

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 of Easter
(B)**

28th April 2024

Alleluia

**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 MASSES

At St Francis Xavier Church

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

12.00 noon

RECONCILIATION

9.00 am Saturday ~ Ballina

St Francis Xavier Church

Feast Days

**St Catherine of Siena
Monday**

**St Athanasius
Thursday**

**Sts Philip and James, apostles
Friday**

We are a community who welcomes everyone without exception.

PARISH NOTICES

DEATH NOTICE

It is with deep sadness that we express our sincere sympathy to
Father Anselm and his family in the passing of
his father **Fabian Okeke** in Nigeria.

Our prayers, thoughts and love are with you. *Your parish family.*



PENTECOST MULTICULTURAL MASS AND CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 19TH MAY ~ 9.00 am

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

Come dressed in the traditional clothes from
your ancestral country and please bring a plate
of traditional food to share for
morning tea following Mass in the grounds of the Church.
Please share this invitation with your family members,
neighbours and friends.

Parishioners new to our parish are warmly invited to attend.
Everyone is very welcome to this annual parish event.



PARISH 'CUPPA' in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Church,
Next Sunday 5th May, following the 9.00 am Mass.

*Our Parish Youth members will be hosts for the morning.
Everyone is very welcome.*



OUR LADY OF FATIMA 1st Saturday Devotions.

Rosary will be recited at Holy Family Church,
Lennox Head this Saturday 4th May at 8.00 am

Everyone welcome to attend!



**CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY ~ ANNUAL MOTHERS' DAY
LUNCHEON ~ THURSDAY 9TH MAY ~ CROWLEY ACTIVITY
CENTRE ~ 12.30 TO 3.30 PM ~ BYO DRINKS ~ \$50 PP ~ RSVP
BY THIS THURSDAY 2ND MAY @ CROWLEY RECEPTION.
(if you have dietary needs please advise when you register).**

Tickets include delicious 3 course meal 1 x lucky door prize, live entertainment.



SILENCE IN THE CITY RETREAT for women only

Saturday 4th May 8.00 am to 12.30 pm,
Carmelite Monastery, 591 Ballina Road, Goonellabah.
\$25 pp. Hosted by Jo Hayes OSB.

Bookings essential to:

JOHAYES.COM.AU/SILENCEINTHECITYLISMORE



Low Gluten Hosts are available from the Priest at all weekend Masses.

PRESBYTERY: Phone: 6686 2042

AFTER HOURS MOBILE: 0423 445 639

PARISH ADMINISTRATION CENTRE:

PARISH LIBRARY:

SCHOOLS:

AGED CARE:

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

www.sfxballina.org.au

Library available to parishioners Mon to Fri 9 am - 4 pm;

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

Crowley Care Services: 1300 139 099 - 154 Cherry St, Ballina

ROSTER: 6th Sunday of Easter, Year B: 4th/5th May, 2024
Readings: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalm 97; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil	7.30 am Lennox Head	9.00 am Ballina	Sunday 11.00 am Ballina
Readers	<i>Pauline Fingleton Kristie Coster</i>	<i>Jean Mackay Jack McKenzie</i>	<i>Richard Goss Margaret Tay</i>	<i>Warwick Manning Leanne Robbins</i>
EMOHC	<i>Trish Bazar</i>	<i>Maddy Pride</i>	<i>Gemma Duffy Cathy Campbell</i>	<i>John Jarzynski</i>
Offertory Procession			<i>Amy Derrick & Frank</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:
 Fabian Okeke (*father of Fr Anselm*), Hugo Long (*infant*), Patrick Connelley (*Grafton*), John Joseph Hayter, Mick Maloney, Marie Smith (*Coraki*), Marie Myers, Peter Mazzer, Travis Semmens (*Tas*),
THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME: Neville Butler, Tom Pyne,

AND ALSO FOR: *Marie Flood, Denzil Seabrook, Grant McCoy, Carolina Bordin, Armando Bordin, John Patrick Moreland, Marj & Pat Hobbins, 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: Tony Culican, Semmens family (*Tas*), Janice Ball, Michael Townsend, Barry O'Shea (*Dalby*), Peter Groom (*Dalby*), David Le'Veve (*London*), Jackie Wotton, Gordan Albany (*Sydney*), Geoff Johannes, Mary Howard, Robert Ireland, Hallie Butler (*infant*), Lynette Holland (*Tasmania*), Kathleen Young, Loretta and John Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Keightly (*Inverell*), Pam Murray, Virginia Kohlbach and family, Michael Hains, Ronald Windle, Jones & Skimmings family members, Abby Barrie (*Tasmania*), Carmel Hackett, Leila Atken (*Sydney*), David Anderton, Maria Hosking, Kaley Nobbs, Dymrna Sheehy, Samantha Anderson, *Aunty* Julia Paden, Greg Campbell, Layla Small, Maree Doolan, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St*

UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024

29th April & 13th May	Monday 12.00 noon	Taizé <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation & music</i>
30th April	Tuesday 10.00 am	'Cherry' Coffee
30th April Holy Family Church	Tuesday 10.00am	Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus
4th May	Saturday 8.00 am	Our Lady of Fatima <i>Lennox Head</i>
5th May	Sunday 9.45 am	Parish Morning Tea
9th May	Thursday 12.30 to 3.30 pm	Crowley Auxiliary Mothers' Day Lunch
19th May	Pentecost Sunday 9.00 am	Multicultural Mass & Celebration
2nd June	Sunday Mass 9.00 & 11.00 am	First Holy Communion Sunday

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**

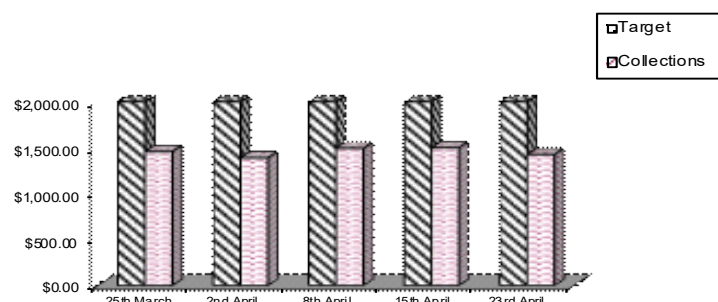
SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH ~ **1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS ARE COMBINED IN THE ONE COLLECTION:** Parishioners are able to continue their contribution to our clergy and the parish if they wish by following the following information. By completing a form available from the Parish Office to have a credit card 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>	\$ 524.10
Second Collection <i>Support of the Parish & Ministries & School Building & Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 254.65
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,425.50
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



JESUS IS THE VINE: In these weeks after Easter and before the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, our gospel readings come from Jesus' farewell discourses in the Gospel of John. These are the teachings which Jesus shared with his disciples in that precious time just before his arrest and crucifixion.

His teachings offered solace to his disciples who were soon to endure his passion and death. We now read and ponder them in the light of his resurrection and Ascension. They also offer comfort to us in our time and place, as we face life's challenges and sorrows.

Last week, the gospel recounted Jesus telling the disciples that he is the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name, who cares for them and protects them, and whose love and care are so great that he lays down his life for his sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd and his sheep describes a relationship of steadfast love and care.

This week, Jesus describes his relationship to his followers differently, this time in terms of a vine and its branches. This image highlights the intimacy, interconnection, mutuality and reciprocity of the relationship of Jesus to us, of Jesus to the Father, and of Jesus and the Father to us, individually and as a community.

Jesus explains that he is the true vine, the Father is the vine grower, and we are the branches. The image reminds us that we, just like the vine and its branches, rely on each other in order to bear fruit.

But, most important of all, Jesus urges us: "Abide in me as I abide in you." To abide means to remain, to stay, to dwell, to make a home in, to endure, and to hold fast. This notion of 'abiding' is of utmost importance in John's Gospel. (Even in today's short reading this word, abide, occurs 8 times.)

Jesus is very clear: this abiding is essential and core to our relationship with him. It is this abiding in him and he in us that will result in great fruitfulness. The fruits will be life-giving fruits, internal as well as external, for us personally and for the community. They will be peace, freedom, justice, joy, and the flourishing of creation.

What then is the call and the challenge for us? It is to nurture our relationship with Jesus. This is the discipleship to which he calls us: it is abiding in him, keeping company with him, living in daily conversation with him. We are called to a life-long process of entering ever more deeply into this relationship with him, learning to abide in his love, and learning to love one another as God has loved us. It is learning to live like that every day!

And, in the process, we will gradually come to better see the world, ourselves, other people, and whatever situations we face with our hearts and minds attuned to his.

Anne Hunt © Majellan Media 2024

TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 29TH APRIL 12.00 NOON IN ST FRANCS XAVIER CHURCH BALLINA

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

52 Sundays: A Reflective Guide to the Mass



Deacon Anthony Gooley of Ballina parish, latest book is **52 Sundays: A Reflective Guide to the Mass**. Coventry Press: Bayswater. 2024. It is [now available from Coventry Press](#), published 8th April 2024.

This is not a book for or by a liturgist, and although it is written by a theologian, is not a theological text. The book is aimed at anyone who participates in the celebration of the Mass: bishops, presbyters, deacons, and laity. The language is personal and accessible. The book's purpose is to nurture a liturgical spirituality and to deepen the sense of mystery and awe of participating in this amazing moment we call Mass. It is hoped that the book will deepen our sense of prayer as we celebrate Mass together.

It is a book that is meant to be read over 52 weeks. The book begins where the Mass begins and ends where it ends. Each week the reader is invited to reflect on one aspect of the celebration and at the end of the journey is invited to return and begin to create their own reflections on the next 52 Sundays as they participate in the Mass.

The book may be a useful resource for women and men entering into full communion with the Catholic Church and those people who are seeking baptism. It would be a useful resource for adult faith formation, for liturgy committees, choristers and musicians at Mass and any others who exercise a ministry in the Mass. The book has an imprimatur and can be used as a catechetical resource.

Above all the book is for you, if you participate in the celebration of Mass in any way.

Bishop Greg Homeming OCD is one of those who recommends this books and I would encourage you to recommend it to your parish community.

Rev. Assoc. Prof. Anthony Gooley

BOOK LAUNCH: All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend the book launch of Deacon Anthony's book, 52 Sundays: A Reflective Guide to the Mass.

The event will commence at 6.00 pm on Thursday 23rd May in the St Teresa Room, Parish Administration Building. Bishop Greg Homeming OCD, will be the guest speaker.

For catering purposes please RSVP by Wednesday 15th May to the Parish Office phone 6681 1048 or email: admin@sfxballina.org.au

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

Contact the Safeguarding Office—Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



EASTER DUES ARE BEING RECEIVED AT THIS TIME: The Easter offering is an offering to the Bishop and clergy of the diocese. In the same way as all in receipt of an income have an obligation to support the works of the Church through the Planned Giving Program, it is a responsibility of all of us to support the clergy, keeping in mind that they need to eat too. We offer this support by giving to the 1st collection on Sundays and through the Christmas and 'Easter Dues'. Those with Planned Giving envelopes will find a special envelope in the box, and others could place an offering in an envelope and write 'Easter Dues' on the outside. Thanks for your support. The offering does not go to individual priests, but is added to the overall Clergy Fund collections for the whole year for the whole diocese.



Invest with peace of mind

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: Acts 9:26-31;*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**

2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
‘These things the Lord has done.’ **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24*A reading from the first letter of St John*

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God’s presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!**Gospel: John 15:1-8***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.’

*The Gospel of the Lord***FOR THIS WEEK’S DAILY MASSES****TUESDAY 30th APRIL**

Entrance Antiphon: Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of his Christ, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, alleluia

WEDNESDAY 1st MAY

Entrance Antiphon: Let my mouth be filled with your praise, that I may sing aloud; my lips shall shout for joy, when I sing to you, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord has risen and shone his light upon us, whom he has redeemed by his Blood, alleluia.

THURSDAY 2ND MAY ~ FEAST OF ST ATHANASIUS

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, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: No one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ, alleluia

FRIDAY 3rd MAY ~ FEAST OF STS PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES

Entrance Antiphon: These are the holy men whom the Lord chose in his own perfect love; to them he gave eternal glory, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon: Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us. Whoever has seen me, Philip, has seen the Father also, alleluia.

DID YOU KNOW? * In John’s Gospel the term ‘I am’ has a special significance. When Moses encountered God on Mt Sinai, God revealed himself as ‘I am who am’. Jesus reveals himself as Son of God in the use of this term and tells something of his mission: I am the living water, I am the good shepherd, I am the way, the truth and the life, I am the light of the world, I am the bread of life.

MAKING CONNECTIONS * Offer hospitality this week, not in the sense of offering food or drink but in making someone feel ‘at home’, secure and accepted.

PRAYER: *Jesus, each day you invite me to follow you. And every morning I answer your call and begin the day with every intention of following your will. But so many times I go off in my own direction, and leave your will behind. Forgive me for the times I forget to look to you for guidance. Thank you for the opportunity to start anew again each day. Amen.*

www.cam.org.au/summit