

# 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.**

### 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

**18th August, 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**

**ADORATION FRIDAY**  
 11.00 am to 11.45 am



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

+++++

#### Feast Days

**St Bernard, abbot, doctor**  
*Tuesday*

**St Pius X, pope**  
*Wednesday*

**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
*Thursday*

**St Bartholomew, apostle**  
*Saturday*

**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:  
**Mariana Elisa Jirsik** daughter of Ondrej and Gabriela.

**'CONGRATULATIONS'**

*to the 46 Confirmation Candidates who were confirmed by Bishop Gregory Homeming on Thursday evening.*



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH LUNCH**  
**Saturday 31st August, 2024 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm**  
**Cherry Street Bowling Club, Ballina**

**Main meal, sweets, tea/coffee in ticket price, drinks can be purchase from the bar.**

**Lucky Door Prize**

**Numbers limited to 100 with 10 tables of 10 people seated. Tickets available at Parish Office \$25 each, please purchase your ticket by 25th August.**



**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Margaret Moreland** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass was held **on Friday 16th August.**

#### 'WELCOME' TO OUR PARISH THIS WEEKEND

**Caroline Thompson who is leading our Women's Reflection Day and the Team from Catenians speaking at each of our weekend Masses.**

*Enjoy your time with us.*

#### ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

As mentioned recently in the July Connect Newsletter the Parish is looking to revitalise the Parish Pastoral Council and is now calling for nominations. Nominate yourself or another parishioner by completing the Nomination Form that is available at the doors of the Church this weekend or from the Parish Office. Nominations must be handed into the Parish Office by Friday, 30th August. Voting for nominees will take place in September. Please prayerfully consider taking on this important role in our parish.

*Thank you.*

Father Peter Padsungay, Parish Administrator

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](mailto:john@sfxballina.org.au)  
**Parish Youth Co-Ordinator:** Kailani Tiernan Email: [ktiernan@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:ktiernan@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

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:**

**[www.sfxballina.org.au](http://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

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 24th/25th August, 2024**  
**Readings: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 33; Ephesians 5:31-32; John 6:60-69**

	<b>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil</b>	<b>7.30 am Lennox Head</b>	<b>9.00 am Ballina</b>	<b>Sunday 11.00 am Ballina</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Bryan Marriott Jeanette Wilkins</i>	<i>Mark McDonald Emma McFadden</i>	<i>Annette Reen Gary Reen</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins Gemma Duffy</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Yvonne Head</i>	<i>Sue Hetherington</i>	<i>Margaret Tay Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Peter Bowen</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Cathy Andrews Diana Evans</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:** Tom Houlihan (*England*), Sr Marin (Giovanni) PBVM, Leonie Jarzynski (*Sydney*), Margaret Moreland, Ethelene Yuke, John Heaton, Fred Flick, Judy Murray, Father John Kelly,  
**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Shane Cullinane, Katrina Day, Don Hains,  
**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:** Vince Newman, Phyl Cullinane, Shirley Kirkland, Nell Anderton, Doreen McIntyre (*Ireland*), Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fevre (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (*Syd*), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Kneightly (*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, Dympna 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 good health has been restored).

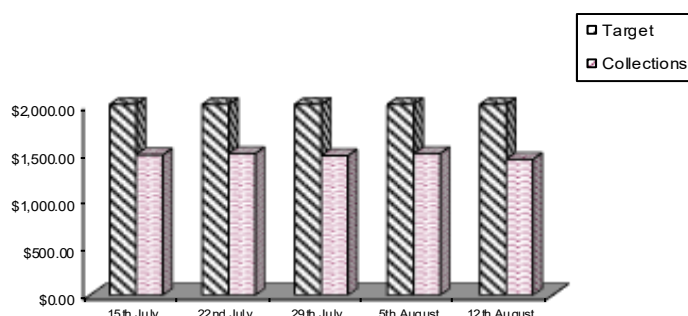
UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024		
<b>19th August &amp; 2nd Sept</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church</b>	<b>TAIZE</b> <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation &amp; music</i>
<b>20th August</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>20th August Holy Family Church</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00am</b>	<b>Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus</b>
<b>28th August &amp; 11th Sept</b>	<b>Wednesday 8.00 am</b>	<b>menALIVE Lennox Head</b>
<b>to 18th September</b>	<b>Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am</b>	<b>Quick Journey through the Bible</b>
<b>26th August</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Auxiliary Meeting</b>
<b>30th August</b>	<b>Friday 9.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Family Committee Meeting</b>
<b>31st August</b>	<b>Saturday 6.30 pm</b>	<b>Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox</b>
<b>31st August</b>	<b>Saturday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Parish Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club</b>

**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 -**

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS		
<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 705.50
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 336.50
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,424.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## WALKING FAITHFULLY WITH JESUS

In the book of Exodus, God appeared to Moses asking him to free the Israelites who were enslaved by the Egyptians. Unsure of his ability to achieve this outcome, Moses asks God what he is to say to the Israelites.

God says to Moses, "I am who I am," and that he should answer their question by saying "I am has sent me to you." When Jesus tells his followers, "I am the bread of life," his words confused his audience as they understood them literally. They also wondered if Jesus was making a claim about his identity. His followers understood the statement as an assertion that Jesus was identifying himself as God.

There are six more incidents in John's gospel where Jesus uses the words "I am," and each time an action accompanies his words. In this first saying, Jesus' claim follows the feeding of five thousand in the wilderness.

"I am the light of the world" is the second of the "I am" statements and comes after the healing of a man born blind. Jesus not only says he is the light, but he proves it, and in doing so echoes the words of Genesis where God said, "Let there be light and there was light."

"I am the door," and "I am the good shepherd" are both statements about the sheepfold, and the shepherd as the one who loves and cares for the flock even to the point of death. The title of good shepherd is unmistakably one of God's titles as we learn in the beloved twenty-third psalm.

Jesus states, "I am the resurrection and the life," after raising Lazarus from the dead. Again, his words are not empty rhetoric but substantiated by action. This gospel, written at a time when the followers of Jesus were being cast out of the synagogues, offers a definitive response to those who rejected them by asserting, "I am the way, and the truth and the life."

The final statement, "I am the true vine, and you are the branches," emphasises the sustaining power of Christ without whom we will not bear fruit in the Christian life.

There are two more "I am" statements in John's gospel, but they are not metaphors like the above seven instances but are instead declarations applied by Jesus to himself. "I tell you the truth," Jesus says, "before Abraham was born, I am." The final instance occurs in the Garden of Gethsemane when the mob comes to arrest Jesus and, when he asks them whom they seek, they say, "Jesus of Nazareth," and Jesus replies, "I am he."

All of these statements of Jesus make it abundantly clear that Jesus is God. Each day we are invited to accept the presence of Jesus in our lives and to walk faithfully in his way.

Michael A Kelly CSsR © Majellan Media 2024

**TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 19TH AUGUST 12.00 NOON  
IN ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA**

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



**CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY**  
meeting will be held on **Monday**

**26th August 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 very welcome.*



You are invited to join **Macleay Valley Catholic  
Parish** as they celebrate Sr Cabrini's 90th birth-  
day and 70th anniversary as a Sister of Mercy.  
9.30 am Mass on Sunday 8th September followed  
by morning tea. Please rsvp admin@mvcpc.org.au  
or call 6562 5182 by 23rd August.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALICE BRUCE nee  
PERRY who celebrated her 100th Birthday  
on 5th July. Alice now resides in Casino.**



**HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD**

**COMMITTEE** : The monthly meeting will be held  
in the Sacred Heart Room behind the  
Church **Friday 30th August commencing  
at 9.30 am.** Contact Sue 0400 052 505 if you would like  
to add an item to the agenda.



**Billings LIFE®**  
Leaders In Fertility Education

**BILLINGS NATURAL  
FERTILITY AWARENESS  
WEEK 2024**

Natural Fertility Awareness Week 2024 (August 19 – 25) pro-  
motes an alternative, healthy option to family planning com-  
pared with chemical and other contraceptive devices.

The theme this year is: *"Trust your body's natural signs of  
fertility: Forget about drugs and devices."*

You are invited to join the Billings LIFE free webinar on Mon-  
day 19th August 2024 at 7:30pm AEST where you can listen  
to the conversation about the basics of the Billings Ovulation  
Method® and its application, including during times of  
breastfeeding. [https://events.humanitix.com/trust-your-  
body-s-natural-signals-of-fertility-free-webinar](https://events.humanitix.com/trust-your-body-s-natural-signals-of-fertility-free-webinar)

Further info @ ph: 1800 335 860 or website: [https://  
protect.checkpoint.com/v2/r04/www.billings.life/en/](https://protect.checkpoint.com/v2/r04/www.billings.life/en/)

A book for you recommended by Bishop Greg Homeming to  
enrich your experience of participation in Mass by Deacon  
Anthony Gooley of Ballina parish, **52 Sundays: A Reflective  
Guide to the Mass. Coventry Press. 2024.** Available  
online from Coventry Press. This is a book that is meant to be  
read over 52 weeks and invites you to deepen your own experi-  
ence of the celebration of the Mass. Readers are saying what a  
positive impact the book is having on their experience of the  
Mass.

**ASPIRE Young adults (18 - 35 years old) spiritual  
formation with Bishop Greg this Monday 19th  
August 5.30 pm—6.30 pm** Join the Zoom Meeting:  
[https://lismorecatholic.zoom.us/j/2996657662?  
omn=82183637889](https://lismorecatholic.zoom.us/j/2996657662?omn=82183637889) Meeting ID: **299 665 7662**

**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.

**Taizé:** Every second Monday SFX Church from 12.00 noon.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 11.00 am Friday.

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

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

**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.**

***You are 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: Proverbs 9:1-6***A reading from the book of Proverbs*

Wisdom has built herself a house,  
 she has erected her seven pillars,  
 she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine,  
 she has laid her table.

She has despatched her maidservants  
 and proclaimed from the city's heights:  
 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.'

To the fool she says,  
 'Come and eat my bread,  
 drink the wine I have prepared!  
 Leave your folly and you will live,  
 walk in the ways of perception.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
 his praise always on my lips;  
 in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
 The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

2. Revere the Lord, you his saints.  
 They lack nothing, those who revere him.  
 Strong lions suffer want and go hungry  
 but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **(R.)**

3. Come children, and hear me  
 that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.  
 Who is he who longs for life  
 and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **(R.)**

4. Then keep your tongue from evil  
 and your lips from speaking deceit.  
 Turn aside from evil and do good;  
 seek and strive after peace. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20;***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent  
 and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but  
 your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but  
 recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves

with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit.  
 Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you  
 are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in  
 your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving  
 thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord  
 Jesus Christ.

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

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood  
 live in me and I in them, says the Lord.

**Alleluia!****Gospel: John 6:51-58***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John**Jesus said to the crowd:*

*'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
 Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
 and the bread that I shall give  
 is my flesh, for the life of the world.'*

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can  
 this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

*'I tell you most solemnly,  
 if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man  
 and drink his blood,*

*you will not have life in you.*

*Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood  
 has eternal life,  
 and I shall raise him up on the last day.*

*For my flesh is real food  
 and my blood is real drink.*

*He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
 lives in me and I live in him.*

*As I, who am sent by the living Father,  
 myself draw life from the Father,*

*so whoever eats me will draw life from me.*

*This is the bread come down from heaven;  
 not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead,  
 but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'*

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 20th AUGUST**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Filled by the Lord with a spirit of understanding, blessed Bernard ministered streams of clear teaching to the people of God.

**Communion Antiphon:** As the Father loves me, so I also love you; remain in my love, says the Lord.

**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST**

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord chose him for himself as high priest, and, opening his treasure house, made him rich in all good things.

**Communion Antiphon:** The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for his sheep.

**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST**

**Entrance Antiphon:** At your right stands the queen in robes of gold, finely arrayed.

**Communion Antiphon:** Blessed are you who have believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord will be fulfilled.

**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**Communion Antiphon:** With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

**DID YOU KNOW?** \*After the flood (Gen. 6-8) God established a covenant with Noah. He promised never again to send a deluge on the Earth and said to Noah, 'every living and crawling thing shall provide food for you, no less than the foliage of plants. I give you everything, with this exception: you must not eat flesh with life, that is to say blood, in it' (Gen 9:3).

\*Based on Scripture, Jewish people have various laws governing what may or may not be eaten. These rigorous dietary laws are adhered to even today.

**MAKING CONNECTIONS:** Find ways this week of bringing life and nourishment to others. Provide them with what they need. Celebrate as a family.

\*Continue to use the Psalm response as a prayer for this week: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*



**The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office:** Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please speak to your priest or the Safeguarding Office (02) 6621 9444. There are procedures in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk.