

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.

Palm Sunday
(A)

2nd April, 2023



Weekend Mass Times
Ballina

St Francis Xavier Church
Holy Saturday Vigil— 6.00 pm
Sunday — 9.00 am
Sunday — 11.00 am

Lennox Head
Holy Family Church
Easter Sunday—7.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
FOR HOLY WEEK:
at St Francis Xavier Church
TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY
ONLY
12.00 noon

Holy Thursday 6.00 pm
St Francis Xavier Church

Good Friday 3.00 pm
Lennox Head & Ballina

RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina
St Francis Xavier Church

Our tormented world

Today we celebrate the beginning of the most solemn week of our Christian calendar. Those outside our Christian faith might well accuse us of glorifying torture and death as we follow the story of Jesus' trial, passion and crucifixion.

However, we do not follow that story as mere observers of yet another incident of human cruelty. Rather, our participation in the church's liturgy enables us to identify with Jesus in his sufferings in order that we may also share with him the fruits of the resurrection.

This time of Holy Week puts us in touch with the most profound human questions. Why is there so much suffering and evil in the world? Why do we need to die? How is it somehow God's will that the Son Jesus should die in such excruciating circumstances? In what way is this death of Jesus the source of our life and salvation?

We need to begin by simply recognising the reality of violence that destroys people's lives. We can see this all too easily in others – those responsible for human trafficking, death camps, terrorist killings, ethnic cleansing, environmental destruction and the greed-filled corruption of too many in power. Jesus and the prophets speak out against this reign of terror which continues to take hold of our world.

However, following Jesus to Calvary puts us in touch with another reality: We are all sinners. We note Jesus' challenge to those about to stone the woman accused of adultery: "Let the one without sin cast the first stone".

Unlike Jesus, none of us can claim to be the innocent victim. We should recognise ourselves in the disciples whose fear and cowardice leave Jesus to suffer and die without their support. How often have we failed to respond to a brother or sister in need?

God does not will Jesus' crucifixion as some kind of 'payment' for sin. Rather, we are invited to recognise that the power of evil is so great, it will not stop at the killing of the Son of God himself. It also shows that God's healing forgiveness and liberating love have no bounds since Christ Jesus has "emptied

himself as a slave ... accepting death on a cross". The resurrection is God's final victory over suffering, sin and death.

Christianity focuses on the Cross of Jesus as its central symbol. This does not amount to the glorification of suffering and violence. Rather, by inviting us to share in Christ's passion, we are able to confront darkness and sin in the knowledge these are but



passing realities. The Cross always points to the Resurrection and the promise of eternal life for those who acclaim Jesus as Lord.

Pope Francis states we can only acclaim Jesus as Lord through loving service of others. He further encourages us to move towards Easter focussing on God's forgiving love, noting that Jesus Christ gazes upon "our violent and tormented world", yet never tires of repeating: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do".

Gerard Hall

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We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

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

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

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Crowley Care Services: 1300 139 099 - 154 Cherry St, Ballina

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

ROSTER: Easter Sunday , Year A: 8th/9th April, 2023
Readings: Acts 10:34,37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

	6.00 pm Vigil Ballina	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Trish Bazar, John Jarzynski Pauline Fingleton, Maxine Cole (Epistle)</i>	<i>Marie Sullivan, Angela Beglin</i>	<i>Nicole Sullivan Richard Goss</i>	<i>Maxine Cole Leanne Robbins</i>
EMOHC	John Kearney Phil Chapman		<i>Denise Miller Cathy Campbell</i>	Maurice Gahan
Offertory Procession			<i>Cathy Andrews Dianne Evans</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Betty Flakelar, Kathryn Nomchong, Stuart Ward, Michael Curgenven, Shirley O'Brien,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Kath Hankinson, Father Charles Kakumanu, Father Steven O'Donnell

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, 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: Anne Jackson, Michael Hains, Ronald Windall, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long (*infant Brisbane*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Virginia Kohlbach and family, Aoife Stephenson *1 yr (Brisbane)*, David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dymphna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Auntie* Julia Paden, Louise King, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John Moreland, 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.* (Please advise if a

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023

2nd April	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Cuppa Everyone Welcome
4th April	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry Coffee Club'
29th April	Saturday 10.00 am	Men's Gathering with Bishop Greg

From today's Gospel

Is death an ending or a beginning? Why does death seem so frightening? What do you expect will happen to you after your death? Will your death be a time of peace or of tension? What do you think eternity is?

• *What do you think it will be like to come before God? Do you believe that God will judge you after your death? If so, by what will you be judged?*

How can you die to sinfulness right here and now? What must you do in your relationships with others to truly demonstrate your sorrow for sin? What frightens you more: the thought of spending eternity in hell or the thought of not being included in God's kingdom? Can you enter the kingdom of God while still here on earth? How?

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 Presbyterian 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.

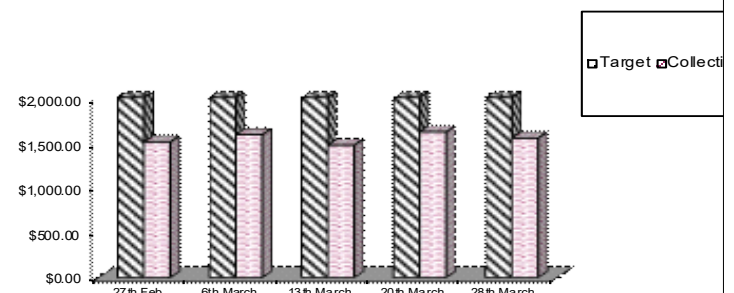
- By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your **Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- By making an EFTPOS donation — **1st Collection** to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: **your name**
- **2nd Collection** to St Francis Xavier 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 3.20% 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>	\$ 982.25
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 553.25
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,550.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



Parish Notices

Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.



BAPTISM: Our parish family **warmly welcomes** into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Flynn Geoffrey and Edie Ellen McKay** children of Shaun and Monique; **Jaxon Steven and Lennox James Farrell** children of Daniel and Elizabeth; **Harper Eve Connor** daughter of Keelan and Katie; **Finn Kasper Saban** son of Daniel and



WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH Archie Brett Scott.

Our parish community welcomes you on your journey of faith in the life of the Catholic Church.

2023 CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be held at St Carthage's Cathedral, this Monday 3rd April at 7.00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

CHANGE OF MASS TIME

As of 16th April the Parish Saturday Vigil Mass time will be celebrated at 5.30 pm.



DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS THIS WEEKEND SUNDAY 2nd APRIL

Remember to turn your clocks **back** 1 hour.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION—GOOD FRIDAY

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday.

Envelopes will be available in the pews for your convenience or if you wish you can do **Electronic Transfer:**

Commonwealth Bank, Waverley NSW— A/c Name:

Holy Land Commissariat - BSB 062 267 - Account No 10014847 - Your Ref Diocese, Town, and Parish. Then email admin@franciscans.org.au the details of your electronic transfer. Thank you.



PROJECT COMPASSION Palm Sunday 1st & 2nd April.



Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world to lift themselves and their communities out of

poverty.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



"CONGRATULATIONS"

to the 46 Confirmation Candidates who were confirmed by Bishop Gregory Homeming on Thursday evening.



THANK YOU~ to those who prepared candidates for Confirmation together with parents and sponsors. Your care and commitment is greatly appreciated. Father Peter and Father Anselm

For your Calendar. DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

16th April 2023

Holy Family Church, Lennox Head.
2.00 pm.



We are encouraged to pray privately the Novena of Divine Mercy that commences on Good Friday until Divine Mercy Sunday.

Novena Prayer Leaflets are available at the doors of our Churches.

For further information please phone Marie on 0409 887 677 or the Parish Office on 6681 1048

SONG OF THE CROSS

Susan HooKong-Taylor & Ana Da Costa ~ Reproduced with permission

Refrain

Love lifted on the cross
for me

My Lord, my God,
my salvation

Love lifted high to set
me free

My Lord, my God, my
salvation.

1. Behold the wood of the
cross

Behold the lamb that was
slain

Behold your king comes victo-
rious

Behold he has risen again. /R

2. O be exalted, O God
Above the heavens and the
earth
For by your cross and resur-
rection
You have redeemed the
world. /R

3. Give glory to the Father
Give glory to the son
Give glory to the Holy Spirit
Give glory to the Holy One
/R



2023 MEN'S GATHERING STAY CONNECTED

SATURDAY 29th APRIL

10.00 AM—1.00 PM

BISHOP GREG HOMEMING
WILL ADDRESS PARTICIPANTS
FROM 10.30 AM.

St Francis Xavier School Hall Entry by Crane Street.
Bring a friend.

Register by Monday 24th April to assist with catering
contact the Parish Office 6681 1048 or email
admin@sfxballina.org.au

Men of our parish and beyond are very welcome to
attend this event.

READERS & EMOHC ROSTER: HOLY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

	Holy Thursday 6th April ~ 6.00 pm	Good Friday 7th April ~ 3.00 pm
Readers	Leanne Robbins Maurice Gahan	Nicole Sullivan Gemma Duffy The Passion Warwick Manning Narrator Trish Bazar Crowd/other Jesus—Priest
EMOHC	Pauline Fingleton	Adam Sullivan



JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES WALK WITH US TODAY— PALM SUNDAY 2nd April

There will be a peace walk from Alstonville Anglican Church to the Avenue at 10.30 am.

Meet at 11.00 am @ Freeborn Park
Cnr of Main and Daley Streets, Alstonville,
for prayer, music and guest speakers.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me.

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' **(R.)**
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. **(R.)**
3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! **(R.)**
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' **(R.)**

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11 ;
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are,
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Matthew 26:14—27:66

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew
The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ



FOR THIS WEEK'S MIDDAY MASS— 6.00 PM HOLY THURSDAY PLEASE PRAY TOGETHER

TUESDAY 4th APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: Do not leave me to the will of my foes, O Lord, for false witnesses rise up against me and they breathe out violence.

Communion Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son, but handed him over for us all.

WEDNESDAY 5th APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend of those in heaven and on the earth and under the earth, for the Lord became obedient to death, death on a cross: therefore Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Communion Antiphon: The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.

HOLY THURSDAY ~ 6th APRIL

Entrance Antiphon: We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered.

Communion Antiphon: This is the Body that will be given up for you; this is the Chalice of the new covenant in my Blood, says the Lord; do this, whenever you receive it, in memory of me.



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www.dif.org.au 1800 802 516

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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.