

# 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.**

**22nd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time (B)**

**1st September, 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 Day**

**St Gregory the Great  
Tuesday**

**Spring Ember Day  
Friday**



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

PARISH NOTICES

# Happy Fathers' Day

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



**BAPTISM:** Our parish family **warmly welcomes** into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week:  
**Billy John and Callie Elsie Crowhurst** children of Matt and Tegan.



**SINCERE SYMPATHY:** Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Lorna Ross**, who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass was held on **Thursday 29th August**.



**PARISH 'CUPPA'** in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church, **THIS 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. **This Saturday 7th September at 8.00 am.** **Everyone welcome to attend!**



**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK**  
**1st-7th September 2024**

**'Every child in every community needs a fair go'**

This year National Child Protection Week will continue to champion the message **'Every child in every community needs a fair go'**. This message captures the essence of National Child Protection Week which aims to promote a safe and supported life for every child, now and into the future.

Many of our supporters may choose to continue to focus on this overarching message. However, many of our partners tell us that they value having a fresh annual theme to focus their local conversations each year.

So.... to build on last year's theme of 'Where we start matters', this year's theme will be: **'Every conversation matters'**.

[www.napcan.org.au](http://www.napcan.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](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


**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 7th/8th September, 2024**  
**Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7; Psalm 145; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37**

	<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> <i>Richard Goss Leanne Robbins</i>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Jeanette Wilkins John Jarzynski</i>	<i>Angela Beglin Emma McFadden</i>	<i>Gemma Duffy Margaret Tay</i>	
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Kristie Coster</i>	<i>Mark McDonald</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Denise Miller Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Amy Derrick &amp; Frank</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
 Erika Conlon (*sister of Hilda Carter*) Lorna Ross, Blake Brydon (*Sunshine Coast*), Harry Brugiglio, Tom Houlihan (*England*), Sr Maria (*Marin*) PBVM, Leonie Jarzynski (*Sydney*), Margaret Moreland, Ethelene Yuke, John Heaton,  
**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Anne Jackson, Pierre Bonello, Marie O'Brien Colin O'Brien, Raymond Peacock,  
**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 Kerslake, 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:** Helen Johnston, Beryl Reed, 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'Fevé (*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, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Maree Doolan, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024**

<b>1st September</b>	<b>Sunday 9.45 am</b>	<b>Parish 'Cuppa' Church grounds</b>
<b>2nd September &amp; 16th Sept</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church</b>	<b>TAIZE</b> <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation &amp; music</i>
<b>3rd September</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>3rd September Holy Family Church</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00am</b>	<b>Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus</b>
<b>7th September</b>	<b>Saturday 8.00 am Lennox Head</b>	<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>
<b>to 18th September</b>	<b>Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am</b>	<b>Quick Journey through the Bible</b>



**A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER**

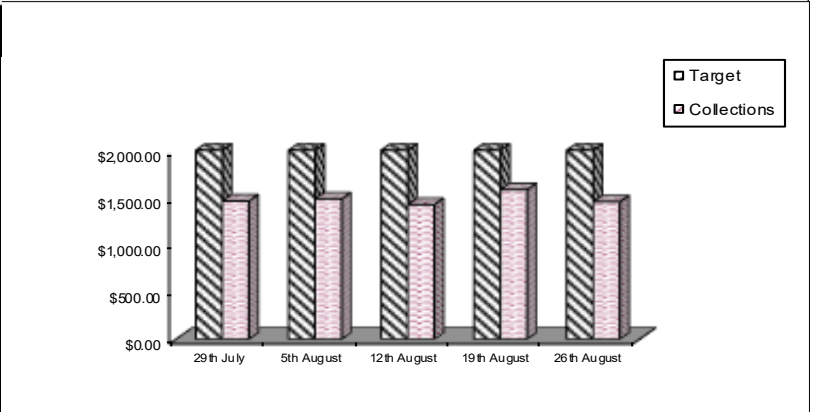
GOD OUR FATHER, BLESS ALL THE  
FATHERS IN THE WORLD.  
GUIDE THEM TO BE GOOD ROLE MODELS  
AND LOVING TO ALL THEIR CHILDREN.  
HELP THEM TO BE A FATHER LIKE YOU ARE.  
GIVE THEM GRACE AND PATIENCE TO HANDLE  
SITUATIONS IN A LOVING WAY.  
GRANT THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

**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 -**

<b>THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS</b>		
<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 757.90
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 289.90
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,454.20
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



## WHAT'S IN OUR HEARTS MATTER

Having observed that Jesus' disciples were not complying with the religious purification laws of the time which required one to wash one's hands thoroughly before eating, the Pharisees challenged Jesus once again.

Not following those laws meant that the disciples were eating with hands that were deemed to be "unclean" or "impure". The Pharisees were infuriated Jesus appeared to be unconcerned about this matter of ritual purification.

"You hypocrites," Jesus replied. "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." The hand-washing law, he implied, is a human tradition, a man-made regulation. Jesus threw the challenge back at them: ritual purity is not a matter of cleaning one's hands, he insists, but of purity of heart! He explains: "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."

By Jesus' time, the rabbis had identified 613 commands that were prescribed in the Torah (the first five books of the Bible), not just the 10 commandments given to Moses. It was the impossible burden of compliance with all 613 commands that prompted the Pharisees, on another occasion, to ask Jesus which was the greatest commandment. With simplicity and clarity, he replied: love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and love your neighbour as yourself. It is love that is commanded of us as his followers.

Jesus' challenge to the religious leaders also applies to us and to the Church in our time. Jesus firstly challenges all of us as Church to reflect very carefully on the rules and regulations we set before people. Are they God's commandments? Or are they human constructs? Are they in fact burdens that *we* have imposed on people? Might some of our rules and regulations actually impede people's progress on their faith journey? The rules may be well-intentioned, but they might also be misguided, not in fact closely aligned to God's commands.

Jesus leaves us in no doubt as to what really matters: it is what is in and comes from our hearts. It is, as the Psalmist says, a matter of justice. "One who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord." Here is the benchmark! It is justice.

Justice pertains to the way we live our daily lives, how we relate to others; it is right judgement, right intention and right action in all of our dealings.

What I want, says God to the prophet Hosea, is mercy. As Jesus stressed, it is a pure heart that is demanded of us; a heart that lives justly, shows mercy, responds compassionately and loves tenderly. The Letter of James echoes the same message: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only."

Anne Hunt

© Majellan Media 2024

**TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 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.**



### MARIAN CENACLE

The Cenacle is a world wide movement of Priests and Laity.

It is an invitation from Our Lady to prayer.

It consists of Invocation to the Holy Spirit, praying the Rosary, mediating on a message from Our Lady, an Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and importantly praying for the Pope and our beloved priests.

Cenacle **meets Monday at 10.30 am in Anawim Room.**

Parish Administration Centre.

*Please consider this call to prayer.*

**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.**

# ASPIRE

Young Adult Spiritual Formation  
(18 - 35 years old)

with

**Bishop Greg Homeming, OCD**

Monday, 9 September

and

Wednesday, 9 October

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

via Zoom

Login Account: 299 665 7662

For more information, contact:

02 6626 0253 / youth@lismore.catholic.org.au

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.dif.org.au) 1800 802 516

**dif**  
DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND

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: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8***A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, “No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation.” And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?’

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) *The just will live in the presence of the Lord.***

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R.)**
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27***A reading from the letter of St James*

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

***Alleluia!*****Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?’ He answered, ‘*It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:*

*This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.**The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.**You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.’*

He called the people to him again and said, ‘*Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.*’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**FOR THIS WEEK’S DAILY MASSES  
TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Blessed Gregory, raised upon the throne of Peter, sought always the beauty of the Lord and lived in celebration of that love.

**Communion Antiphon:** This is the steward, faithful and prudent, whom the Lord set over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time.

**WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER ~ THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER ~ FRIDAY 6th SEPTEMBER**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**Communion Antiphon:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Ritual purity had immense importance for the Jewish people. The laws governing washing probably originated in practices to ensure health and hygiene, but physical signs of impurity came to be seen as symbolic of a moral or spiritual imperfection.
- Judaism at the time of Jesus was made up of a number of different groups of adherents like Sadducees, Pharisees and Essenes. These groups sometimes held different beliefs; for example, the Pharisees believed in the resurrection of the dead while the Sadducees did not. This did not cause undue problems however, because what held all Jews together was a belief in one God, in the Law, in their election as God’s chosen people and a common worship centred on the Temple in Jerusalem. Their unity was a stronger force than their diversity
- The washing of hands by the priest at Mass is a symbolic gesture of a desire for a pure heart.

**MAKING CONNECTIONS:** Think about what helps you grow in faith and commitment and keeps you focussed on following Jesus. Practise this daily this week. Today’s Entrance Antiphon prayer:

***Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.***