

# St Francis Xavier

## Catholic Parish of Ballina

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



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

*welcome*

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

### The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)

**6th August, 2023**

#### 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

#### TUESDAY TO FRIDAY MASS 12.00 noon

**RECONCILIATION**  
9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina  
St Francis Xavier Church

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#### Feast Days



**St Mary of the Cross**  
Tuesday

**St Lawrence**  
Thursday

**St Clare**  
Friday

*We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.*

#### PARISH NOTICES



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Gabe Willem, Finn Jett and Safia Fleur Wrightson** children of Paul and Erin.

#### DIOCESAN REVIEW PARISH VITALITY SURVEY PRESENTATION

Parishioners are invited to come and see the Parish Survey responses and other information about our parish, resulting from the Diocesan Review.

**This Wednesday 9th August, at 5.00 pm in St Francis Xavier Church.**

You may recall back in mid-August last year, as part of the Diocesan Review process, we were invited to take part in the Parish Vitality Survey. We published information about the survey in our newsletter along with the link to access it online.

*All parishioners are encouraged to attend and to hear the results!*



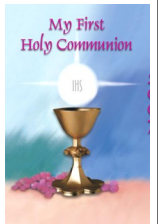
**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Thomas (n/a Anzac) Cummings OAM** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass will be held this Monday 7th August at 10.00 am, in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina.

#### 'WELCOME' 2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

*We welcome each candidate and their family to  
our weekend Masses.*

*Children of our parish will receive their  
First Holy Communion on Sunday 20th August  
in St Francis Xavier Parish Church.*

**9.00 am Mass Holy Family School Candidates**  
**11.00 am St Francis Xavier School Candidates**



**PARISH 'CUPPA' :** This Sunday 6th August following the 9.00 am Mass, in the grounds of St Francis Xavier, Church.  
*Everyone is very welcome*



#### ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH SPRING LUNCH

**Sunday 10th September, 2023**  
**Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina**  
**12.00 for 12.30 pm ~ \$20.00 pp**

**Roast Meal, sweets, tea/coffee. Lucky Door prize.**

***Tickets on sale from this weekend following each Mass, and from the Parish Office, where eftpos payments can be made.***  
*Drinks from the bar not included in ticket price.*



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 (long service leave)

**Assistant Priest:** Father Anselm Okeke (acting parish administrator)

**Deacon:** Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley

**Pastoral Associate:** John Kearney Email: [john@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:john@sfxballina.org.au)

Phone: 6681 1048; Fax: 6686 8774; Email: [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto: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](http://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

Independent Living Village, Residential Aged Care, Home Care Services

**ROSTER: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: 12th/13th August, 2023**  
**Readings: 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13; Psalm 84; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33**

|                                 | <b>Saturday 5.30 pm<br/>Vigil Ballina</b> | <b>Sunday 7.30 am<br/>Lennox Head</b>    | <b>Sunday 9.00 am<br/>Ballina</b>       | <b>Sunday 11.00 am<br/>Ballina</b>      |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Readers</b>                  | <i>Trish Bazar<br/>Yvonne Head</i>        | <i>Damien Kennedy<br/>Marie Sullivan</i> | <i>Nicole Sullivan<br/>Richard Goss</i> | <i>Maurice Gahan<br/>Leanne Robbins</i> |
| <b>EMOHC</b>                    | <i>Matthew Ritchie</i>                    | <i>Sue Hetherington</i>                  | <i>Adam Sullivan<br/>Denise Miller</i>  | <i>Maxine Cole</i>                      |
| <b>Offertory<br/>Procession</b> |   |  | <i>Cathy Andrews<br/>Diane Evans</i>    |   |


**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Thomas (*n/a Anzac*) Cummings OAM, Vince Kean (*Murwillumbah*), Rosa Lowe, Renee Beglin, Todd Robinson, **THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Ambrosia Ibarrientos, Charlie Clements, Alan Hay, Fredrick Hitchens, Yvonne de Signore

**AND ALSO FOR:** *Marj Hobbins, John Patrick Moreland, 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:** Louise King, Michael Lyons (*Sydney*), Bill Duffy, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*) Tanya White, Isabel Margarita Jorquera, Carlos Solar, Joan Flew, Tony Smith, Hugo Long, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), Aoife Stephenson (*Brisbane*), David Anderton, Patrick Connelley, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Barbara Levett, Dympna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Aunt* Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, 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.*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS ~ 2023**

|                           |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| <b>6th<br/>August</b>     | <b>Sunday<br/>9.45 am</b>   | <b>Parish<br/>'Cuppa'</b>  |
| <b>7th<br/>August</b>     | <b>Monday<br/>12.00 noon</b>  | <b>Taizé<br/>SFX Church</b>  |
| <b>8th<br/>August</b>     | <b>Tuesday<br/>10.00 am</b>   | <b>'Cherry'<br/>Coffee Club</b>  |
| <b>9th<br/>August</b>     | <b>Wednesday<br/>5.00 pm<br/>St Francis Xavier<br/>Church</b>   | <b>Parish Vitality<br/>Survey<br/>Presentation</b>   |
| <b>20th<br/>August</b>    | <b>Sunday<br/>9.00 am<br/>11.00 am</b>  | <b>First Holy<br/>Communion<br/>Sunday</b>   |
| <b>10th<br/>September</b> | <b>Sunday<br/>12.00 noon</b><br><br><i>Tickets on sale after<br/>each weekend Mass<br/>and weekdays from<br/>Parish Admin<br/>Office.</i> | <b>Parish Spring<br/>Lunch<br/>Cherry Street<br/>Bowling Club</b><br><br> |

**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 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.

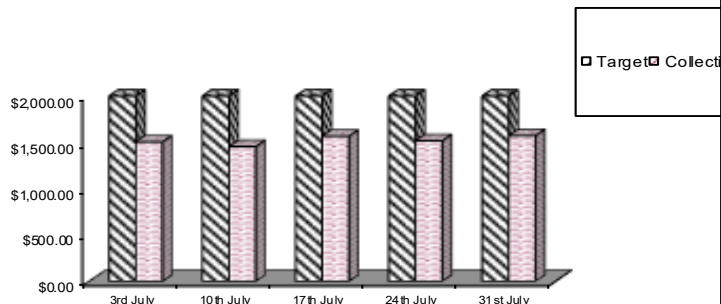
- **By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card deduction each month for your Planned Giving Donation ONLY**
- **By making an EFTPOS donation — 1st Collection to Ballina Presbyterium BSB: 082 522 A/c 50960 2127 ref: your name**
- **2nd Collection to St Francis Xavier Parish BSB 082 522 A/c 50960 3218**
- **Please ensure you use your *Planned 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 3.70% 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](http://www.dif.org.au)

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

|  |   |             |
|--|---|-------------|
| <b>First Collection</b>  | <i>Support of our<br/>Diocese Priests</i> | \$ 949.00   |
| <b>Second Collection</b><br><i>Support of the Parish &amp;<br/>Ministries &amp;<br/>School Building &amp;<br/>Maintenance Fund</i> | Loose Plate                               | \$ 606.00   |
|  | Planned Giving<br>Envelopes Collected     | \$ 1,572.00 |
| Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target   |   | \$ 2,009.00 |





## A QUIET PLACE

In many ancient religions, mountaintops were thought to be the dwelling places of the gods, where sacred encounters might happen. One example of this is the encounter of Moses with God on a mountaintop when he received the ten commandments.

Even now, among modern people, mountains are good places to escape the hustle and bustle of daily life. They can make good listening places at times when we need to reflect or make a major decision. From a mountain you can see far into the distance, so it is often a place for insight and perspective.

In our world, we need opportunities to reflect, so we can get perspective on our lives. When we choose to go on a retreat, a walk in the woods, speak to a counsellor, not turn on the radio or the television, it can be as if we are responding to the invitation Jesus gave to his disciples, to come apart for a while. We are choosing to do what the disciples heard from the cloud, "Listen to him."

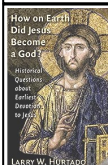
The disciples got more than they expected. They had a momentary glimpse into how special Jesus was. They heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

Jesus asked Peter, James, and John not to tell anyone about the vision, "Until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." Just prior to today's passage Jesus predicted the suffering and death that awaited him in Jerusalem. Peter tried to dissuade him. Jesus rebuked him and told him and the others that if they wished to be his disciples, they must take up their cross and follow him.

This was not a comforting message for the disciples, but the transfiguration gave them hope for the future, and a direction to "Listen to him." In the scriptures we pay close attention, not only to the words of Jesus, but also his actions, for they reveal God to us. They tell us about God's forgiveness, compassion, and unfaltering love for us. As we listen closely, we hear Jesus tell us to do for others what he is about to do for us, and this empowers us to pick up our cross of service and follow him.

We may not be literally on a mountaintop today, but in a quiet place where we can listen to Jesus, despite the competing voices that seek to draw us to other ways of living than the one to which the Lord has called us. Quiet places and worshipping together give us opportunities to open our ears and our hearts and to try listening anew both to one another and to the Lord. As we listen, we also ask ourselves, "What is Jesus saying to me in the people and events of this day?" Then, we listen and do our best to discern an appropriate response.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2023



**BOOK CLUB:** Deacon Anthony is starting a theological book club and is looking forward for interested people to sign up as participants and hosts. It's like a regular book club in that we rotate hosts but instead of a book per month it is a chapter per month of a book. Deacon Anthony facilitates the group discussion. The first book is by Larry Hurtado, *'How on Earth did Jesus become God?'*, it's fascinating. We plan to start Thursday 7th September at 7.30 pm. Leave your name, phone and email at the parish office 6681 1048. **All are invited.**

**TAIZE this Monday 7th August 12.00 noon in St Francis Xavier Church All welcome to share the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation through prayerful meditation, music and silence. SINGERS WANTED to learn Taize songs for the Taize group. Ability to sing parts would be good, but not essential. Please leave your name and telephone number at the Parish office—6681 1048. Thank you.**



**BILLINGS NATURAL FERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK:** This year, 2023, marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During Natural Fertility Awareness Week, in August, a special, free webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings' work entitled *'Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective'* will be held on Monday 21st August 2023 at 7.30 pm AEST. As well as highlighting the male perspective in using the Billings Ovulation Method®, couples will reflect on how it has helped them in understanding their joint fertility, as well as benefiting their relationships and family life.

The link to register for the webinar on Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtcreator>

**Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours** Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: Ring: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. Web: [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or be equally helpful as a volunteer Admin. Assistant in Palms [Petersham Nth Office](http://Petersham Nth Office)



**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office.** If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or Email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



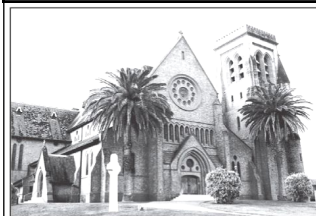
**Christian Meditation Group:** Saturday 9.30 am Anawim Room, Admin Centre for all enquiries please contact John Cheadle by ringing the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048  
**Marian Cenacle:** Every Monday at 11.00 am—Anawim Room, Parish Admin Centre, Narelle King Phn 6681 1048  
**Taizé:** Every second Monday SFX Church 12.00 noon  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday

**Sisterhood:** Monday 11.00 am St Teresa Room Parish Admin Centre.

**Prayer of the Church & Rosary:** Saturday 9.00 am SFX Church.

**Ballina CCR :** Monday 2.15 to 4.00 pm in the Anawim Room, contact Maxine Cole on 0429 669 029

**Welcome to our prayer gatherings.**



# 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 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.



**First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10,13-14;***A reading from the book of Daniel*

As I watched:

Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat.

His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool.

His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire.

A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence.

A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.

A court was held and the books were opened.

I gazed into the visions of the night.

And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man.

He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence.

On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants.

His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad.

Cloud and darkness are his raiment; his throne, justice and right. **(R.)**

2. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. **(R.)**3. For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth exalted far above all spirits. **(R.)****Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:1-16***A reading from the second letter of St Peter*

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds. *The Word of the Lord.*

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

This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Mat 17:1-9***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 8th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS****Entrance Antiphon:** Come, you blessed of my Father, says the Lord: I was sick and you visited me.

Amen, I say to you: whatever you did for one of the least of my brethren, you did it for me.

**Communion Antiphon:** This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another, says the Lord.**WEDNESDAY 9th AUGUST****Entrance Antiphon:** O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.**Communion Antiphon:** You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.**THURSDAY 10th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST LAWRENCE****Entrance Antiphon:** This is the blessed Lawrence, who gave himself up for the treasure of the Church: for this he earned the suffering of martyrdom to ascend with joy to the Lord Jesus Christ.**Communion Antiphon:** Whoever serves me must follow me and where I am there also will my servant be, says the Lord.**FRIDAY 11th AUGUST ~ FEAST OF ST CLARE****Entrance Antiphon:** Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ.**Communion Antiphon:** Behold, the Bridegroom is coming; come out to meet Christ the Lord.**FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL****MAKING CONNECTIONS:**

- The event of the Transfiguration is traditionally associated with Mt Tabor where a beautiful church with magnificent mosaics commemorates this event.
- The three disciples who witness Jesus' glory will be the same ones who witness his agony in the garden prior to his arrest and crucifixion.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- It is wonderful for us to be here.' Reflect on what this means to you at this point in your journey.
- 'Listen to him.' What is Jesus saying to you?
- Have you ever had a moment of transformation that you were feeling dazzled and wonderful? Share your reflections with others.
- Spend time in reflecting this week on the statement of Peter: 'How wonderful it is for us to be here.'

*www.cam.org.au/summit*