



St Francis Xavier

Catholic Parish of Ballina

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



**St Francis Xavier Church,
47 Cherry Street, Ballina.**

welcome

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

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (C)

14th September 2025

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Weekend Mass Times Ballina

St Francis Xavier Church

Saturday Vigil— 5.30 pm

Sunday — 9.00 am

Sunday — 11.00 am

Lennox Head

Holy Family Church

Sunday — 7.30 am

**WEEKDAY MASS THIS WEEK
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon Ballina**

ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 am to 11.45 am



RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday
St Francis Xavier Church

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Feast Days

Our Lady of Sorrows
Monday

Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Tuesday

**Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn,
Paul Chông Ha-sang &
companions**
Saturday

We invite everyone to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Elizabeth Veronica Harrison-Lewry** daughter of Wayne Lewry and Kathleen Harrison.



FUNERAL NOTICE: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Ailsa Patch** who has sadly passed away.

A Requiem Mass will be held this Friday 19th September at 9.30 am in St Francis Xavier Church Ballina.

PARISH YOUTH MASS: This Sunday 14th September, 5.00 pm St Francis Xavier Church Ballina. Youth aged from 12 to 17 years are invited to this Mass together with friends and family. All parishioners are very welcome to attend this Sunday Mass.

TAIZE THIS MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA
Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OF XAVIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE
Adam Spencer on behalf of the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Limited has announced that **MICHAEL CAMPBELL** has been appointed Principal of Xavier Catholic College commencing January 2026. **'CONGRATULATIONS' MICHAEL.**



You're Invited

Alpha Taster = Come sample the goods. Next time, bring someone hungry—physically or spiritually.



Date: **Thursday 18 September**

Time: **5.30 – 7.30**

Location: **St Francis Xavier Parish Centre, Ballina**

Peter B: "I found new friends"
Maxine C: "I discovered how much people enjoy sharing meals together"

Please Register
Office: 66 81 1048
Maxine: 0429 669 029
Peter: 0421 518 371



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY: The next Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held **Monday 22nd September at 3.00 pm**, in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre. **You will be most Welcome.**

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

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042
AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:
SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay
Assistant Priest: Father Erick Quinteros **PHN: 0438 196 944**
Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley
Pastoral Associates: email: pastoralassociate@sfxballina.org.au
Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@sfxballina.org.au
Phone: 02 6681 1048; 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: Principal: Mr Tony Hunter - 02 6686 3370 - Swift St, Ballina
Holy Family Primary: Principal: Mr Murray Deeps - 02 6687 5311 - 40 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head
Xavier Catholic College: Principal: Mr Lee MacMaster - 02 6687 6484 - 2 Redford Drive, Skennars Head
St Anne's Long Day Care Centre: Director: Mrs Narelle Dewhurst - 02 6687 5961 - 42 Isabella Drive, Skennars Head

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

25th Sunday Year C: 20th/21st September 2025
Readings: Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 112; Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	11.00 am Ballina
Readers	XCC XCC	Jean Mackay Courtney Hyde	Wendy Hughes Kailani Tiernan	Warwick Manning Brendon Clarke
EMOHC	XCC Phil Chapman	Maddy Pride	Deacon Anthony Denise Miller Cathy Campbell	Maurice Gahan
Offertory Procession			Cathy Andrews Diana Evans	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ailsa Patch, Loretta Gardiman, Paddy Roache (*Ireland*), John Kneightly (*Inverell*),

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS, TIME: Peter O'Brien, Gabrielle Serone, Jack Flood, Marie Flood, Bryan Donovan, John Nilon,

AND ALSO FOR: Phillip Dykes, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, 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: Mario Bogdanich (*Perth*), Tracy Williams (*Sydney*) Ian Lockton, Nate Doolan, Joy Long (*Sydney*), Paddy Mulgrew (*Northern Ireland*), Joy Schneider, Alisha Nobbs (*Brisbane*), Severina Nady Verdeflor, Gloria Greguric, Steven Kennessey & family, Kevin Sullivan, Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kellie Savage, Lorraine Ball, Helen Johnston, Daphne Sweeney, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice McNair, Michael Townsend, Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fevre (*London*), Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham,, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston,, Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach & family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Samantha Anderson, Aunt Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

14th September	Sunday 5.00 pm	Youth Mass
15th September	Monday 10.30 am	Marian Cenacle Anawim Room
15th September	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>Encouraging the spirit of Kindness, Simplicity and Reconciliation of the heart</i>
16th September	Tuesday	The Jubilee of Hope Boat in Ballina Parish
16th September	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face L H
16th September	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
17th September	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
18th September	Thursday 5.30 to 7.30 pm	Alpha Parish Admin
22nd September	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
30th November	Sunday 12.00 noon	Annual Parish Lunch

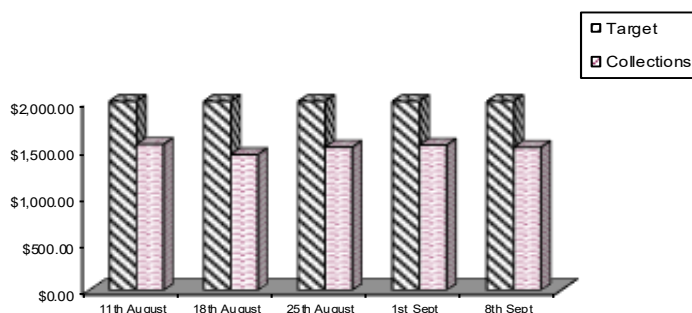
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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 - BALLINA AGENTS: Michael Shay, L J Hooker
 87-89 River St Ballina 026686 2711 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Support of our Diocese Priests	\$ 1,182.10
Second Collection Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund	Loose Plate	\$ 242.15
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,513.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



The cross that symbolizes our faith

This week's feast is an ancient one, known as The Triumph (or The Exaltation) of the Cross. Legend has it that on this date, September 14 in 330, St Helena, a Christian, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, discovered "the true cross" on which Jesus had died in Jerusalem.

Over the centuries, the cross has become the universal symbol of our Christian faith. Some people wear it around their necks. Many have a crucifix at home. A cross hangs in every Catholic Church. We venerate the cross during the liturgy on Good Friday. And every day we, like our forebears who have gone before us in the Faith, begin and end our prayers, including the celebration of the Mass, making the Sign of the Cross while we say, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

In this one simple gesture and prayer, the Sign of the Cross, we express the two great mysteries that lie at the very heart of our faith as Christians: God is Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the One God – and God revealed his great mercy and steadfast love for us in Jesus' death on a cross, for "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16).

We can easily forget how shameful and humiliating death by crucifixion was. In the Roman Empire crucifixion was an oft-used form of execution that was calculated to instil fear and dread in the people and to discourage any would-be political agitators or subversives.

As St Paul writes, the cross was a scandal, a stumbling block, to the Jews and a folly, sheer foolishness, to the Greeks. No wonder that it was about three centuries before the symbol of the cross was represented in Christian art, life and worship, so shameful a death it was. And yet, as St Paul insists: "We preach Christ crucified."

The second reading is one of the most important of St Paul's writings. He writes that Christ, though enjoying a divine status, "emptied himself," freely taking "the form of a slave," humbling himself, even to death on a cross. "Therefore, God highly exalted him" so that all should confess that "Jesus Christ is Lord." His crucifixion was not his defeat or failure but rather his victory and triumph.

St Paul exhorts his readers, including us: "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." St John captures succinctly what this "mind of Christ Jesus" involves: "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another" (1 Jn 4:11).

When we make the Sign of the Cross, we also symbolise the cross that is ours to carry in our own lives, mindful at the same time of the resurrection and life of the world to come that Jesus' victory wrought for each one of us. May the cross be our comfort in times of suffering, our refuge in times of trouble, and our safeguard on life's journey.

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MOST REVEREND GREG HOMEMING OCD ~ BISHOP OF LISMORE

The Council of Priests and I have decided that it is time to re-establish the Diocesan Pastoral Council in the hope of drawing on the many talents in the Diocese. A Diocesan Pastoral Council will be in keeping with the synodal process of renewal, which began a few years ago.

The Diocesan Pastoral Council brings together clergy, religious, and the laity to advise the Bishop, reflect on the needs of the Diocese, encourage the participation and consider diverse perspectives.

We are seeking nominations from people of prayer and discernment, passionate about the Church's mission, good listeners and collaborators, willing to grow in

faith, and active in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church. The first Council meeting is expected in early 2026.

If you know someone who you may think would be suitable or feel that you yourself might make a good member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Please fill in the nomination form using the bar code.

For those who wish to nominate a person or themselves and are not tech savvy there are printed forms available at the foyer of our Churches. You can complete them and bring them to the Parish Office for lodgement to the Bishop's Office.

Nomination and Expression of Interest Form - Diocesan Pastoral Council



14TH SEPTEMBER ~ SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church.

In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalized. Who are the 'silent' ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them.



PRESENTATION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA TO MARY O'BRIEN OAM
Wednesday 10th September Mary with family and friends travelled to Sydney to receive her award at Government House, presented by Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC.
'CONGRATULATIONS', MARYAND
'HAPPY 93RD BIRTHDAY'

'Thank you' Mary, for your continued support of our Parish.
Love and prayers from your parish community.



Hosting the Jubilee of Hope – Boat



The **boat**, through its journey south in the diocese will visit Ballina from **THIS Tuesday 16th September** where it will be displayed in our parish Church, then journey to our Schools then onto Holy Family Church Lennox Head. From Ballina Parish the boat will **depart Monday 29th September**, travelling to the Parish of MacLean.



Diocesan Investment Fund

Interest Rate – 3.65% For further information and our current rate, Please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516

DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS
Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Family Church Lennox Head

The CATHOLIC WEEKLY on sale following each weekend Mass. \$2.00 each

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9*A reading from the book of Numbers*

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!.**

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **(R.)**
2. When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **(R.)**
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **(R.)**
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger

when he might have stirred up his rage. **(R.)****Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he 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:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!**Gospel: John 3:13-17***A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER ~ FEAST OF STS CORNELIUS & CYPRIAN**

Entrance Antiphon: The souls of the Saints are rejoicing in heaven, the Saints who followed the footsteps of Christ, and since for love of him they shed their blood, they now exult with Christ for ever.

Communion Antiphon: It is you who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer a kingdom on you, says the Lord, that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.

WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER, ~ THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER ~ FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

PRAYER GROUPS IN OUR PARISH

Christian Meditation Group: Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 02 6681 1048.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00 am Friday.

Prayer of the Church & Rosary: Saturday 9.00 am Ballina

CCR: Monday 1.45 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029.

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus Tuesdays 10.00 am Holy

Family Church Lennox Head.

Taizé: Every second Monday at 12.00 noon

Marian Cenacle: Monday 10.30 am Anawim Room.

Parish Youth Group: 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm in the Upper Room Parish Admin Building Sunday evenings.

menAlive every second Wednesday 8.00 am Lennox Head Contact Murry Parr 0414 399 658

Ladies Rosary: 1st Tuesday of the month 1.30 pm phn Pauline 0438435 566

**Did you know?**

**Parish Events are
Risk Managed considering the
Safety for all !**



**Speak with your Parish about all
Parish Events.**

Safeguarding Office:

P: 02 6621 9444 (Chancery)

E: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

*A copy of the latest Safeguarding Newsletter is
available from the Safeguarding information stand in
the foyer of the Church.*