

# St Francis Xavier

## Catholic Parish of Ballina

*Respecting a traditional people of this land, the Bundjalung people*



**St Francis Xavier Church,  
Cnr Cherry & Crane Streets,  
Ballina**

*welcome*

**Holy Family Church,  
94 Ballina Street,  
Lennox Head.**

### Pentecost Sunday (A)

**31st May, 2020**

*Alleluia*

**NEW MASS TIMES during  
COVID-19  
NO WEEKEND MASSES**

**WEEKDAY MASS:  
TUES – FRI:  
9.00am & 12 noon  
At St Francis Xavier Church  
(Max 10 people)  
MUST REGISTER AT PARISH  
OFFICE TO ATTEND A MASS  
by phoning 6681 1048  
(during office hours only  
9.00 am–4.00 pm)  
FROM FATHER PETER  
AND  
FATHER ANSELM  
We look forward to seeing  
you at the weekday Masses  
we are providing for  
our parish.**

**Please follow the protocols  
when you are in our church.  
God Bless and keep each of  
you as we await for the time  
we can all gather together  
for Mass.**

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**Feasts  
The Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother of the Church  
Monday  
St Charles Lwanga  
& companions  
Wednesday  
St Boniface  
Thursday**

## My unique gift from God

The Jewish “feast of weeks” (Deuteronomy 16:9–12) or the “day of the first fruits” (Numbers 28:26) was celebrated seven weeks or fifty days after Passover and originally commemorated the offering of the first fruits of the wheat harvest to God (Exodus 34:22; Tobit 2:1).

In Greek, this festival was known as “Pentecost,” a term that means “the fiftieth day”. Later Jewish writers viewed Pentecost as the commemoration of the giving of the law by Moses on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover.

In the opening chapter of Acts of the Apostles, Jesus told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father, the promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4–5; 2:33). This waiting period ended on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1) when all the disciples were “filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues” (Acts 2:4).

Traditionally, the Christian feast of Pentecost is viewed as the birthday of the Church and commentators have drawn parallels between the giving of the Law on Sinai and the giving of Spirit in Jerusalem as indicative of God’s covenantal relationship with his people. But the motif of the outpouring of the Spirit is not limited to this one event; Luke describes subsequent spiritual experiences amongst groups of Samaritan and Gentile believers (Acts 8:14–17; 10:44–49).

In the two-volume work, Luke/Acts, the reception of the Holy Spirit by the community

reflects the descent of the Spirit upon Jesus at his baptism (Luke 3:21–22). In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus “filled with the Holy Spirit... and led by the Spirit” (Luke 4:1) proclaims the “Good News”, heals the sick and raises dead to life (cf. Luke 4:18–19).

Similarly, in Acts the spirit-filled disciples boldly proclaim the good news of Jesus’ resurrection through word and action. In 1 Corinthians, Paul equates the manifestation of the Spirit with Christian baptism and the call to service. In John’s gospel, the risen Jesus breathes his Spirit into the disciples, empowering them to be agents of divine forgiveness and renewal.

The point of today’s readings is that we are called as latter-day disciples of Jesus to live our lives imbued with the Spirit of Jesus. We may not be granted the power to work signs and wonders, like healing the sick or raising the dead; but we each have a unique gift, which has been manifested

in us for the benefit of others (1 Corinthians 12:7).

In ancient Israel, the feast of weeks was a harvest festival when farmers brought their offerings to the altar. In the Christian church, the feast of Pentecost is an opportunity to reflect upon the spiritual gifts that we have to offer. Ask yourself, what unique gift has God given to me and how am I God’s gift to others?

Ian J Elmer  
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**Catholics from the Diocese of Lismore are from  
20th March 2020 dispensed from their Sunday Mass  
obligation until further notice.**

**PRESBYTERY:** Phone: 6686 204

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

**PARISH LIBRARY:**

**SCHOOLS:**

**AGED CARE:**

**Administrator of Ballina Parish:** Father Peter Padsungay

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke

**Pastoral Associate:** Sr Kathryn Sweeney rsj, Email: kathryn@sfxballina.org.au

**Email:** parishcouncil@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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sandra Mankowsky, Lesley Smith., Ted Murphy, Bernie Scanlon,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Jean Shay,

**AND ALSO FOR:** Ron Hanlon, Glorie Kelly, Catherine Kelly, Armando Bordin, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Rina, Charlie & James Volpatti, Thama Walker, Kathleen Kelly, 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:** Nola Johnson, Kath Young, Barbara Perry, Michael Patch, Gloria Greguric, Pauline McLachlan, Bill Colenso, Michael & Marie Daley, Chanice Wills, Julie Benton, Arthur Potter, Shokat Forghani & family, Margaret Murphy, Robert Sullivan, Terry Moore, Margaret Pyne, Kathleen Campbell, Kaia Randall, Darcy Martin, Charlie Clements, Charlie Scotcher, (Aunty) Julia Paden, Rev Ray Fishwick, Glenn Campbell, Jan Kelly, Kay Harth, Maria Gorton, Peter & Reba Smidt, Asha Ousby (2 yrs), Jeanie Marie Curry, Fay Kerslake, Darryl Simpkins, Betty Albertini, Hilda Carter, Rosemary Russell, John Moreland, Dymphna Sheehy, Greg Shore, John McNamara, Yvonne & Peter Thurtell, Mal Gillies, Cecelia Waldron, Louise Wilson, Michael O'Connor, Moore, Smith, McCowan-Dann, Webber Families, Layton family, Fitch family, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Mick O'Brien, Graham Robertson, Gregory Thomas, Gloria Greguric, Joy Hepworth, Leo Lane, Mary Topham, Bob Grant, Leisa Wotton, Michael Everson, Pat Evans, Virginia, Sarah and Peter Kolhbach, Samantha Anderson, Tony Lannan, Kim del-Signore, Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care, Bupa Aged Care. (Due to privacy laws, names are only placed on this list when requested, for six weeks)

#### **HOMILY** by Father Richard Leonard SJ

Have you noticed how, these days when we meet someone and ask how they are, they reply, 'busy' or 'frantic' or 'as busy as ever'. I wonder what would happen if we replied, 'Relaxed and laid back' or 'taking time to smell the roses'. I don't think we would be believed, or we might get a lecture from our friends on how lucky we are not to be busy!

As Christians we have to be careful about this busy-ness competition. Being active in our lives and engaged with the world around us is a gift, but if we are honest about our busyness, some of it is not virtuous. It's about denial, avoidance or trying to stay up with our peer group.

In John's account of the first Pentecost the primary gift Jesus' Spirit bestows on the disciples is peace. It's curious, isn't it, that just as we all compete with each other to be the busiest person we know, we also complain that what we really want is 'some peace and quiet'. We can't have it both ways. Compulsive frantic activity is the enemy of peace.

Sometimes we can think that peace and quiet is sitting in the lotus position in a darkened room. Christ's gift of peace is more robust than that. Peace is like all the best things in life: an attitude of mind and a habit born of consistently making good choices. Some people can do a large amount of work and be quite serene about it. Peace, for them, is an affair of the mind and a way of life.

Seneca, a 2nd century philosopher, noticed, even in his day, how most of his friends and acquaintances were lacking peace. He wrote a famous book on anger and how to deal with it. He especially noticed that his richest friends were the angriest of all. Seneca came to believe that the reason so many people were agitated was that they had an unreasonable expectation about how smoothly their day would go. Those who were rich thought their money would buy them an easier life in every way and so when it didn't, they got the angriest of all.

If Seneca is right and we want more peace and quiet, we have to have realistic expectations of each day and factor in the things that might go wrong.

Seneca's secular wisdom holds that the more aware we are of the frailties in us, others and life, the fewer fights we would have. In turn this would lead to fewer occasions when we would need to ask or give forgiveness. In today's Pentecost Gospel forgiveness is the second gift Jesus bequeaths the disciples.

If we really want to cultivate peace and quiet in our lives we have to confront the things we are trying to avoid or deny. Often these things hinge on painful memories or events where we were destructive toward others or they were toward us. Unless we forgive ourselves or forgive them, our busyness will ensure that we have enough clamour and activity to stay away from ugly memories. Unfortunately it usually follows that when we are so busy not dealing with the sins of our past, peace and quiet stay well away from us as well.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that while the Spirit might allow us to retain any sins, we choose Jesus' first option this Pentecost and forgive as generously as we can those who have tried to crucify us. We might have to forgive ourselves as well. And then, like Jesus, with old wounds exposed, we can rejoice that the Spirit has breathed into us the greatest gift of all: the peace and quiet we most crave and need.

© Richard Leonard SJ Liturgy Help

**Richard Leonard SJ** is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

#### **DIF PAYS 1.10% 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

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA - PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:** If you are a new parishioner to Ballina or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Planned Giving Program, cards are available for completion at the Parish Administration Office. Your details will be processed and a tracking number provided. Contact SFX Parish Admin office on 6681 1048 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.  
For your convenience we have the option of Direct Debit and/or Envelope contribution.

# Parish Notices



**BAPTISM:** This week the parish warmly welcomes **Maisie Jade McCarthy** daughter of Adam and Kathryn. We look forward to seeing the newly baptised and her family worshipping with us each weekend.

## MASSES AVAILABLE ONLINE

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### CATH NEWS

[www.cathnews.com](http://www.cathnews.com)

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**Google Catholic Masses and click your choice**

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**AVAILABLE FREE TO AIR ON TV**

**Channel 10 ~ every Sunday ~ Mass 6.00 am**



## BISHOP GREG'S SUNDAY MASS ON YOUTUBE LIVE

You are invited to view the Sunday Mass live and on demand from your devices. You can access the livestream by following the link from [lismorediocese.org](http://lismorediocese.org), or by going straight to the 'Lismore Diocese' channel on YouTube, or by pointing the camera on your smart device to



this digital code: **Time of Live Streaming:**

**Sunday ~ 8.00 am**

**Pentecost Quote:** *Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle us the fire of your love. O Lord, on this day of Pentecost, give us the grace and strength to go forth from our homes and parishes to bring the Gospel message to the world we encounter each day of our lives. Amen.* **Pope John Paul II**

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH - BALLINA

### ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

#### PARISH FUND

INCOME		31/12/2019		31/12/2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Collections	118,670		122,097	
Less Transfer to School Building Fund	63,941	54,729	64,550	57,547
Contributions to Administration				
Costs by Parish Business Enterprises		101,216		89,583
Donations & Bequests		5,445		6,857
Facility Hire		565		315
Gain on Disposal of Depreciated Assets		14,910		
Interest Received		22,482		25,365
Moriah House Rent	88,927		86,915	
Moriah House Expenses	83,973	4,954	76,649	10,266
Rental Income		409,499		364,008
Other Income		6,187		10,012
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>619,987</b>		<b>563,953</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Catechist & Pastoral Expenses		69,815		71,121
Church Requisites		18,950		19,018
Depreciation		68,678		58,017
Diocesan Quotas		44,653		36,570
Hot Meal Centre Income	17,763		17,254	
Hot Meal Centre Expenses	45,640	27,877	38,311	21,057
Motor Vehicle Expenses		6,288		8,821
Parish Office Expenses		456,524		468,585
Planned Giving Expenses		950		856
Repairs & Maintenance		93,203		95,565
Sheraton House Income	67,195		65,593	
Sheraton House Expenses	289,561	222,366	301,197	235,604
Utility & Statutory Expenses		99,458		102,673
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>1,108,762</b>		<b>1,117,887</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(488,775)</b>		<b>(553,934)</b>
<b>Deficits are funded from Parish business enterprises and reserves.</b>				



**First Reading: Acts 2:1-11;***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm****(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,  
How many are your works, O Lord!  
The earth is full of your riches. **(R.)**

2. You take back your spirit, they die,  
returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!  
May the Lord rejoice in his works!  
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.  
I find my joy in the Lord. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13;***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different

people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: John 20:19-23***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:  
'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven:  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



**An Act of Spiritual Communion :** My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. [melbournecatholic.org.au](http://melbournecatholic.org.au)

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS**

**Due to not being able to attend weekend Masses, parishioners with envelopes wishing to continue their contribution to the parish collection can use alternative methods.**

- **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**
- **By completing a form that allows your bank to deduct your gift from your account into the account of the Parish, available from the Parish Office or, continue with your envelopes and drop them to the office, perhaps once a month. Thank you**



**Position Vacant:** The Catholic Diocese of Lismore is seeking applications from suitably qualified persons for the exciting new role of **Catholic Chaplain, Mid North Coast Correctional Centre** (Kempsey NSW). A Chaplain is required for a position of 70 hours a fortnight to provide high quality transformational pastoral care and spiritual support to inmates, their families/carers, and staff. The Chaplain works inclusively with people of diverse backgrounds, issues and needs, of faith or not, to sustain and empower the individual to enable holistic wellbeing and care. The successful applicant will be an essential support to the Diocese's Vision and Mission in a dynamic community.

For further information please contact the Diocesan HR Manager on 02 6621 9444 or [jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au)

**Applications close 5.00 pm, Wednesday 10th June, 2020.**



# Invest with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://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 CDFI 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.