

NEOTÈS

M A G A Z I N E

*SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH BALLINA
BY THE YOUTH, FOR THE YOUTH*



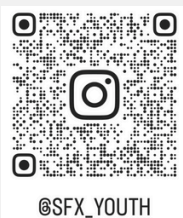


SFX YOUTH

Following the 5:30pm Mass, the St. Francis Xavier Youth Group is held at the Ballina Parish during school term for local High School students.

The Youth Group is a warm and welcoming group, who aim to provide a sense of community, culture and belonging to the St. Francis Xavier Parish through development of their social and spiritual needs.

The Parish Youth Group has an Instagram Page: “SFX_YOUTH” and throughout the year is regularly updated with photos and videos from Youth Group, events and any partnerships with the schools.



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BALLINA PARISH

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH, BALLINA



The St Francis Xavier Ballina Parish is a vibrant parish where people from all cultures will be warmly welcomed into our faith community; people will share their baptismal calling to witness the love of God in action; people will receive the Sacraments throughout their life journey in a community embraced with encouragement and love.

Brief History

- 1890 Parish of Ballina established – Ballina population 1000
- 1901 New St Francis Xavier Church opened
- 1955 Holy Family Church opened in Lennox Head
- 1962 New brick church opened at Ballina by Bishop Farrelly

Vision Statement of St Francis Xavier's Parish Ballina/Lennox Head

- **Celebrate:** We are disciples of Jesus and celebrate his presence amongst us.
- **Evangelise:** We are called to recognise Jesus, accept him in our lives and spread the GOOD NEWS of salvation.
- **Develop:** We are committed by developing the life and mission of our parish
- **Collaborate:** We are a community who welcome everyone without exception.
- **Care:** We are a people who acknowledge the worth of every individual and the environment in which we live.



“It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards one’s progress, not the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken.”
St Francis Xavier

MEET OUR YOUTH MINISTERS

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC
PARISH, BALLINA



Brendon Clarke
Xavier College
Youth Minister



John Kearney
Ballina Parish
Pastoral Associate



Kailani Tiernan
Ballina Parish Youth
Coordinator



Oliver Dwyer
Richmond Regional
Ministry Assistant

The Ballina Parish has been running a youth group since 2015 in conjunction with the parish priests and local Youth Ministers. We have a team of experienced Leaders who have worked in both Parish and School roles as Youth Ministers, participated in Diocesan run events, attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival and recently represented the Parish at World Youth Day in Portugal.

“These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture,[a] to exhorting, to teaching.” 1 Timothy 4:11-13



John Kearney (left) and Brendon Clarke (right) starting off Space Jump, encouraged by members of the youth group.



YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

BY THE SPIRIT OF FAITH

The St. Francis Xavier Youth Group is a warm and welcoming group, who aim to provide a sense of community, culture and belonging to the youth of the Ballina Parish through the development of their social and spiritual needs. Following the Saturday 5:30pm Mass, the Youth Group is held in the Ballina Parish Upper Room from 6:30-8:00pm, during school term for local High School students.

At Youth Group each week, we discuss the life of a particular saint. Learning about the lives of saints is important in inspiring us to lead lives for God.

The first Youth Group of the term saw us explore the life of Saint Teresa of Calcutta and her contributions to the Church throughout her life. We were also lucky enough to be



UPDATE CONTINUED...

joined by a special guest, Loana Wallace, the Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission in the Lismore Diocese. She spent the first part of the night with us, talking to us about the work of Catholic Mission and her experiences in Cambodia where she was able to see firsthand the many projects which have transformed peoples' lives through the vision of the missionary project partners and the generosity of their donors. The Youth Group introduced Loana to their impressive improvisational and dance skills with a few rounds of 'Space Jump', before moving into a team activity 'Hoola Hoop Snatch'. A big thank you to Loana for sharing her experiences with Catholic Mission, we learnt a lot.

Week two, we had a cards night, where 'Uno Flip' was introduced, as well as an alternative way to play the game. We discussed the life of Saint Catherine of Siena, a Doctor of the Church devoted to prayer. Catherine was a correspondent of the nobility, religious and even the Pope, during the 14th Century. We finished up the night with a few rounds of charades as we raced against each other and the clock.

In the last week of May we spent some time learning about Mary, the Mother of God. As May is the Month of Mary we spent some time learning about the different parts of the Rosary and underwent a challenging activity to determine our knowledge on the parts of the Holy Rosary. We worked together to match the Mysteries with their scriptures and corresponding pictures in order. The task was successfully completed with only a little help from the Rosary poster on the wall (that was discovered at the end of the activity). We finished up the night with soft ball fight, members teaming up to create forts to give themselves an advantage.



YOUTH GROUP GALLERY



YOUTH GROUP GALLERY

SAINTS THIS MONTH

“They experienced many of the same inner struggles, challenges, and joys that we do. They were extremely human but despite their weaknesses, they were used by God as his instruments. They differ greatly in their backgrounds but they are similar to one another in their deep love for God and their desire to serve him. I think of the saints as a network of friends in heaven who help us through their guidance, protection and intercession.” - All Saints Roman Catholic Parish

MOTHER MARY

Feast: 25th August

Patron Saint of actors, lawyers, barristers, clowns, comedians, converts, dancers, people with epilepsy, musicians, printers, stenographers, and victims of torture



‘Six months after Elizabeth knew she was to become a mother, Gabriel was sent from God to Nazareth. Nazareth was a town in the country of Galilee. He went to a woman who had never had a man. Her name was Mary. She was promised in marriage to a man named Joseph. Joseph was of the family of David. The angel came to her and said, “You are honoured very much. You are a favoured woman. The Lord is with you. You are chosen from among many women.” When she saw the angel, she was troubled at his words. She thought about what had been said. The angel said to her, “Mary, do not be afraid. You have found favour with God. See! You are to become a mother and have a Son. You are to give Him the name Jesus. He will be great. He will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the place where His early father David sat. He will be King over the family of Jacob forever and His nation will have no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen? I have never had a man.” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come on you. The power of the Most High will cover you. The holy Child you give birth to will be called the Son of God. “See, your

cousin Elizabeth, as old as she is, is going to give birth to a child. She was not able to have children before, but now she is in her sixth month. For God can do all things.” Then Mary said, “I am willing to be used of the Lord. Let it happen to me as you have said.” Then the angel went away from her.’ - Luke 1:26-38

SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Feast: 5th September

Patron Saint of Calcutta and the Missionaries of Charity

When she was twelve Saint Teresa felt a divine calling to serve the poor, and by eighteen she had left home to join the Loreto Nuns. In 1931 she made her first profession of vows taking the name Teresa after Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and was assigned to the Loreto Entally community in Calcutta, India.

When she was 36 she “heard the call to give up all and to follow Him into the slums - to serve Him in the poorest of the poor”. She spent two years discerning this call and consulting her spiritual director, and the Archbishop. On 21 December 1948 Mother Teresa began her life as a Missionary of Charity in the slums.

Here people were feeling the affects of World War II, famine and ongoing riots, with countless people homeless, poor, and uneducated. Saint Teresa dressed wounds, showed compassion for those that were suffering, provided food and company, treating all with the love of Jesus. The Missionaries of Charity were formally established in 1950 and take a fourth vow “to devote themselves with abnegation to the care of the poor and needy who, crushed by want and destitution, live in conditions unworthy of human dignity.”

Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity Brothers in 1963, in 1976 the contemplative branch of the Sisters, in 1979 the Contemplative Brothers, and in 1984 the Missionaries of Charity Fathers.



Despite her rapidly declining health, Mother Teresa continued to respond to the needs of the poor and the Church. By 1977 the Sisters numbered close to 4,000 members and were established in 610 foundations in 123 countries around the world. In March 1997 she blessed her newly-elected successor as Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity and then made one more trip abroad. After meeting Pope John Paul II for the last time, she returned to Calcutta and spent her final weeks receiving visitors and instructing her Sisters.



Image: St. Catherine of Siena by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1746)

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Feast: 29th April

Patron Saint of Europe, Italy, nurses, the sick, and those ridiculed for their piety

Due to her joyful disposition and deep devotion to God, Saint Catherine was given the nickname “Euphrosyne” meaning joy as a child. When she was five she would climb the stairs in her home on her knees, praying the Hail Mary on each step. At

six she had her first of many visions whilst walking with her brother. She saw Jesus sitting on a throne crowned as King and surrounded by the Saints Peter, Paul and John. Catherine devoted her life to prayer, penance and devotion to God.

She joined the Third Order of Saint Dominic at 16, an Order of lay people who wear religious habit, living at home and working in the world. They served the poor and sick, performed charitable works, and for the first several years Catherine lived a life of seclusion and prayer.

Saint Catherine wrote hundreds of letters to kings, queens, nobility, religious, priests and the pope. Her include approximately 380 letters, 26 prayers, and the 4 treatises of *Il libro della divina dottrina*, aka *The Dialogue*. This records her ecstatic experiences illustrating her doctrine of the “inner cell” of the knowledge of God and of self into which she withdrew. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970.

“We are such value to God that He came to live among us...and to guide us home. He will go to any length to seek us, even to being lifted high upon the cross to draw us back to Himself. We can only respond by loving God for His love.”

“These tiny ants have proceeded from His thought just as much as I, it caused Him just as much trouble to create the angels as these animals and the flowers on the trees.”

WHAT'S ON



Parish Mass Times

Ballina St Francis Xavier Church

- Saturday Vigil– 5.30 pm
- Sunday – 9.00 am
- Sunday – 11.00 am
- Tuesday to Friday - 12:00 noon

Lennox Head Holy Family Church

- Sunday –7.30 am

Reconciliation is 9:00am Saturdays at the Ballina St Francis Xavier Church

First Holy Communion

This coming Saturday, the 1st June, we welcome First Holy Communion candidates in the St Francis Xavier Parish Church during the 5:30pm Vigil Mass.

Parish Cuppa - Parishioners

After the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of the month the Ballina Parish holds Morning Tea on the Church grounds. This coming month's will be held on the Sunday the 2nd June. All are welcome.

Aspire - Young Adults (18-35 years)

Bishop Greg's monthly young adult spiritual formation began this month. The next meeting will be Wednesday 19th June in Lismore, 5:30-6:30pm. We encourage everyone to try attend in person, but if you are unable to there is a zoom link you can join: <https://lismorecatholic.zoom.us/j/2996657662?omn=82183637889>

Zoom Meeting ID: 299 665 7662
For more information, contact: youth@lismore.catholic.org.au or 02 6626 0253



The emotional, physical and spiritual well-being and dignity of all people is an integral part of the Catholic Church. The Diocese of Lismore is committed and dedicated to safeguarding all those within our community, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Diocese of Lismore is committed to fostering communities of safety and care. We acknowledge our legal, moral, and spiritual responsibilities to care for - and uphold the dignity and rights of - children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

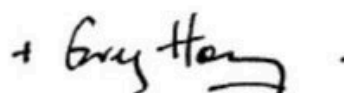
The Diocese of Lismore has;

1. a zero tolerance to the abuse or neglect of children, young people or vulnerable adults and commits to acting in their best interests at all times;
2. established a policy and developed a range of procedures that work together to protect, and, where required, to respond immediately and compassionately to any harm, or risk of harm; and
3. safeguarding procedures and practices underpinned by legislation – ensuring ongoing compliance, accountability and transparency in all ministries undertaken by the Church.

Creating safe environments is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by parishes, schools, families and communities. Safe environments are marked by collaboration, vigilance and a proactive approach to safeguarding. Workers have a responsibility to safeguard children, young people and the vulnerable through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment. All workers, including clergy, employees and volunteers are to be educated as to their responsibilities to undertake their roles in a way that enhances a safe and caring environment.



BISHOP of LISMORE
— GREGORY HOMEMING OCD —



19th May, 2020



Diocese of Lismore

is committed to implementing the Child Safe Standards



STANDARD 1

Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture



STANDARD 3

Families and communities are informed and involved



STANDARD 2

Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously

STANDARD 4

Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account



STANDARD 5

People working with children are suitable and supported



STANDARD 6

Processes to respond to complaints of child abuse are child focused



STANDARD 7

Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training



STANDARD 8

Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur



STANDARD 9

Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved



STANDARD 10

Policies and procedures document how the organisation is child safe

For more information on the Child Safe Standards visit www.ocg.nsw.gov.au



Office of the Children's Guardian



SUPPORT SERVICES



care | protect | act

Child Protection Hotline
13 21 11 (24 hours/7 days)

NSW Police Emergency
000 (24 hours/7 days)

NSW Victims Access Line: 1800 633 063

NSW Victims Support Scheme:
www.victimsservices.justice.nsw.gov.au
Counselling, financial support and a recognition payment to victims of a violent crime in NSW.

Child Wise
1800 991 099

Phone and online counselling for all forms of childhood abuse - www.childwise.org.au



Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

Information and support for mental health.
www.beyondblue.org.au



Headspace: Free counselling services to help young people with mental health, physical health (including sexual health) alcohol and other drug services - headspace.org.au/



Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800.

24/7 phone and online counselling for young people aged 5-25.
www.kidshelpline.com.au



Lifeline: 13 11 14

Crisis support 24/7.
www.lifeline.org.au



Link Up NSW
Aboriginal Corporation
1800 624 332

(not available to mobiles) or **02 9421 4700**. Counselling, healing and culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Australians - www.linkupNSW.org.au



MensLine Australia
1300 789 978

Phone/online support.
www.mensline.org.au



Youth Beyond Blue
1300 224 636

Information and support for young people about issues associated with mental health conditions.
www.youthbeyondblue.com



ABUSE OF ELDERLY / DISABLED

NSW ageing and disability Abuse Hotline
1800 628 221

BULLYING

Bullying No Way:
bullyingnoway.gov.au/



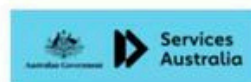
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463

1800 Respect: 1800 737 732
www.1800respect.org.au/



Services Australia
www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/family-and-domestic-violence



ONLINE SAFETY

eSafety Guide: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>



SEXUAL ABUSE

NSW Rape Crisis: 1800 424 017
Health Sexual Assault Services.
www.health.nsw.gov.au/

Sexual Assault Counselling Australia
1800 211 028. Telephone counselling.
www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au

Bravehearts Inc
1800 272 831

Advice and support to those affected by sexual assault.
www.bravehearts.org.au



Blue Knot Foundation
1300 657 380. For adult survivors of child abuse. blueknot.org.au



Survivors and Mates
Support Network
1800 472 676.

For male survivors of childhood sexual abuse and their families.
www.sexualassaultcounselling.org.au



Interrelate: 1300 473 528
Counselling and support for those affected by institutional child sexual abuse. www.interrelate.org.au



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment | SafeWork NSW
www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/sexual-harassment



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