

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.**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

28th July, 2024

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY

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**

**ADORATION FRIDAY
11.00 am to 11.45 am**



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

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Feast Days

**Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus,
Monday**

**St Ignatius of Loyola
Wednesday**

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

'WELCOME' 2024 CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

This week there are **'Pray for Me'** cards in baskets on the altar. Parishioners are asked to take a card and pray for that candidate whose name is inscribed on it.



We welcome each candidate and their family to our weekend Masses. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Thursday 15th August in St Francis Xavier Parish Church. Please gather at 5.30 pm.



SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Fr John Kelly** who has sadly passed away. Born ~ 24th December 1935 Educated in Casino and Woodlawn

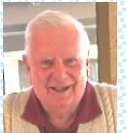
Seminary studies at Springwood and Manly

Ordained by Bishop W Brennan on 12th June 1960 in Casino

Served in Grafton, Maclean, Tweed Heads, Coffs Harbour, Kempsey, Casino and Macksville as assistant priest. Served as Parish priest in Maclean and Grafton before becoming the first Parish Priest of Sawtell, retiring in 1993.

Served on various diocesan committees including the Vocations Committee, Family Life Committee, Ministry to Priests, Council of Priests, College of Consultors.

Requiem Mass will be held on Monday 5th August at 11.00 am in St Francis Xavier Church, Ballina



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH WOMEN'S REFLECTION DAY

Finding Peace ~ Franciscan Spirituality with Caroline Thompson

Sunday 18th August, 2024 10 am to 3.00 pm

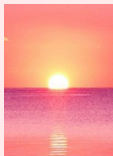
in St Francis Xavier Primary School Hall

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

To register please contact the Parish Office

6681 1048 by Monday 12th August

Go to: <https://bit.ly/SFXWRD24> or scan the QR code



QUICK JOURNEY through the BIBLE

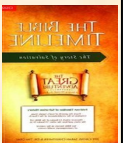
an introduction to salvation history through the Bible Timeline.

Presented by Jeff Cavins through 8 videos

Wednesdays 31 July to 18 September from 8.45 - 10.15 am

at Anawim House, Parish Admin Centre

Register 6681 1048. Questions to Richard 0418 356 527



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

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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 3rd/4th August, 2024
Readings: Exodus 16:2-4,12-15; Psalm 77; Ephesians 4:17,20-24; John 6:24-35

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Peter Fear Trish Bazar</i>	<i>Nicole Sullivan Julie McKinnon</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan Maxine Cole</i>
EMOHC	<i>Katrina Miles</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony</i>	<i>Adam Sullivan Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Jo Hurley & Joan Hollingsworth</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr John Kelly, Honor Brown (Carmel O'Brien's sister) Nola Cummings, Patrick Crawley, Bill McDermott,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Jeremy Warwarek, John O'Lachlan, Gerry Mergan

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: Phyllis Cullinane, Ethelene Yuke, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Feve (*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, 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

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024

30th July	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
30th July Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
31st July 14th August	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
31st July	Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am	Quick Journey through the Bible
3rd August	Saturday 8.00 am Lennox Head	Our Lady of Fatima
4th August	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa' Church Grounds
5th Aug	NO TAIZE	SFX Church
15th August	Thursday 5.30 pm	Parish Confirmation
18th August	Sunday 10.00 am	Women's Reflection Day
31st Aug	Saturday 12.00 noon	Parish Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club

*Just a thought! **Kindness** can make a bad day good, and a good day better. **Kindness** is like a seed that when cultivated can grow and grow and grow. **Kindness** is the ability to know what the right thing to do is and having the courage to do it!!*

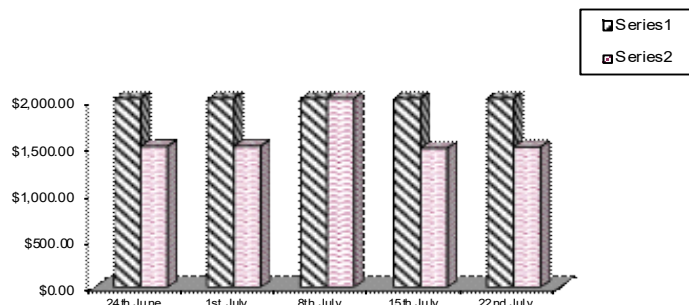
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere

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 -

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 751.75
Second Collection	Loose Plate	\$ 297.40
<i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,485.75
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



THE VICTORIOUS CROSS

St Jerome said: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." On the back cover of my Bible, this famous line is printed beneath an image of the fourth-century hermit-saint in his study. Scriptures in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin are open on desks behind him. He seems to be taking a break from his translation project to pull the thorn out of the lion's paw.

One thing Jerome meant is that understanding the New Testament requires deep familiarity with the Old Testament, the original Scriptures. The New is *contextualized* by the Old. The Evangelists wrote in such a way as to *embed* the story of Jesus in the biblical horizon. We could therefore elaborate on Jerome's words and say: Ignorance of the Old Testament makes the New Testament opaque.

The story of Christ's feeding of the five thousand is an example of Jerome's principle. Having John 6 set beside the story of Elisha's miraculous feeding from 2 Kings 4 is useful. We can see that the gospel author emphasises parallels between Jesus and Elisha. Barley loaves are used in both miracles; incredulous disciples in both stories are commanded to feed the people; and there are plenty of leftovers in each.

The first part of Elisha's wider story chronicles seven key miracles; and John organises the first part of his story of Jesus with seven miraculous "signs." Elisha and Jesus both cure the blind, heal lepers, and raise the dead. Both are betrayed by the love of money. Even their names are similar in Hebrew: Elisha means "God is salvation," and Jesus means "Yahweh is salvation." When you see the similarities, the differences between the stories become more important: Elisha feeds one hundred with food enough for twenty; Jesus feeds five thousand with a lot less. Elisha feeds with bread; Jesus feeds with bread and fish; Elisha's story says "there was some left over;" Jesus' story says there were "twelve basketfuls" in excess, an incredible amount of abundance from out of such a small beginning. And the people fed by Jesus realise how much more he is than a miracle working prophet: he is "the Prophet," they exclaim, the savior-king whom Moses told them to wait for. They even try to make him king by force.

Elisha's prophetic role was to hold unfaithful kings of Israel accountable to God for their abject failure in administering justice and steering God's people away from idolatry. Elisha apparently failed: the story shows Israel falling into greater and greater apostasy that culminates in national disaster. Yet the suffering of Israel becomes the seedbed of their salvation.

The gospel story intensifies the role of the miracle-working prophet, Jesus, to the point of something truly new: the prophet is himself the expected king, and yet his kingship is unexpected. John portrays Jesus' elevation on the cross as his enthronement! An apparent failure that is actually victory. Jesus embodies the story of Israel and transforms it.

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ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH LUNCH

Saturday 31st August, 2024

Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina

Tickets available at Parish Office \$25 each from [1st August](#).

**PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of
St Francis Xavier Church, next Sunday
4th August, following the 9.00 am Mass.
Everyone is very welcome.**



PLANNED GIVING TAX RECEIPTS 2023/24

Tax receipts are now available for collection from the parish office administration office ~ Opening hours 8.30 am to 4.30

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

TODAY SUNDAY, 28TH JULY 2024 "Do not cast me off in my old age"



Pope Francis celebrated the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in 2021 and decreed that it be observed each year on the Sunday closest to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus' grandparents.

As the Catholic Church prepares for the Holy Year 2025, Pope Francis has asked Catholics to focus on

prayer, which is why he chose the prayer of an elderly person from the Psalms for the theme, the **Vatican** said in a statement released Feb. 15th.

"By cherishing the charisms of grandparents and the elderly, and the contribution they make to the life of the Church, the World Day seeks to support the efforts of every ecclesial community to forge bonds between the generations and to combat loneliness," the statement said.

Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, said the theme is a reminder "that, unfortunately, loneliness is a widespread reality, which afflicts many elderly people, often victims of the throwaway culture and considered a burden to society."

Families and parishes, he said, "are called to be at the forefront in promoting a culture of encounter, to create spaces for sharing, listening, to offer support and affection: thus, the love of Gospel becomes concrete." "Our communities, with their tenderness and affectionate attention that does not forget its most fragile members, are called to manifest the love of God, who never abandons anyone," the cardinal said. *This article was written by Catholic News Service*

CCD Coordinator - Diocese of Lismore

Reporting to the Bishop of the Diocese of Lismore, the Coordinator of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD)/SRE Coordinator is responsible for ensuring the compliance of the Diocese of Lismore as an Authorised Provider in relation to Catechists teaching in NSW Public Schools.

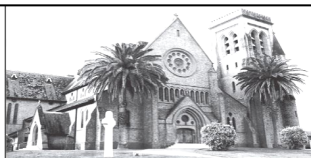
The Director implements Child Protection training, classroom management, curriculum and training courses, manages authorisation and verification of Working with Children Checks.

You will have the option of working anywhere in the Diocese. If you would like more information or would like to submit your resume, email jobs@lismore.catholic.org.au. Applications close Sunday 4 August 2024.

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: 2 Kings 4:42-44;*A reading from the book of Kings*

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.)** The hand of the Lord feeds us;
he answers all our needs.

1. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **(R.)**

2. The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

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

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.

Alleluia!**Gospel: John 6:1-15***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John*

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

The Gospel of the Lord**FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 30th JULY, AND FRIDAY 2nd AUGUST,****Entrance Antiphon:** God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.**Communion Antiphon:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.**WEDNESDAY 31st JULY ~ FEAST OF ST IGNATIUS****Entrance Antiphon:** At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**Communion Antiphon:** Thus says the Lord: I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were kindled!**THURSDAY 1st AUGUST****Entrance Antiphon:** I will look after my sheep, says the Lord, and I will appoint a shepherd to pasture them, and I, the Lord, will be their God.**Communion Antiphon:** It was not you who chose me, says the Lord, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.**DID YOU KNOW?** The Sea of Galilee is also known as the Sea of Tiberias and as Lake Gennesaret, both of which were sizeable towns on the Lake's western shore.

The Philip of this episode is mentioned in all four apostolic lists (Mt 10:3, Mk 3:18, Lk 6:14, Acts 1:13). He came from Bethsaida on the northern shores of the lake and is referred to most often in John's Gospel.

Two hundred denarii is a large sum of money. A denarius was a Roman silver coin and one denarius represented a worker's daily wage.

'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' One of the great symbols of the coming of the Messiah often used in the Hebrew Scriptures was the abundant feast. Here Jesus provides abundantly, thus he is presented as 'the prophet who is to come'.

The twelve hampers' full that were gathered up could well represent the twelve tribes of Israel. Jesus gathers all the people to himself.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: What 'hungers' may have driven the vast crowd to follow Jesus? Reflect together a little on what our world today is hungering for. What great needs in our world need to be met? What are you hungering for at this point in your life?

Use today's Psalm response this week

The hand of the Lord feeds us, He answers all our needs.