before the disciple Ananias found him under the direction of the Lord. After being healed Saul was then baptised. Saul returned to Jerusalem where Barnabas introduced him to the other disciples, and he began using his Roman name ‘Paul’. He then spent the next decade as a missionary throughout the Mediterranean, preaching ceaselessly, working to establish churches, and communicating with the faithful.

While preparing for a mission trip to Spain Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea by the Jews for two years. Here he continued writing letters and resolving disputes. After being released he continued on and was shipwrecked in Malta, being imprisoned again for Preaching in Rome. In 67 AD he was arrested in Rome under the orders of Emperor Nero and was beheaded.



Image: Saint Paul by Pompeo Batoni (1708-1787)

According to tradition he was beheaded outside of the city and when his head fell on the ground and bounced three times, giving a rise to spring water each time. Marked today by the Abbey of the Three Fountains.

In his time, Saint Paul wrote thirteen epistles; Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. These epistles make up 24% of the New Testament.

Although his chief feast day occurs on the 29th June, he is also honoured on January 25th (his conversion), February 16th (his shipwreck), and November 18th (dedication for his Basilica).

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 7th July. All are welcome.

Aspire - Young Adults (18-35 years)

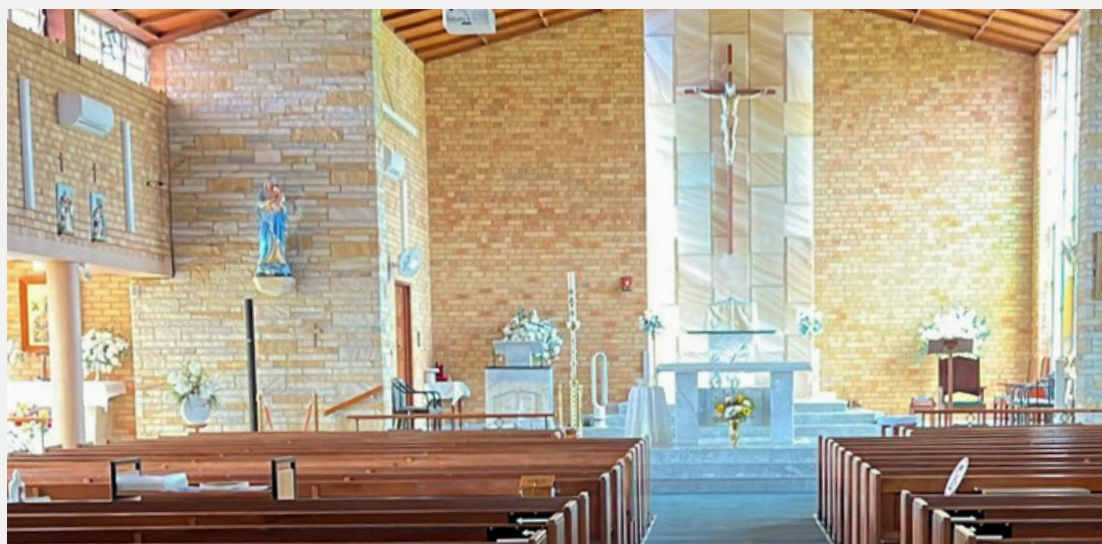
Bishop Greg's monthly young adult spiritual formation began this month. The next meeting will be Wednesday 24th July in Lismore, 5:30-6:30pm. We encourage everyone to try attend in person, but if you are unable to there is a zoom link you can join: <https://lismorecatholic.zoom.us/j/2996657662?omn=82183637889>

Zoom Meeting ID: 299 665 7662

For more information, contact: youth@lismore.catholic.org.au 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



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.

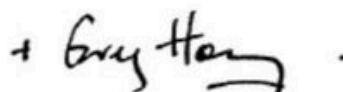
The Diocese of Lismore has;

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 —



19th 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



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
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



Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

Information and support for mental health.
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/



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



Lifeline: 13 11 14
Crisis support 24/7.
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



MensLine Australia
1300 789 978
Phone/online support.
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



ABUSE OF ELDERLY / DISABLED

NSW ageing and disability Abuse Hotline
1800 628 221

BULLYING

Bullying No Way:
bullyingnoway.gov.au/



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463

1800 Respect: 1800 737 732
www.1800respect.org.au/



Services Australia
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/

Sexual Assault Counselling Australia
1800 211 028. Telephone counselling.
www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au

Bravehearts Inc
1800 272 831

Advice and support to those affected by sexual assault.
www.bravehearts.org.au



Blue Knot Foundation
1300 657 380. For adult survivors of child abuse. 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



Interrelate: 1300 473 528
Counselling and support for those affected by institutional child sexual abuse. www.interrelate.org.au



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment | SafeWork NSW
www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/sexual-harassment



ballina

MAGAZINE

parish

NEOTÈS

