

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.**

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9th February, 2025

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 MASS

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 Scholastica

Monday

Our Lady of Lourdes

Tuesday

St Cyril and

St Methodius

Friday

We invite everyone without exception to our faith community.

PARISH NOTICES



BAPTISM : Our parish family *warmly welcomes* into the faith and life of the Catholic Church this week: **Josephine Lee Tudor** daughter of Mitchell and Jessica; **Elki Mae Ree** daughter of Nicholas and Lisa;

*Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John
(8 video sessions)*



- Invitation to the joy of divine friendship.
- Jesus wants you to be more than just a believer.
- He wants you to be his disciple and friend.

Monday evenings (5:30-7:00) starting February 10th

OR Friday mornings (9:30-11:00) starting February 14th

Please register at the parish office (6681 1048) or phone

Maxine (0429 669 029).



CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ~ AGM

The Annual General Meeting for Crowley Auxiliary will be held on **Monday 24th February at 3.00 pm**, in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street.

Please consider attending, as you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.

You will be most Welcome.



WELCOME BACK

TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF OUR THREE SCHOOLS

May 2025 be a year of many blessings and successful achievements for everyone.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE: Lap top operators are required for our 9.00 am Sunday Mass. **Please consider.**

Contact the Parish Administration Office 6681 1048.

Pope Francis February 2025 Prayer Intention ~ *For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.* Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C: 15th/16th February 2025
Readings: Jeremiah 17:5-8; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 20-26

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Peter Fear John Jarzynski</i>	<i>Marie Sullivan Jean Mackay</i>	<i>Richard Goss Wendy Hughes</i>	<i>Leanne Robbins Gemma Duffy</i>
EMOHC	<i>Trish Bazar Phil Chapman</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony Sue Hetherington</i>	<i>Margaret Tay Cathy Campbell.</i>	<i>Maurice Gahan</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Ron Hughes Joan Hollingsworth</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

Noela Barnier, Mary Jill Deepes,
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Jim Walsh, Richard Patterson, Eileen Cook

AND ALSO FOR: *Boleslaw Jarzynski, Phillip Dykes, 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: Maureen Borthistle (Dalby), Kevin Sullivan, Sr Moria (Bathurst), Father Bob Bossini (Fairfield), Matt Ritchie, Issac Kruger, Craig Cunneen Annemarie Higgins, Michael Hains, Kelly Savage, 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 McNair, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Fevre (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (*Syd*), Mary Howard, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tas*), Kathleen Young, Loretta Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, Noeline Conyngham, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Knightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Carmel Hackett, David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, Aunty Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Maree Doolan, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing Home, RSL Life Care,*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2025

10th February 14th Feb	Monday 5.30 pm MTR Parish Admin Friday 9.30 am	Bible Study Gospel of John
11th February	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
17th February	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé 45 min of simple praise, meditation & music
17th February	Tuesday 10.00 am	Devotion to the Holy Face, Lennox Head
19th February	Wednesday 8.00 am	menAlive Lennox Head
25th February	Monday 3.00 pm	Crowley Care Auxiliary AGM
5th March	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
7th March	Friday Lennox Head	World Day of Prayer

'THANK YOU' TO FATHER JIM GRIFFIN AND FATHER PETER KARAM for assisting Father Anselm with weekend Masses during January. We **'welcome'** Deacon Anthony Gooley back to our Parish. Deacon Anthony has been assisting in the Byron Bay Parish for several months.

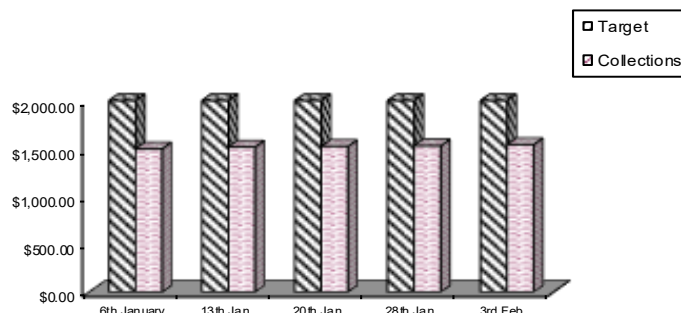
THANK YOU to all Parishioners for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father Peter 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 - Crowley Admin Office Cherry St Ballina 1300 139 099 or online www.dif.org.au

THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First Collection	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 814.75
Second Collection	Loose Plate	\$ 404.25
<i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,540.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



THE JOURNEY OF DISCIPLESHIP

In this week's gospel, we witness the all-too-familiar story of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee calling Simon Peter and other fisher-folk to join him in his mission. Unlike similar call stories in Mark (1:16-20) and Mathew (4:18-22), the journey to discipleship in Luke is not a single moment of decisive conversion but rather a gradual process, marked by repeated encounters, personal challenges, and an evolving understanding of Jesus' identity.

By the time we encounter Simon Peter in this passage, he has already had several meetings with Jesus. Earlier, Jesus performed miracles in Peter's hometown of Capernaum (Lk 4:31-37), healing many who came to Peter's house (4:40-41), including Peter's mother-in-law (Lk 4:38-39).

Peter and his colleagues may have been curious about this miracle worker from Nazareth. However, curiosity alone was not enough to prompt them to abandon their lives and livelihoods. In this later encounter by the lake, Peter and his companions still engaged in their work, weary from an unfruitful night of fishing, are still rooted in the security of their familiar lives. Jesus enters Peter's boat and asks him to "put out into the deep" (Lk 5:4) which, in Luke is probably meant to be read as both a physical and a spiritual quest. The depth of the lake symbolises a deeper dive into trust and faith, a willingness to venture beyond comfort.

The miraculous catch that follows is not only a sign of Jesus' power but also a revelation for Peter, who, "seized with astonishment" (Lk 5:9), falls to his knees and acknowledges his own unworthiness. This response signifies a transformative moment, one in which Peter's initial curiosity is challenged by the overwhelming presence of the sacred in Jesus.

This passage reminds us that discipleship often requires repeated encounters with the sacred presence in our lives. Each encounter deepens the call, drawing us from curiosity to faith and, eventually, to a committed life of discipleship. It is easy to think that a single moment of conviction or inspiration will suffice to sustain a life of faith. However, Peter's journey suggests that a faithful response to Jesus is nurtured over time, with each encounter inviting us to trust more deeply and let go of our reservations. The call to "leave everything and follow" (Lk 5:11) becomes possible only when Peter has experienced both Jesus' authority and his compassion in a personal and transformative way.

In our own lives, we may find that discipleship also unfolds through a series of invitations to trust, each one a step deeper into relationship with Jesus. We might be drawn to the message of Jesus through curiosity, but it is through ongoing encounters—moments of insight, challenge, or comfort—that we grow into a life of committed discipleship.

Like Peter and his fellow fisherfolk, we come to realise that following Jesus is not merely a call to faith but a call to transformation. We are invited to leave behind the life we know, trusting in the new purpose Jesus reveals, one encounter at a time.

Ian J Elmer © Majellan Media 2025



Assistant Accountant

The Diocese of Lismore is seeking applications for Assistant Accountant role in The Chancery team in Lismore. This role is perfect for those working towards an accounting degree or are a recent accounting graduate.

- ✔ Support with degree or CPA/CA;
 - ✔ Exceptional workplace culture and support;
 - ✔ Enjoy a community-focused environment;
 - ✔ Experience a diverse finance portfolio;
 - ✔ Competitive salary of \$60,000 to \$75,000 plus super.
- Use the QR code or visit the link below to find out more and apply.

seek.com.au/job/81376185



BISHOP GREG'S LENTEN TALK SERIES CONTINUES... THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Mondays and will begin at 6.00 pm at St Mary's Chapel, Cathedral Grounds:

Monday 10th March

Monday 17th March

Monday 24th March

It will be available to view on the YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

All are most welcome!



Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

We urgently need your support.

The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long. Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency
for international aid
and development

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.



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our parish community.

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 CDFP 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 6:1-8;*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings.

And they cried out to one another in this way,

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,
for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

With this he touched my mouth and said:

'See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'
I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord!

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways;
'How great is the glory of the Lord!' **(R.)**
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

In the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it. But what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke*

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASSES

TUESDAY 11th ~ WEDNESDAY 12th ~ THURSDAY 13th FEBRUARY

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY ~ FEAST OF STS CYRIL AND METHODIUS

Entrance Antiphon: These are holy men who became friends of God, glorious heralds of divine truth.

Communion Antiphon: The disciples went forth and preached the Gospel, while the Lord worked with them, confirming the word through accompanying signs.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The lake of Gennesaret is simply another name for the Sea of Galilee. It is also sometimes known as the Sea of Tiberias.
- This episode probably took place on the north-west corner of the lake near the village of Capernaum, where Simon Peter lived.
- The huge haul of fish is symbolic of the overabundance of good that is promised to those who believe in and follow Jesus. It is also a symbol of the abundance of the messianic banquet that Jesus brings.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Spend time each day reflecting on being 'caught up' in the net of Christ and what that means for you.
Repeat these words of the prophet Isaiah from the first reading:

'Whom shall I send? Who will be my messenger?' 'Here I am, Lord. Send me!'