

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.**

**24th Sunday in
Ordinary Time (B)**

15th 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

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Feast Days

Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Monday

**Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gön,
Paul Chông Ha-sang &
companions**
Friday

St Matthew, 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: **Kiara Jade Rudolph** daughter of Kevin and Jade.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTION THIS WEEKEND

During the Masses this weekend we will conduct our election for **three** members of the council. It is **'first past the post'** voting. We can vote for three out of the seven candidates. Please place a **tick** ✓ or a **cross** X next to the three names you choose. Voting for less than three will be counted. Voting for more than three will be an invalid vote. There will be collection boxes at the doors of our two churches to place your completed ballot paper.

Thank you very much to those seven generous parishioners who have offered themselves for the election.

The **Returning Officer** for the election is **Dan Gubby**, principal of St Francis Xavier School.

If you are unable to attend the weekend Masses, you can still cast your vote by **2.00 pm Wednesday 18th September** at the Parish Administration Office. Dan will supervise the counting of ballots and then he will announce the results.



SINCERE SYMPATHY: Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Peter O'Brien** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass will be held **on Friday 27th September at 11.00 am.**



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY : meeting will be held on **Monday 23rd September 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.*



HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD COMMITTEE

The monthly meeting will be held in the Sacred Heart Room behind the Church **Friday 27th September commencing at 9.30 am.**

'A little gem by sea'

Contact Sue 0400 052 505 if you would like to add an item to the agenda.

**TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 16TH 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.**

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 21st/22nd September, 2024
Readings: Wisdom 2:12,17-20; Psalm 53; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

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|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| | 5.30 pm Saturday Vigil | 7.30 am Lennox Head | 9.00 am Ballina | Sunday 11.00 am Ballina |
| Readers | <i>Bryan Marriott Matt Ritchie</i> | <i>Damien Kennedy Jean Mackay</i> | <i>Gary Reen Annette Reen</i> | <i>Warwick Manning Maxine Cole</i> |
| EMOHC | <i>Jeanette Wilkins</i> | <i>Murray Deeps</i> | <i>Deacon Anthony Gemma Duffy Cathy Campbell</i> | <i>John Jarzynski</i> |
| Offertory Procession | | | <i>Pam Hanson Gerry Taylor</i> | |

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Peter O'Brien, Erika Conlon, Lorna Ross, Blake Brydon, Harry Brugiglio,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Gabrielle Serone, Jack Flood, Marie Flood, Bryan Donovan, John Nilon
AND ALSO FOR: *Maureen Donovan, 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 Conyngnam, 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

| UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024 | | |
|--|---|--|
| 16th Sept & 30th Sept | Monday 12.00 noon SFX Church | TAIZE <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation & music</i> |
| 17th September | Tuesday 10.00 am | 'Cherry' Coffee |
| 17th September Holy Family Church | Tuesday 10.00am | Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus |
| LAST 18th September | Wednesdays @ 8.45 to 10.15 am | Quick Journey through the Bible |
| 23rd September | Monday 3.00 pm | Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting |
| 25th Sept & 9th Oct | Wednesday 8.00 am | menALIVE Lennox Head |
| 27th September | Friday 9.30 am | Holy Family Committee Meeting |
| 28th September | Saturday 6.30 pm | Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox |
| 12th October | Saturday 11.00 am | Public Rosary Lennox Head |

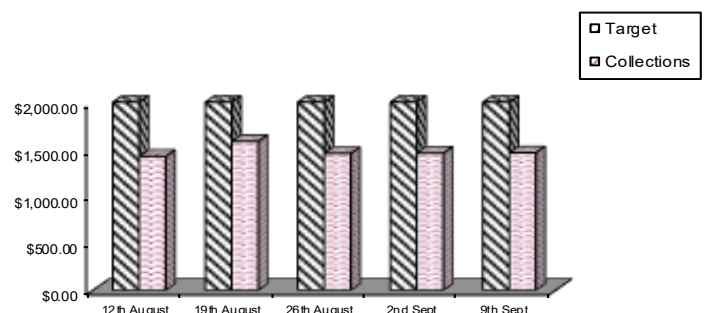
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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> | \$ 711.35 |
| Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i> | Loose Plate | \$ 303.85 |
| | Planned Giving Envelopes Collected | \$ 1,462.00 |
| Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target | | \$ 2,009.00 |



TAKING UP OUR OWN CROSS

With the reading from the Gospel of Mark (Chapter 8), we come to a turning point in Jesus' public ministry, before the journey back to Jerusalem where he will be crucified. Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do people say that I am?"²⁸ And then, "But who do *you* say that I am?" Having witnessed his authoritative teaching, his powerful acts of healing and his wonderful miracles, Peter replies on behalf of them all: "You are the Messiah."

And how they and all of Israel longed for the coming of the Messiah. But what the disciples are slow to understand is that this is not the Messiah that they had longed for and expected. It was unimaginable for them that Jesus, as Messiah and God's Beloved Son, was to suffer and die. Instead of commending Peter for his response, not even confirming it, Jesus instead proceeds to speak to them of his impending passion and death. The disciples' slowness to understand, their blindness, their struggle, and their resistance to this understanding that Jesus' mission would lead to his arrest, suffering and death is starkly depicted in Mark's gospel. We see it here in Chapter 8, again in Chapter 9 and again in Chapter 10. They just don't get it!

So, as Jesus, accompanied by his disciples, journeys to Jerusalem where he will be arrested tortured and crucified, the disciples slowly progress on a journey of coming to understand Jesus' identity and mission as the Messiah. In our lives we too, each and every one of us, struggle in various ways to understand Jesus, our Saviour, and his role in our lives and in the world. We too often have misguided expectations of God. And we too, each one of us, are called to respond to Jesus' question: Who do you say that I am? What do I mean to you in your life? Jesus, having explained to his disciples the suffering and death that he will soon endure, goes on to say to them that they too will also face suffering. He tells them: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."


So too for us. Discipleship will inevitably require self-denial and taking up one's own cross. There's no denying it! And each one's cross is uniquely their own. When we make the Sign of the Cross, "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," we identify and mark ourselves as follower of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Our cross-making in the Sign of the Cross symbolises the reality of suffering not just in Jesus' life but in our lives as his followers, not just his cross but the cross that is ours to carry in our lives. It reminds us too of the resurrection and life of the world to come. We are not alone in our journey. Jesus is with us every step of the way.

Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2024

2024 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY

Over a century ago, Our Blessed Mother appeared at Fatima, Portugal, to three shepherd children: Lucia dos Santos (10yrs) and her cousins, Francisco (9yrs) and Jacinta Marto (7yrs). During the sixth and final apparition on 13th October 1917, Mother Mary produced a spectacular miracle, popularly known as the Miracle of the Sun. This miracle was witnessed by over 70,000 people. Again the **Nation Wide Rosary Chain** will be taking place across Australia and other international countries on **Saturday 12th October**—the Saturday nearest to the 13th to commemorate this event and to remind us of our Lady's important and still relevant message for us today. The **Public Rosary** is a great opportunity for prayer groups and communities to join together in public prayer. Our nation and the world is in great need of public prayer, repentance and conversion. We will be asking God's merciful blessing upon Australia and the world through the powerful intercession of our most Holy Mother. In 2023, there were 180 registered groups who prayed the Public Rosary throughout Australia. Please come and join the Public Rosary! Saturday 12th October at 11.00 am, Beachfront Park opposite Holy Family Church, Lennox Head. Contact the Parish Admin Office 6681 1048 or Marie 0409 887 677 for further information. *Please note it on your calendar.*

 **MONTHLY DINNER @ CLUB LENNOX :**
Parishioners are welcome to the next of our monthly dinners to be held **Saturday 28th September 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.

 **PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church, Sunday 6th October, following the 9.00 am Mass.**
Everyone is very welcome.

ALPHA IS COMING – Explore Meaning, Life, and Faith Thursdays 17th October – 5th December, 5:30 – 7:30 pm St Francis Xavier Parish Administration Centre. Dinner will be provided.
Alpha is a series of sessions that freely explore the big questions of life. It's an opportunity to get connected, discover more about the Catholic faith, and share your thoughts in a friendly environment.

HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD COMMITTEE
I am pleased to say I have been elected as President, Treasurer and Secretary. The present Committee is: Cheryl and Peter Bowen, Sue Hetherington, Genevieve Starr, Marie and Kevin Sullivan. Those leaving the Committee are: Hildergarde and Wally Carter, Maureen Harper and Bill McMahon. The Committee has been enthusiastic and energetic over the past twelve months and we thank the Committee members who are leaving the Committee for sharing their time, personalities, skills and talents for the benefit of all parishioners of Holy Family Church. *Sue Hetherington,*

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office: Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please contact the Safeguarding Office 6621 9444. There are procedures in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk. email:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au





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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: Isaiah 50:5-9
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
My vindicator is here at hand.
Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

1. I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him. **(R.)**
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord my God, deliver me! **(R.)**
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. **(R.)**
4. He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living. **(R.)**

Second Reading: James 2:14-18
A reading from the letter of St James

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 17th ~ WEDNESDAY 18th ~ THURSDAY 19th SEPTEMBER

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

FRIDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

Entrance Antiphon: The blood of the holy Martyrs was poured out for Christ upon the earth; therefore they have gained everlasting rewards.

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father, says the Lord.

DID YOU KNOW?

**Caesarea Philippi is a Gentile northern frontier town in upper Galilee, on the slopes of Mount Hermon. It is one of the sources of the River Jordan. The site was known in antiquity as a shrine to the Greek and Roman nature gods. When Herod the Great's son Philip became tetrarch of the region, he rebuilt the city and named it after himself and the Emperor.

**By this point in Jesus' public ministry, John the Baptist had been killed by Herod Antipas (who ruled the region of Galilee. He was the son of Herod the Great and brother of Philip) because John criticised Herod's actions in marrying his brother's wife.

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

** What cross are you being called to take up at this point? What do you need to leave behind?

** Use the cross as a focus for your prayer and reflection this week. Ponder deeply on the question, 'Why did Jesus die?' Contemplate how this cross can be the source of eternal life for you.

Use this verse of today's Psalm as your prayer this week:

*How gracious is the Lord, and just; Our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me.*