



ANGLICAN PARISH OF BALLINA

*“An inclusive Christ-centred community,
growing in our relationship with God
and the wider community”*

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the
Bundjalung nation, and pay respects to their elders past and
present.*

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2023 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dear Lord, as we wait for Jesus' arrival, help us to be prepared. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, so that we can recognise anything that is keeping us apart from the peace Jesus gives to our lives when we are right with him. Open our hearts to be generous with our time and offerings to others and forgive us when we fall short. Amen.

Parish Prayer

PARISH PRAYER POINTS

We pray for those who have asked for healing prayer: Joy Swinbourne, Ros Rowe, Alex & Myra Arrighi, Gerri White's granddaughter, Phil and Felicity Ross, Ramin Nairyzi, Mavis McDonald, Betty Missingham, Damien Bourke, Josh Stanley and Margaret Saul.

Birthday: Pip Carter

Are You Interested in Reading at Our Services, but struggle to get up to the lectern? We have 'roving' microphones which enable you to read the Scriptures and intercessions from your seat. So if this is you and you'd like to go on the reading roster, speak to Kerry Johnston (Ballina) or Vicki Goulding (Lennox Head).



Blue Christmas 19 December 6.30 pm at St Mary's Do you know someone who is lonely, grieving or sad, who might find comfort in attending this gentle service? Please help yourself to invitations to Blue Christmas, which you will find in the foyer. Our Blue Christmas service is for anyone who is not feeling very merry. It is a gentle, informal gathering where we reflect and remember, pray and light candles, with beautiful music from the Threshold Choir.

Being COVID Safe: Another wave of COVID has arrived in our region. To protect our most vulnerable people, our welcomers and hospitality teams will return to wearing masks. The clergy will also wear masks during communion.

My Favourite Bible Verse Our book has been published! You can buy the book direct from us for \$15. This is a special book and will make a great Christmas gift. It's a wonderful way to share our faith with our friends and loved ones.

Christmas Choral Concert, Sunday, 10 December, 3pm

Step into the captivating realm of Vox Caldera an extraordinary chamber choir resident at the Northern Rivers Conservatorium in Lismore under direction of Nicholas Routley. Passionate about sharing the joy of singing, they present a broad program of beautiful songs, showing different aspects of the 'Magnum Mysterium' of the Christmas story.

Tickets \$25/\$20 concession at the door.

Organ Music and a Poem

Advent can be a busy time towards the end of a year and preparing for Christmas. We invite you to a 30 minute musical reflection every Tuesday 5.30 - 6.00pm during Advent. Step aside, take a moment to breathe and reflect or just listen to some beautiful music.

Organist Hamsa Arnold plays Organ music on Advent and Christmas themes and a poem read by Rev'd Cathy Ridd invites us to reflect on light & dark.

Tuesday 12 December, 19 December.

Mission of the Month for December - ABM Advent & Christmas

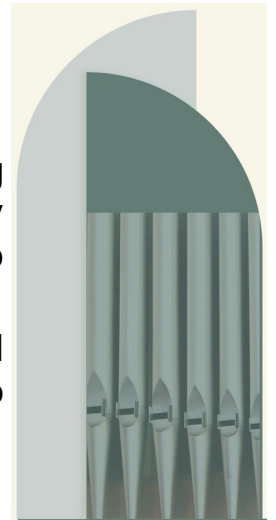
Appeal 2023. Nungalinya and Wontulp-Bi-Buya colleges are facing increasing demand. They need your support to train their students to build stronger communities and churches together. To make a donation, or read more about this appeal you can go to www.abmission.org/Christmas2023. There are also envelopes in the foyers of both churches.

Thank you to everyone who supported the BCEC Christmas Stall on 2 December. They raised over \$1,700, a huge amount considering there were not a lot of people in the street.

Annual Reports for inclusion at the AGM are due to be received by the office by Thursday 25 January at the latest, sooner if at all possible. If you are responsible for preparation of a report from one of our groups, please be giving consideration to that report at this time. If you have any questions, or wonder if you are on that list, please email Cathie at office@anglicanballina.com.au. **Please also look for any photos that would be suitable for inclusion in for the Annual Report.**

Christmas Closures

- The Parish Office will be closed from 1pm 22 December and will re-open Tuesday 2 January. Emails will be checked during this period as Cathie will be working from home.
- The Op Shop will be closed from 24 December to re-open 2 January.
- Craft Group's final day for 2023 will resume 30 January 2024.
- Coffee 'n' Chat finishes 21 December, resuming 1 February 2024.
- Coffee & Conversation will resume 22 February 2024



St Mary's, Ballina
Cnr Norton and Burnet Streets



19 December (Tuesday) 6.30pm

Blue Christmas

A quiet, reflective service for anyone who is grieving, sad or not feeling very merry .

22 December (Friday) 7.00pm

Nine Lessons & Carols

24 December (Sunday) 6.00pm

Family Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day (Monday)

9am **Christmas Holy Communion**

12-2pm **Community Christmas Lunch**



Ross Park, Lennox Head

Christmas Day (Monday) 7.30am

Beachside Christmas

Ballina Community Christmas Lunch On Christmas Day we will be hosting the Ballina Community Christmas Lunch at St Mary's. For many years this was hosted by the Presbyterians - we took it on last year, when the lunch returned after a long break during COVID. It is part of the Isaiah 61 Project, as it is a community outreach.

The lunch is for anyone who is doing it tough, or doesn't want to be alone on Christmas Day, or is struggling to prepare Christmas lunch for themselves. The lunch is free, and is funded by donations from the council, local businesses and individuals. Our dedicated team of volunteers comes from almost all the churches in Ballina, so it is a truly ecumenical event.

Please spread the word to anyone you know who is struggling or lonely, who might enjoy a good meal in good company.

PS We don't need any more volunteers this year, and unfortunately we can't take donations of food. Financial donations are always welcome. The meal costs about \$10 per person. You can give via the Parish Office.

THIS FORTNIGHT TOGETHER

Monday - Friday	9.00am - 3.30pm	Op Shop-OPEN
Saturday	9.00am - 1.00pm	Op Shop-OPEN

Sunday	10 December	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
Second Sunday of Advent		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		3.00pm	Christmas Concert-St Mary's
Monday	11 December	2.00pm	Isaiah 61 Project Outreach-St Mary's
Tuesday	12 December	5.30pm	Advent Music Reflection-St Mary's
Wednesday	13 December	10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		11.30am	Holy Communion-Palm Lake Resort
Thursday	14 December	10.30am	Coffee 'n' Chat-Gallery Café, Cherry St Ballina
		2.00pm	Singing Group-St Mary's
Sunday	17 December	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
Third Sunday of Advent		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
Monday	18 December	2.00pm	Isaiah 61 Project Outreach-St Mary's
Tuesday	19 December	5.30pm	Advent Music Reflection-St Mary's
		6.30pm	Blue Christmas-St Mary's
Wednesday	20 December	10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
Thursday	21 December	10.30am	Coffee 'n' Chat-Gallery Café, Cherry St Ballina
Friday	22 December	7.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols-St Mary's
Sunday	24 December	8.00am	Holy Communion-St John the Baptist
Fourth Sunday of Advent		10.00am	Holy Communion-St Mary's
		6.00pm	Family Christmas Eve Service-St Mary's

Please pray for Bonnie Grace Steward who is being baptised in Lennox Head today. Pray also that God will help her parents and godparents to keep the promises they make on behalf of Bonnie.

Incumbent	The Rev'd Cathy Ridd	Parish Office Administrator	Cathie Guest
Assist. Curate	The Rev'd Mandy Larkin	Parish Office Hours	9.00am to 1.00pm, Mon - Fri
Parish Phone	6686 2094	Rev Cathy Ridd Email	revridd@gmail.com
Email	office@anglicanballina.com.au	Rev Cathy Ridd Mobile	0427 836 988
Op Shop Phone:	6686 0868	Rev Mandy Larkin Email	mandylarkin08@gmail.com
		Rev Mandy Mobile:	0460 872 944
Bank Account: BSB 705077 / Account 00040134			
EFTPOS is available for any payments in the Parish Office.			

The Anglican Parish of Ballina in the Diocese of Grafton is committed to protecting your privacy.