



ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH BALLINA

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
47 CHERRY STREET
BALLINA

WELCOME

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
94 BALLINA STREET
LENNOX HEAD

Respecting the traditional people of this land-past, present and future, the Bundjalung people

PALM SUNDAY Year A

PARISH NOTICES

29th March 2026

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH BALLINA**

**SATURDAY VIGIL
- 5.30 PM**

**SUNDAY - 9.00 AM
SUNDAY - 11.00 AM**

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
LENNOX HEAD**

SUNDAY - 7.30 AM

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CHURCH**

TUESDAY 5.00 PM
Liturgy of the Word
with Holy Communion

**WEDNESDAY - MASS
5.00 PM**

NO ADORATION

RECONCILIATION

9.00 AM SATURDAY

**PARISH
ADMINISTRATOR**

Father Peter Padsungay

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Father Erick Quinteros

DEACON

**Rev Assoc Professor
Anthony Gooley**

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mr Brendon Clarke

**PARISH BUSINESS
MANAGER**

**Mr Michael Penhey
+++++**



**PLEASE NOTE FOR THIS WEEK ONLY TUESDAY 31ST MARCH
LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION 5.00 PM
BAPTISM**



Our parish family warmly welcomes into the faith and life of the Catholic Church **Isabella Rose, Lilah Poppy and Jack Bruno Morabito-Woodcroft** children of Luke and Leesa; **Sonny James and Oli Zane Muldoon** sons of **Byron and Nicole; Thomas Dane Muldoon** son of Dane and Eliza.

FUNERAL NOTICE: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **George Cox** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass will be held this Monday 30th March at 11.00am in St Francis Xavier Church.



**THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM
HOLY THURSDAY ~ MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

6.00 pm - Ballina

GOOD FRIDAY ~ LITURGY

3.00 pm - Lennox Head

3.00 pm - Ballina

HOLY SATURDAY~ VIGIL MASS

7.00 pm - Ballina

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

7.30 am ~ Lennox Head

9.00 am and 11.00 am ~ Ballina



**TAIZE THIS MONDAY 30TH MARCH 1.00 PM ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
A SPECIAL JOURNEY WITH JESUS TO THE CROSS.**

through Meditation, Music and Silence



DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS NEXT SUNDAY 5TH APRIL

Remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour

PARISH 'CUPPA' Parish 'Cuppa' NEXT Sunday 5TH APRIL following the 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church.

Everyone is very welcome.

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: Electronic transfer can be made: **Commonwealth Bank, Waverley NSW - BSB 062 267 - A/c NO 10014847** Your ref Diocese, Town and Parish email admin@franciscans.org.au with your details of the transfer.



UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2026

- **Monday 30th March 10.30 am Marian Cenacle Anawim Room**
- **Tuesday 31st March 10.00 am Cherry Coffee**
- **Final this week Monday 5.30 pm & Thursday 10 am 30th March & 2nd April Gospel of Matthew STR**
- **Monday 30th March TAIZE at 1.00pm St Francis Xavier Church**
- **menALIVE Wednesday 8th April 8.00 am Rise Cafe Lennox Head**
- **Parish 'Cuppa' Sunday 5th April (Easter Sunday) following 9.00 am & 11.00 am Masses**
- **Ladies Rosary Tuesday 7th April 1.30 pm phn Pauline 0438 435 566**
- **Divine Mercy Sunday 12th April Holy Family Church Lennox Head 2.00 pm**

Easter Sunday Year A: 4th/5th April 2026
 Readings: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Holy Saturday	7:00PM Vigil Mass	7.30 am Mass LH	9:00 am Mass	11:00 am Mass
1 st Reader 2nd Reader	Trish Bazar John Jarzynski Mick Vella Maxine Cole (Epistle)	Marie Sullivan Michael Piccoli	Wendy Hughes Donna Sison	Bernadette McQuillan Maurice Gahan
EMOHC	Peter Bowen Phil Chapman	Maddy Pride	Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell	Leanne Robbins
Gifts			Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor	
Announcer	Katrina Miles	Sue Hetherington	Richard Goss	Maxine Cole
Laptop	Pauline Fingleton			Maxine Cole

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Fran Kuhn rsm, Dionisia Arcan (*Phillipines*), Glenn Cox, Joy Long, George Cox, Paul Land, Narelle King, Sr Berenice Kerr rsm, Lois McNamara,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Peter O'Connor, Don King, Father Charles Kakumanu, Father Steven O'Donnell, Sharon-Lee McNiff Parkes

AND ALSO FOR: Elne Verdeflor, Gino Bordin, Peter Tiernan, Dympna Sheehy, Jack & Marie Flood & family, Cooper, Lynch & Howard families, Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, 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: Ros Spiteri, Mele Taufaeva, Sr Patricia O'Brien PBVM, Julia Paden, Samantha Anderson, Brian Dye, Andrea Bernabey, Caceres family, Gustavo Caceres, Daniel Freeman, Gloria Bordin, Nancy and Joan Obonyo, Nate Doolan, Joy Schneider, Gloria Greguric, Annemarie Higgins, unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care.

(Please advise after six weeks if a name is to be removed or if good health has been restored.)

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 Erick*

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COLLECTED SEPARTELY AT MASS

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 3.65% PER ANNUM as of 1st April- BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker 87-89 River Street Ballina 02 6686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry Street Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS		
1st Collection	Support clergy	\$1,706.35
2nd Collection Support of the Parish	Loose Plate	\$407.50
	Planned Giving	\$1,480.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$2,009.00



Diocesan Investment Fund

INTEREST RATE—3.65% (EFF 1/4/2026) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND OUR CURRENT INTEREST RATE, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.DIF.ORG.AU OR CONTACT US ON 1800 802 516



Palm Sunday
28–29 March 2026

As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion.

Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. There is still time to donate! Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice.



UNITE AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at:

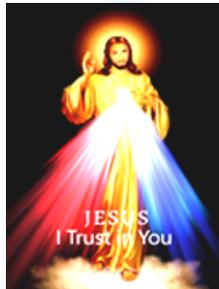
www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY ON SALE
FOLLOWING EACH WEEKEND MASS.
\$2.00 EA

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
12TH APRIL
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
LENNOX HEAD
2.00 PM
Followed by afternoon tea
All are Welcome



FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASS
WEDNESDAY 1st 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.

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY. - 12th APRIL In 1930's, Our Lord Jesus himself requested, through St Faustina, that a Feast of Divine Mercy be established and solemnly celebrated in His Church on the octave of Easter - the First Sunday after Easter.

In 2000, Pope John Paul II fulfilled the will of Christ and officially established the Universal Feast of Divine Mercy and he added a special Plenary Indulgence to Divine Mercy Sunday.

To fittingly observe the Sunday of Divine Mercy, we are encouraged to precede the Feast with the nine-day Novena of Divine Mercy, beginning on Good Friday and reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet. (Privately said) The Novena of Divine Mercy and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy began as a private devotion which Jesus revealed to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. The words were dictated by Jesus Himself to her. Jesus gave her an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena, saving the last day for the most difficult intention of all.

Novena Prayer Leaflets available at Church Entrance and Parish Office. **NOTE:** There is a very close link between the meaning of the Divine Mercy image and the Liturgy of the first Sunday after Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday). On that day, the Gospel's reading throughout the Church, is about the appearance of the risen Christ in the Upper Room, and about the institution of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The rays of blood and water flowing from the Saviour's pierced heart and the wounds on His hands and feet recall the events of Good Friday.

(The official Vatican explanation of the Feast Of Mercy is as follows: According to Jesus, the Feast of Mercy is to be not only a day designated for the worship of God's mercy, but also a day of grace for all people, particularly for sinners. Jesus attached great promises to this feast. One is the promise of complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. ("The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment".) In other words, this grace is equal to the one we receive in the sacrament of Baptism. It offers a completely new beginning.

Further info: www.divinemercy.com.au thedivinemercy.org

EASTER SUNDAY 5TH APRIL
LENNOX PARK (OPPOSITE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH)
NEXT TO THE BUS SHELTER, LENNOX HEAD

8.30 AM TO 9.00 AM

THE EASTER STORY WITH SINGING AND PRAYERS
SPONSORED BY ANGLICANS AND CATHOLICS OF LENNOX HEAD



HE IS RISEN!!
Easter Sunday 2026

ROSTER: HOLY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY

	HOLY THURSDAY 6:00 pm	GOOD FRIDAY PASSION 3:00 pm (HF)	GOOD FRIDAY PASSION 3:00 pm (SFX)
1 st Reader 2 nd Reader	Marie Sullivan Shylaja Gooley	Damien Kennedy Angela Beglin Jean Mackay (N) Marie Sullivan (C/O)	Nicole Sullivan Trish Bazar John Jarzynski (N) Warwick Manning (C/O)
EMOHC	Densie Miller Phil Chapman	Sue Hetherington	Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell

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.



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE PRIEST AT ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

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.)**

REFLECTION:**LOWLY PRINCE OF PEACE**

Jesus entered Jerusalem, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but riding simply on a donkey. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to non-violent revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

First, Jesus embodied God-for-us, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, another Gospel (Luke) recounts that as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.' He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers.

We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.

Liturgy Help © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:6-11

A reading from the letter from 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:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14- 27:66

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew

**PARISH CONTACTS**

Parish Administration Centre: 53-57 Cherry Street Ballina Phn 02 6681 1048 P.O. Box 46 Ballina 2478
email: admin@sfxballina.org.au Office hours Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Parish website: www.sfxballina.org.au

SCHOOLS

St Francis Xavier Primary: Swift Street Ballina Phn 02 6686 3370 Principal: Mr Tony Hunter

Holy Family Primary: 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 5311 Principal: Mr Murray Deeps

Xavier Catholic College: 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head Phn: 02 6687 6484 Principal: Mr Michael Campbell

LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

St Anne's: Phn: 02 6687 596142 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head. Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst

AGED CARE

Crowley Care Services: 154 Cherry Street, Ballina Phn: 1300 139 099 CEO: Mr Michael Penhey