

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.**

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

22nd 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 & WEDNESDAY
12.00 noon**

For this week only

**Liturgy of the Word
& Holy Communion
Thursday 12.00 noon**

**Requiem Mass
Friday 11.00 am**

RECONCILIATION

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

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Feast Days

**St Pius of Pietrelcina
Monday**

**St Vincent de Paul
Friday**

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

**12.00 NOON THURSDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH H/C
NO FRIDAY ADORATION OR MIDDAY MASS THIS FRIDAY
27th SEPTEMBER due to a Requiem Mass at 11.00 am**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

The following is the declaration of the results of the election for the Parish Pastoral Council:
Mick Vella Murray Parr Marie Sullivan
Returning Officer — *Dan Gubby*
Congratulations and thank you to all who put themselves forward.



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 **THIS Friday 27th September at 11.00 am.**



SISTERS OF MERCY FEAST DAY: Srs Larelle & Grace Laverty
We hope you both have a Happy Feast Day **Tuesday 24th September.**
Love and prayers from the parish.



'CONGRATULATIONS' SR ANNE SHAY PBVM
who celebrated her Diamond Jubilee of her profession as a Presentation Sister on Friday 20th September.
'Thank you' for all you do for our Parish.
Love and best wishes from your parish family.



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY : meeting will be held **THIS 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.



'A little gem by sea'

HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD COMMITTEE

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

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

**FEAST OF ST THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS
TUESDAY 1ST OCTOBER ~ MASS 10.00 am
THE CARMELITE MONASTERY GOONELLABAH
No 7.00 am Mass on this day.**

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B: 28th/29th September, 2024
Readings: Numbers 11:25-29; Psalm 18; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Peter Fear Pauline Fingleton</i>	<i>Michael Piccoli Marie Sullivan</i>	<i>Julie McKinnon Wendy Hughes</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan Richard Goss</i>
EMOHC	<i>John Jarzynski</i>	<i>Sue Hetherington</i>	<i>Margaret Tay Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Cathy Andrews Diana Evans</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Joseph Vella (*Sydney, father of Mick Vella*), Sylvia Mogielnicki (*Sydney*), Peter O'Brien, Erika Conlon, Lorna Ross,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Patricia Brimson, Judy Hoolihan, Elva Kidd, Patricia Holwell
AND ALSO FOR: *Family & friends of G Barrett, Jack & Marie Flood, 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: Lorraine Ball, 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 LeFevre (*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, Auntie Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Maree Doolan, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024		
23rd September	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary Meeting
24th September	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
24th September Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
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
5th October	Saturday 8.00 am Lennox Head Church	Our Lady of Fatima
12th October	Saturday 11.00 am	Public Rosary Lennox Head
17th Oct to 5th Dec	Thursday 5.30 to 7.30 pm	ALPHA Parish Admin Centre Dinner provided

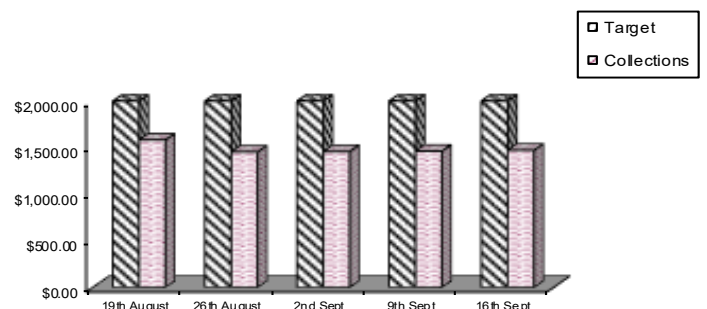
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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>	\$ 680.65
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 286.40
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,472.25
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



BEING GREAT IN GOD'S EYES

This week's reading from the Book of Wisdom illustrates the kind of thinking that was common in the ancient world: If God is with someone then, assured of God's protection, they will prosper. If, on the other hand, they are suffering and not prospering, then it must be that God is not on their side.

How, then, would the ancient world have understood the teaching of Jesus in the gospel? "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death." If his enemies were to kill him, let alone if he was to be publicly humiliated and suffer, surely he could not be the messiah for whom the people waited.

This is the second time in the Gospel of Mark that Jesus has prophesied his death. At this point, the disciples don't understand and are too confused and afraid to ask Jesus what he really means.

When instead the disciples talk about who among them is the greatest, they still dream of becoming earthly lords and princes of status, power and authority. But before we judge the disciples too harshly, we must remember that this story from Mark's gospel has been recorded to mirror our own sins and temptations. We too have ambitions and desires that impede our ability to respond to what Jesus wants from us.

Jesus is charting a very unusual and very new path to what it means to be great in the eyes of God, one that cuts against the culture of his day. In his eyes, serving God means loving and serving the lowliest and those most in need.

When Jesus instructs his disciples to welcome children, he is taking the side of the most neglected, least powerful, and least respected members of society.

For Jesus, greatness is not in career achievement, status, power, attention or appreciation in the world. Instead, Jesus calls us to set aside our desires and ambitions to get ahead. As Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels, it is those who are willing to lose their lives who will find life. It is those who put their own egos last and lowest who will be first and greatest in the eyes of God.

St James reflects on this mystery in the second reading. He describes the disciples' self-interest and ambition as told in today's gospel as destined to result in "disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done".

But look at the benefits that come from discarding this self-centred way of living and thinking. James describes the wisdom that Jesus brings as bringing "peace". It makes us "kindly and considerate", "full of compassion", and "shows itself by doing good". There in that way of living is true freedom and true greatness.

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

2024 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY: WHY IS THE PUBLIC ROSARY IMPORTANT? The Public Rosary rallies are an international campaign to pray the Rosary together. Our rallies are organized by Australia Needs Fatima, a campaign of the Australian TPF Inc. with the following in mind:

- to give a Public Witness to our faith.
 - to make Public Reparation — many blasphemies are taking place in public and so we must also make reparation in public.
 - to pray that Mary's urgent message at Fatima will spread and be heeded throughout Australia and the world.
 - to ask for God's merciful blessing to be poured out on our country, for conversion of families to turn back to God and for peace in the world.
 - Public Rosary is powerful: In his monumental work, The Secret of the Rosary, Saint Louis de Montfort states: 'Public Rosary is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down his mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering'.
- 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 **THIS 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.

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.



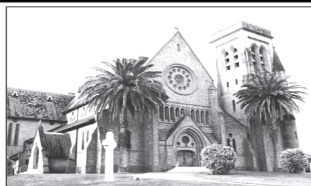
PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church, Sunday 6th October, following the 9.00 am Mass. Everyone is very welcome.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA 1st Saturday Devotions. Rosary will be recited at Holy Family Church, Lennox Head. **Saturday 5th October at 8.00 am. Everyone welcome to attend!**

THIS FRIDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 6.00 PM ~ ~ A FREE CONCERT AT ST MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH BALLINA. Lyndon Watts former student of Alstonville High with his Double Reed ensemble of Conservatorium students. *A stunning evening of fine music.*

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: Wisdom 2:12,17-20*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

The godless say to themselves,
 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us
 and opposes our way of life,
 reproaches us for our breaches of the law
 and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.
 Let us see if what he says is true,
 let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.
 If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part
 and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.
 Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
 and thus explore this gentleness of his
 and put his endurance to the proof.
 Let us condemn him to a shameful death
 since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) The Lord upholds my life.**

1. O God, save me by your name;
 by your power, uphold my cause.
 O God, hear my prayers;
 listen to the words of my mouth. **(R.)**
2. For proud men have risen against me,
 ruthless men seek my life.
 They have no regard for God. **(R.)**
3. But I have God for my help.
 The Lord upholds my life.
 I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
 and praise your name for it is good. **(R.)**

Second Reading: James 3:16–4:3*A reading from the letter of St James*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers,

when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

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

God has called us with the gospel
 to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!**Gospel: Mark 9:30-37***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea. After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 24th ~ WEDNESDAY 25th ~ THURSDAY 26th SEPTEMBER**

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Capernaum was a town on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. It was the hometown of Peter and some of the other apostles. Jesus used Capernaum as his 'home base' during his ministry in the region of Galilee. The 'house' referred to in this text may well have been the house of Simon Peter, where we know Jesus spent time (Mk 1:29).
- In sitting down to instruct the disciples about being of service to others, Jesus is reinforcing his words about being the least. At that time, a teacher had greater status than his students. The normal practice was for students to sit at the feet of the teacher, not the other way around.
- In the ancient world, children had no status at all but Jesus puts a child before them and embraces him in welcome. This is another gesture of reversal.

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

- Try to empty yourself this week of the desire to be in control. Look for ways of being of service to others. Perhaps spend time with and learn from a child. What can we learn of faith from their example?
- This week's Psalm makes a suitable prayer:
O God, save me by your name; by your power uphold my cause. O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth. The Lord upholds my life.

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.**