

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.**

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

25th August, 2024

SOCIAL JUSTICE 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

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

St Monica
Tuesday

St Augustine
Wednesday

The Passion of
St John the Baptist
Thursday

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:
Aria Rose Sahgal daughter of Dr Iravan and Therese;
Juni Skye Rizzardini daughter of Bradley and Skyler



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH LUNCH

This 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.



SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Harry Briguglio**, who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass was held **on Thursday 22nd August**.



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST 2024 “TRUTH AND PEACE: A GOSPEL WORD IN A VIOLENT WORLD”

Australia's Bishops scrutinise the signs of our own troubled times, observe the violence around us, and ask why it is so. They also ask



what is needed if there is to be peace.

In a world full of pessimism, they put their faith and hope in the possibility of peace. Using scripture and the guidance of Pope St. John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* and Pope Francis' Fratelli Tutti, we learn that peace is possible if we put our trust in Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and the Prince of Peace. It is from him that we learn about the architecture of peace. From him, we learn a commitment to the culture of encounter, the value of dialogue at all levels and the importance of seeing everyone as our sister, our brother.

Copies of this year's Social Justice Statement **TRUTH AND PEACE:**

A GOSPEL WORD IN A VIOLENT WORLD are available from the back of our two Churches of visit the website:
<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>



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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 31st August/1st September, 2024
Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8; Psalm 14; James 1:17-18,21-22,27; Mark7:1-8,14-15,21-23

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Trish Bazar Mick Vella</i>	<i>Michael Piccoli Marie Sullivan</i>	<i>Wendy Hughes Richard Goss</i>	<i>Warwick Manning Maurice Gahan</i>
EMOHC	<i>Matt Ritchie</i>	<i>Maddy Pride</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Julie McKinnon Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maxine Cole</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Greg, Katie & Family</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Blake Brydon (*Sunshine Coast*), Harry Brugiglio, Tom Houlihan (*England*), Sr Maria (*Marin*) PBVM, Leonie Jarzynski (*Sydney*), Margaret Moreland, Ethelene Yuke, John Heaton, Fred Flick, Judy Murray,

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Todd Sheahan,

AND ALSO FOR: *Marj & Pat Hobbins, Fabian Okeke, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, 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: Daphne Sweeney (*mother of Sr Kathryn*), 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'Fève (*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,*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024

27th August	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
27th August Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
28th August & 11th Sept	Wednesday 8.00 am	menALIVE Lennox Head
to 18th September	Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am	Quick Journey through the Bible
26th August	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Meeting
30th August	Friday 9.30 am	Holy Family Committee Meeting
31st August	Saturday 6.30 pm	Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox
31st August	Saturday 12.00 noon	Parish Lunch Cherry Street Bowling Club
1st Sept	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish 'Cuppa' Church grounds
7th Sept	Saturday 8.00 am Lennox Head	Our Lady of Fatima

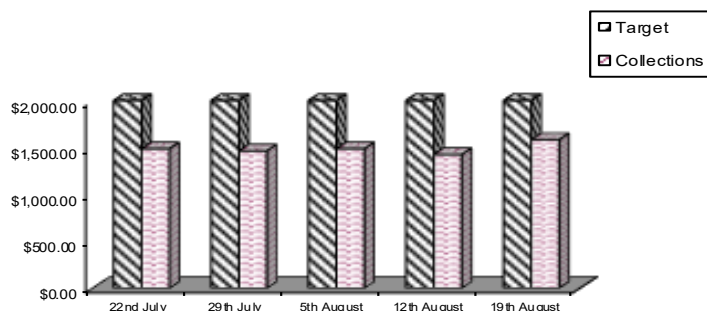
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter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

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 854.00
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 373.50
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,582.55
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



STAYING IN THE GAME WITH GOD

It must have been tough being a disciple of Jesus, an eloquent public speaker, who could sway large crowds with his rhetoric. He healed the sick, cast out demons, stilled a storm at sea, walked on water and raised the dead. Jesus appeared to bear all the hallmarks of the expected Messiah.

And yet, there were times when Jesus said and did things that made him look like he was demented or demon-possessed. At one point in Mark's gospel, as we heard back on the Tenth Sunday of the Year, Jesus' family sought to "restrain him" because people were saying "He has gone out of his mind" (Mk 3:21).

The gospel presents us with another of these episodes where Jesus' claims proved a threat to the cohesion of his team of disciples. Last week, we heard how Jesus said he was "the bread of eternal life" whose "flesh is real food and [whose] blood is real drink" (Jn 6:55), and "anyone who eats [his] flesh and drink [his] blood has eternal life" (Jn 6:54).

This week, we learn that numerous members of Jesus' team found this teaching "intolerable" (Jn 6:60). But, instead of offering an explanation, Jesus chose to *up the ante* by making an even more outrageous claim about his pre-existence as a being come down from heaven.

The reaction of his teammates was perfectly understandable. Such claims were "intolerable" on purely rationalistic grounds. Jesus refused to compromise, saying, in effect, "take it or leave it". John tells us that "many" decided to "leave it". They turned aside from their commitment to Jesus; or, as we would say, "they took their ball and went home" (Jn 6:66).

By contrast, when challenged, the Twelve through their spokesperson, Peter, admitted that despite their confusion they were prepared to stick with Jesus, because Jesus alone "had the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68).

In Peter and the Twelve, we find our models of discipleship – women and men who, despite doubts and dark moments of uncertainty, choose to stay in the game. Faith is not built entirely on reason – although it is far from completely irrational. It is built on a relationship with a personal God whom we have experienced as one who stays in the game with us. And so, like Peter we stay and say back to God, "To whom [else] can we go?" (Jn 6:68)

Every time I read this gospel story, I am reminded of these words from the prayer of Thomas Merton:

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end...

But I know you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

Ian J Elmer

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

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 this 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



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.

'A little gem by sea'


FATHERS' DAY COLLECTION will be held **next weekend 31st August/1st September** to assist the Bishop in caring for our sick and retired priests of the Diocese. Envelopes will be available in both churches.

MONTHLY DINNER @ CLUB LENNOX : Parishioners are welcome to the next of our monthly dinners to be held **Saturday 31st August at 6.30 pm.** This is an opportunity to enjoy each other's company and delicious food.



'A little gem by sea'

Young and old and everyone in between are most welcome.



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.*



PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of **St Francis Xavier Church, Sunday 1st September, following the 9.00 am Mass.** **Father's Day will be celebrated at the Parish 'Cuppa'.** *Everyone is very welcome.*



OUR LADY OF FATIMA **1st Saturday Devotions.** Rosary will be recited at Holy Family Church, Lennox Head. **Saturday 7th September at 8.00 am**

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 or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au There are procedures in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk.



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: Joshua 24:-2,15-18*A reading from the book of Joshua*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

*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. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. **(R.)**

3. They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. **(R.)**

4. Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. **(R.)**

5. Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ

is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

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

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life

Alleluia!**Gospel: John 6:60-69***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

*'It is the spirit that gives life,
the flesh has nothing to offer.*

*The words I have spoken to you are spirit
and they are life.*

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 27th AUGUST**

Entrance Antiphon: The woman who fears the Lord will herself be praised. Her children have called her most blessed, her husband has sung her praises.

Communion Antiphon: The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant who travels in search of fine pearls and who, on finding one of great price, sold everything and bought it.

WEDNESDAY 28th AUGUST

Entrance Antiphon: In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

Communion Antiphon: In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

THURSDAY 29th AUGUST

Entrance Antiphon: I spoke, O Lord, of your decrees before kings, and was not confounded; I pondered your commands and loved them greatly.

Communion Antiphon: John answered and said, He must increase; but I must decrease.

FRIDAY 30th AUGUST

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Communion Antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: During this week make Peter's act of faith your own:*Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life and we believe.**We know that you are the Holy One of God.*