

# 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.

## The Ascension of the Lord (B)

12th May, 2024

# Alleluia



The Church honours with special love Mary, the Mother of God, throughout the month of May.

### 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 for this week

**At St Francis Xavier Church**  
**FRIDAY**  
**12.00 noon**

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

**Feast Days**  
**Our Lady of Fatima**  
Monday  
**St Matthias, apostle**  
Tuesday

# Happy Mothers' Day

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: **Kallissa-Grace Skye Collyer** daughter of Bryan and Alana; **Leon Samuel Pearson** son of Karen.

## CLERGY RETREAT

There will be no midday Masses this week until Friday 17th May, due to our clergy attending the annual Clergy Retreat. Please keep Father Peter and Father Anselm and all our clergy in your prayers.

Friday 17th May : Adoration 11.00 am as normal  
: Mass 12.00 noon as normal

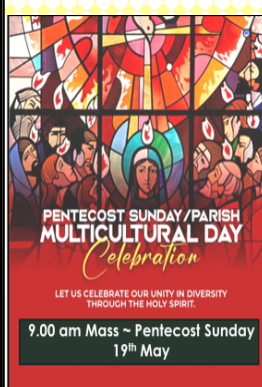
## DEATH NOTICE



Our parish community extends sincere sympathy to the family of **Tony Culican** who has sadly passed away. A Requiem Mass has been held in Holy Family Church Lennox Head, on Thursday 9th May.

## PENTECOST MULTICULTURAL MASS AND CELEBRATION

**NEXT 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 participate in this annual parish event.*

**TAIZÉ THIS MONDAY 13TH MAY 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\***

**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](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

[www.sfxballina.org.au](http://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: Pentecost Sunday, Year B: 18th/19th May, 2024**  
**Readings: Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-131; John 15:26-27,16:12-15**

	<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>
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Bryan Marriott Jeanette Wilkins</i>	<i>Marie Sullivan Angela Beglin</i>	<i>Julie McKinnon Gary Reen</i>	<i>Richard Goss Gemma Duffy</i>
<b>EMOHC</b>	<i>Peter Bowen</i>	<i>Deacon Anthony</i>	<i>Annette Reen Denise Miller</i>	.....
<b>Offertory Procession</b>			<i>Moses &amp; family also Multi Cultural Offertory gifts</i>	

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Tony Culican, Bishop Peter Ingham (*Wollongong*), Fabian Okeke (*father of Fr Anselm*), Hugo Long (*infant*), Patrick Connelley, John Joseph Hayter, Mick Maloney,

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:** Margaret & Michael Kovacs, Jozefa Jarzynski, Brian Tarlinton, Cecilia Condon, Neville Butler

**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:** Maurice Gahan, 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 and John Heaton, Graham Clark, Kathy Fraser, Elizabeth Townsend, Mary Evans, John McCoy, Noeline Conyngham, Annemarie Higgins, Louise King, Michael Lyons, Neville Johnston, John Knightly (*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, John and Conchita Schroder, Gregory Thomas, Jocelyn O'Brien, *unwell residents in Crowley Village, St Andrew's Nursing*

**UP COMING PARISH EVENTS 2024**

<b>13th May &amp; 27th May</b>	<b>Monday 12.00 noon</b>	<b>Taizé</b> <i>45 min of simple praise, meditation &amp; music</i>
<b>14th May</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00 am</b>	<b>'Cherry' Coffee</b>
<b>14th May Holy Family Church</b>	<b>Tuesday 10.00am</b>	<b>Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus</b>
<b>19th May</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday 9.00 am</b>	<b>Multicultural Mass &amp; Celebration</b>
<b>24th May</b>	<b>Friday 9.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Family Committee Meeting</b>
<b>25th May</b>	<b>Saturday 6.30 am</b>	<b>Parishioner Dinner @ Club Lennox</b>
<b>27th May</b>	<b>Monday 3.00 pm</b>	<b>Crowley Auxiliary Meeting</b>
<b>1st June</b>	<b>Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30 pm</b>	<b>First Holy Communion</b>

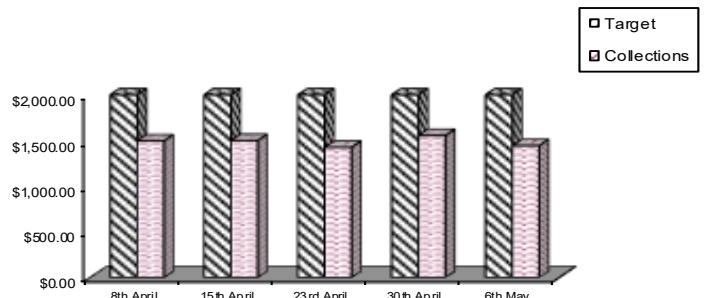
**THANK YOU to all Parishioners** for your continued efforts to maintain your pledge to the Parish Planned Giving program. **Thank you** also for your donations to the Presbyterium collection to assist the priests in our Diocese. Our sincere gratitude to all who give to the Parish and clergy. **Father 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](http://www.dif.org.au)

**THIS WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

<b>First Collection</b>	<i>Support of our Diocese Priests</i>	\$ 679.80
<b>Second Collection</b> <i>Support of the Parish &amp; Ministries &amp; School Building &amp; Maintenance Fund</i>	Loose Plate	\$ 310.80
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$ 1,444.00
Planned Giving Envelopes Weekly Target		\$ 2,009.00



### What do we do now?

Imagine how many times, through their days living with and following the Lord, that the disciples found themselves dumb-struck. His teaching fell on them like thunder. Parables, like mysterious worlds, snapped and popped about, opening new, wonderful, bottomless points of view.

And his symbolic actions! He cursed the fig tree. He forgave sins. He woke up in the boat and rebuked the storm. He marched right into the temple and, like a whirlwind, drove out the moneychangers. And, of course, there were the miracles! He touched and healed lepers, the infirm, the blind from birth. He turned water into wine. He walked on water. He even raised a man from the dead!

And all of this was like a plane on a runway, gathering speed, faster, faster, to go ... where? To the cross! The man died. The spear went into His side. They saw his blood spill. They saw His naked body hanging lifelessly from the wood. They saw him taken down and placed into the earth. They were certainly confused then: the whole movement, the whole world-changing, upside-down, inside-out revolution he started ends in total defeat?

Of course, from our place in the long line of heirs to this story, we know it's not over: on the third day He returns from death. Reading or hearing the story ourselves, we can almost taste the mixture of confusion with unutterable joy and amazement that drenches the page.

And there's more. He is with them, from that first Easter morning, for forty glorious and strange days, days beyond comprehension, where time and space were surely refigured around his presence—heaven, as they say, on earth. There's little said about this time, but, yes, it's strange: they struggle to recognise him. He appears and disappears. He passes through locked doors. He eats fish. He breaks through Thomas' doubt: 'Here, put your hand in my wounded side!' He reconciles and recommissions Peter: 'Feed my sheep!'

And you can just as palpably taste the disciples' wondered confusion now at His ascension. Before their very eyes he passes on into the heavenly realm, the cloud of glory hiding him from their sight. He suffered, died, descended to hell, and returned—and wait, he now leaves for heaven? The story has been strange all along. But three of the gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—end with this event.

'And what do we do now?' You can almost hear the disciples saying to themselves. In the gospel story that is exactly the question we, who also believe, are supposed to ask. The Lord ascended to heaven, to the place of all authority. He, that man, Jesus of Nazareth, sits on the divine throne. And it's still not over. The rest of the story includes us. It includes all creation. It's still being written!

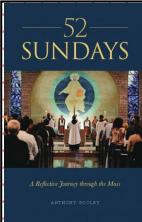
Our question today is the same as the disciples' then: 'What do we do now?' Keep reading, keep listening, to find out.

W Chris Hackett © Majellan Media 2024



### POSITION VACANT

St Anne's Long Day Care Centre in Skennars Head is seeking a qualified Early Childhood Educator to work in a permanent part-time position, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, in the Centre's Nursery Birth to 1 year old room from Monday 3rd June. The successful applicant would join a team of skilled Educators who nurture and gently care for 10 children each day. For further details or to discuss, please contact Narelle Dewhurst 6687 5961 or [ndewhurst@stannesldcc.org.au](mailto:ndewhurst@stannesldcc.org.au)



**52 SUNDAYS: A REFLECTIVE GUIDE TO THE MASS 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 next Thursday 23rd May in the St Teresa Room, Parish Administration Building. Bishop Greg Homemey OCD, will be the guest speaker. For catering purposes please RSVP by this Wednesday 15th May to the Parish Office phone 6681 1048 or email: [admin@sfxballina.org.au](mailto:admin@sfxballina.org.au) Thank you.

**HOLY FAMILY LENNOX HEAD COMMITTEE** : The monthly meeting will be held in the Sacred Heart Room behind the Church building **Friday 24th May commencing at 9.30 am**. Contact Sue 0400 052 505 if you would like to add an item to the agenda.



**MONTHLY DINNER @ CLUB LENNOX** : Parishioners are welcome to the next of our monthly dinners to be held **Saturday 25th May at 6.30 pm**. This is an opportunity to enjoy each other's company and delicious food. Children and teenagers are most welcome.

*All are very welcome.*

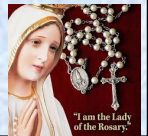


### CROWLEY CARE AUXILIARY

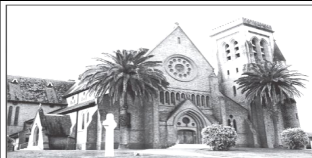
Crowley Auxiliary meeting will be held **Monday 27th May at 3.00 pm** in the Education Centre, Crowley Care, 154 Cherry Street, Ballina. Please consider attending, you will be assisting the Aged Care Centre.

*You will be most welcome.*

**MAY IS THE MONTH WE HONOUR MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD BY PRAYING THE ROSARY**  
In our Parish the rosary is recited every Saturday morning with the prayer of the Church at 9.00 am Ballina and Sunday 7.00 am Lennox Head before 7.30 am Mass.



**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](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



# Invest with peace of mind

[www.dif.org.au](http://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 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 1:1-11;***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

*The Word of the Lord.***Responsorial Psalm:****(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord**

1. All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. **(R.)**

2. God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**

3. God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23***A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

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

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you to the end of time

**Alleluia!****Gospel: Mark 16:15-20***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

*The Gospel of the Lord***A Mother's Love**

A Mother's love is something that no one can explain,

It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain,

It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may

For nothing can destroy it or take that love away.

It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns,

And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems.

It is far beyond defining, it defies all explanation,

And it still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation

A many splendored miracle man cannot understand

And another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.

**Helen Steiner Rice****FOR THIS WEEK'S DAILY MASS****FRIDAY 17th MAY**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Christ loved us and washed us clean of our sins by his Blood, and made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, alleluia.

**Communion Antiphon:** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will teach you all truth, says the Lord, alleluia.

**DID YOU KNOW?** \*These final verses of Mark's Gospel were a later addition to the original ending of the women at the empty tomb. They show that from the earliest of times, the disciples realised that, although Jesus was no longer physically present, 'the Lord was working with them'.

\*The word 'apostle' comes from the Greek for 'one who is sent out'.

**MAKING CONNECTIONS** \* Make a special effort this week to be good news for others or for Earth. Plant a tree, refuse plastic bags at the supermarket, recycle, conserve water and reduce waste.

\*Use this simple prayer often this week:

*God draw us to you and lift our spirits on high.*

[www.cam.org.au/summit](http://www.cam.org.au/summit)