

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.**

**11th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (B)**

16th June, 2024

**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

**At St Francis Xavier Church
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
12.00 noon**

RECONCILIATION
9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina
St Francis Xavier Church

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Feast Day

St Aloysius Gonzaga
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:
Ethan Artie Knutt son of Jeremy and Melissa;



It is time to prepare for our second edition of 'CONNECT'. All parish ministries please forward your newsworthy items to admin@sfxballina.org.au by **THIS** Monday 17th June. Our next edition of Connect will be available mid July.

Thank you for your commitment to our parish community. Together, through effective communication, we can continue to strengthen the bonds that make our community a place of love, support, and shared faith.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR are now available for collection at the back of the both Churches in **alphabetical order**. Please notify the Parish Office if there are changes to any of your details or if you would like to contribute to the Planned Giving Program by Direct Debit. If you are new to the parish please consider asking for envelopes. Talk to Father after Mass or the staff at the Parish Administration Office.



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR PARISH

VOLUNTEERS: We have been well informed of the 2024 audit by the Office of the Children's Guardian to be conducted in parishes within the Lismore Diocese. Many volunteers have not had a refresher course since 2020 and it is advisable for these updated courses to be attended.

Volunteers for EMOHC, sacristans, acolytes, hospitality, choir, music are recommended to attend.

If you are a teacher or work for the CSO, catechist or a member of St Vincent de Paul and have had recent training, you are exempt. **Training date Tuesday 25th June 10.00 am to 12.00 noon Upper Room Parish Admin Building.**
RSVP Friday 21st June. Morning tea will be provided.

**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS TUESDAY 10.00 AM
AT HOLY FAMILY CHURCH LENNOX HEAD.**

**THE NEXT TAIZÉ MONDAY 24TH JUNE 12.00 NOON
IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY 27TH JULY ~ 11.00 AM ~ CHARISMATIC
HEALING MASS ~ CELEBRANT: FATHER ERIC QUINTEROS**

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

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

Administrator of Ballina Parish: Father Peter Padsungay
Assistant Priest: Father Anselm Okeke
Deacon: Rev Assoc. Prof Anthony Gooley
Pastoral Associate: John Kearney Email: john@sfxballina.org.au
Parish Youth Co-Ordinator: Kailani Tiernan Email: ktiernan@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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

www.sfxballina.org.au

PARISH LIBRARY:

Library available to parishioners Mon to Fri 9 am - 4 pm;

SCHOOLS:

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

AGED CARE:

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

ROSTER: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 22nd/23rd June, 2024
Readings: Job 38:1,8-11; Psalm 106; 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; Mark 4:35-41

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Dan Gubby Matt Ritchie</i>	<i>Angela Begley Sue Hetherington</i>	<i>Gemma Duffy Julie McKinnon</i>	<i>Richard Goss Warwick Manning</i>
EMOHC	<i>Katrina Miles</i>	<i>Mark McDonald</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Jo Hurley Joan Hollingsworth</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

John McCoy, Bill McDermott, John Marili, Frank Cumiskey,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: John Moreland, Reba Smidt, Richard Nagle, Maria Potter

AND ALSO FOR: *Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, Ted Murphy, James & Mary Rogers, Cath Waddell, C & S Hosie, Mick & Gwynne Waugh, Fay Kerlake, 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: Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fève (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (*Syd*), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Knightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Syd*), David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, 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.* (Please advise if a name is to be removed if good health has been

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024

18th June	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
18th June Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
19th June & 3rd July	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
24th June & 8th July	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé 45 min of simple praise, meditation & music
24th June	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxillary Meeting
25th June	Tuesday 10.00 am	Volunteers Safeguarding workshop
28th June	Friday 9.30 am	Holy Family Committee Meeting
28th June	Friday 5.30 pm	Curry Night
29th June	Saturday 6.30 am	Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox
7th July	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa' Grounds of the Church

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**

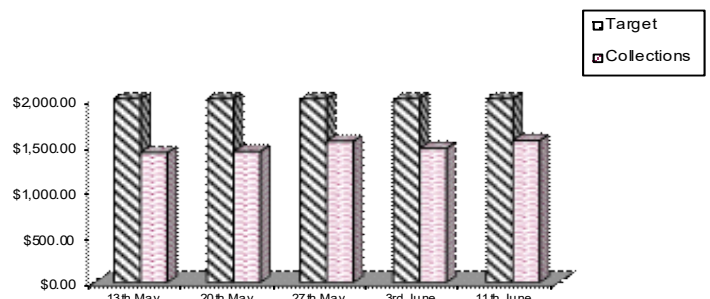
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COMBINED IN THE ONE COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card 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 use your Planned Giving number as reference.

DIF PAYS 4.15% 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>	\$ 804.65
Second Collection	Loose Plate	\$ 305.10
<i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,544.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



PLANTING THE SEEDS OF LOVE

Most things start small. Someone asks you to be part of a group and a few years later, on reflection, it turns out to have played a significant part in your life. You just kept turning up and something grew there almost unawares. Then, at a particular point, you may have come to understand God was present there and had been all along.

This is how parables work in today's gospel. They begin where we are, with the familiar, as Jesus speaks to the crowd about God's kingdom. In the first parable, seed is planted which sprouts of its own accord and grows steadily until the time to harvest comes. We're involved in the planting and the harvesting, and may help to facilitate its growth, but ours is not the key role. This is a time of waiting – we wait upon God and God waits with us, and as we do we may recognise God is already present in our lives and the lives of others.

In the second parable Jesus could have mentioned a mighty cedar to suggest what the kingdom of God is like, instead he speaks of the nondescript mustard seed and the bush that emerges from it, 'the biggest shrub of all', where all nations and strangers may find shelter. From what seems insignificant to begin with, like turning up for the first time, there emerges what we could hardly have foreseen, in God's time.

Don't be concerned about the lack of dramatic signs in this time of waiting. It's not our job to make something happen, because it is growing, and it will flourish. So, be patient as Jesus is patient, not waiting passively by, but alive to the presence of God and each another.

In the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel the Lord's power is revealed when he speaks of a 'noble cedar', an image of his kingdom, which he'll plant on the mountain of Israel. It will provide shelter for every kind of bird, like the mustard bush. The growth of the cedar and other trees won't depend on us, but on the power of the Lord and 'he will do it.' This promise is a sign of hope to his people, after their conquest and exile.


In the second reading Paul speaks of the tension between wanting to be with the Lord forever and his calling to live the good news of Jesus Christ. He recognises one depends upon the other. What we do in this life will be the response we make to Jesus in the life to come. So, we're called to live with confidence, walking by faith, doing what pleases him, until, in his presence, our lives will speak for us.

Keep turning up then, remain faithfully present to one another, and allow the seed that has been planted to come to fulfillment as God has promised. This is what the kingdom is like, and we are to be its agents: it's the mission entrusted to us.

Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2024




52 SUNDAYS: A REFLECTIVE GUIDE TO THE MASS:
Copies for purchase are available from the Parish Office.
Cost \$35.00 each or order online at coventrypress.com.au




CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY
 Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be held on **Monday 24th June at 3.00 pm** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending, you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.
You will be most welcome.

HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD COMMITTEE
 The monthly meeting will be held in the Sacred Heart Room behind the Church building **Friday 28th June commencing at 9.30 am.**
 Contact Sue 0400 052 505 if you would like to add an item to the agenda.



SAVE THE DATE: CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY CURRY NIGHT
Friday 28th June from 5.30 pm
\$25.00 per person
Please RSVP and pay via cash or card at Crowley reception and/or the Parish Office by Wednesday 26th June.
Address to be advised when booking. BYO drinks




MONTHLY DINNER @ CLUB LENNOX



'A little gem by sea' Parishioners are welcome to the next of our monthly dinners to be held **Saturday 29th June at 6.30 pm.** This is an opportunity to enjoy each other's company and delicious food.
Young and old and everyone in between are most welcome.

LISMORE DIOCESAN RENEWAL JOURNEY
EMBRACING CHANGE to create a vision for the future



In December 2021, Bishop Greg Homeming, in consultation with the Council of Priests, commissioned a Renewal of the Diocese of Lismore as a response to the Plenary Council. The Renewal's goal is to provide a focused way forward in the face of the many challenges in parishes and the diocese.

The Renewal, which is ongoing, is involving thousands of people from throughout the Diocese including priests, parishioners, school leaders and teachers, aged care and hospital staff, youth ministry teams and many others involved in the wide range of Diocesan ministries.


Please visit the website <https://www.lismoredioese.org/renewal/> and you are encouraged to consult the Coordinating team by phone 6621 9444 or email renewal@lismore.catholic.org.au
'The Holy Spirit guides us where God wants us to be, not to where our own ideas and personal tastes would lead us. "There is no need to create another Church, but to create a different Church".
Pope Francis

PARISH 'CUPPA'
in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church, Sunday 7th July, following the 9.00 am Mass.



Everyone is very welcome.
St Vincent de Paul members will host the morning tea.

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





Invest with peace of mind

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: Ezekiel 17:22-24;*A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.
And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the
one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow,
who withers green trees and makes the withered green.
I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10***A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

*The Word of the Lord.***Gospel Acclamation:****Alleluia, alleluia!**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Mark 4:26-34***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 18th JUNE, WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE, THURSDAY 20th JUNE**

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

Communion Antiphon: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

FRIDAY 21st JUNE ~ FEAST SAINT ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

Entrance Antiphon: The clean of hands and pure of heart shall climb the mountain of the Lord and stand in his holy place.

Communion Antiphon: God gave them bread from heaven; man ate the bread of Angels.

DID YOU KNOW?

**Parables are very short stories with a double meaning. They act like metaphors and can be interpreted very broadly. To understand the parables of Jesus we must be attentive to both the literal and metaphorical language used.

**The nearness of the kingdom (or reign) of God is the central plank of the teaching of Jesus in Mark's Gospel.

**The term 'kingdom of God' occurs only in the New Testament but similar expressions are found in the Old Testament. It refers to a time when God's will would be done on Earth.

**Matthew uses the term 'kingdom of heaven' as a way of avoiding the use of the sacred name of God.

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

**'He spoke the word to them so far as they were capable of understanding it.' How much has your understanding grown so far in your journey?

**Are you ready for the harvest?

**What more needs to be explained to you?

**Be attentive this week to how the seed of God's word and love is growing within you. Foster this growth in as many ways as you can and try to plant the seeds of faith in the hearts of others.

**Use today's Gospel acclamation as your prayer this week:

*The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live forever*