

Welcome to church!

Ballina and Lennox Head Anglicans

We're so glad you are here

23 August 2026

If you're new we'd love to connect with you and hear more of your story.
Fill in a follow-up card or talk to our locum priest.

PRAYER AND CARE

Parish Prayer

Lord, thank you for being on our side and for protecting us when we could not protect ourselves. When troubles rise against us, remind us that our help comes from you, the Maker of heaven and earth. Keep us from fear, strengthen our faith, and deliver us from every danger. We place our trust in you today. Amen.

Pray for those in need of healing

Joy Swinbourne, Felicity Ross, Cate Bible, Alison Lee, Joyce Dooley, Beverley Grant, Alex & Myra Arrighi, Janice Bruem and Rhonda McCaughey.

Schools Prayer this week

We give thanks for teachers in their deep care, teaching and supporting students, giving generously of their intellect, patience and energy to nurture our young people. We pray for them as they balance this role with the demanding work of home life, raising children, supporting partners and navigating complexities of caring for ageing parents whilst maintaining and developing friendships.

Saints Days This Week: Monica, mother of Augustine; Augustine of Hippo, bishop and teacher; The beheading of John the Baptist

FEATURED NEWS

We often use the word "inclusiveness" as though it were a modern idea, but it has always been at the heart of God's purposes for his people. Exclusion and prejudice can be deeply painful. I've experienced this through my own family, and I've also experienced it personally as a child growing up in South Africa during apartheid. Those experiences have stayed with me because they showed me how easily we can learn to exclude people simply because they are different from us.

That is the background to today's Gospel. Jesus encounters a Canaanite woman whose daughter is suffering, and at first his response seems surprisingly exclusive. But Jesus is not expressing prejudice. His mission was first to Israel—the people God had chosen to be a "kingdom of priests" and a channel of blessing to the nations. The problem was that Israel had forgotten that calling, and that needed to be corrected. The Canaanite woman, however, sees something others have missed. Her remarkable faith leads Jesus to heal her daughter. In doing so, she becomes a powerful reminder that God's grace cannot ultimately be confined to one people or group. Throughout his ministry Jesus consistently crossed the boundaries that people used to exclude others. He welcomed tax collectors, sinners, the sick, women and people pushed to the margins. And at Pentecost, the Church became a community embracing people from every nation and background. Our challenge is this: **where might prejudice still exist in me?** Who are the people whose presence, beliefs or way of life make me uncomfortable? Jesus calls us to something greater than tolerance. He calls us to love—to **love one another as he has loved us**. His unconditional love transcends prejudice, and that is the love we are called to show to others.

God calls us to...

Worship and pray *creatively* encountering God in old ways and new

Think and learn *eagerly* discovering more about God and faith

Serve and care *generously* sharing God's love and justice in our community

Accept and include *compassionately* because God's table has a place for everyone

READINGS for this week

Pentecost 13

Exodus: 1.8-2.10; Psalm 124:
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

READINGS for next week

Pentecost 14

Exodus: 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,23-26
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

OP SHOP AND ISAIAH 61 PROJECT NEWS

Op Shop open Mon-Fri 9.00 - 3.30; Sat 9.00 – 12.30

Free Community BBQ Breakfast

8-10 am at St Mary's 2nd, 3rd, 4th Saturday

Next one is 12 September

Come for a delicious breakfast and friendly conversation.

All are welcome.

***God calls us to bring good news to the poor and the oppressed.
(Is. 61:1)***

St Mary's Music Estuary

Concert: Sunday 30 August 3pm:
Canticum Chamber Choir

Community Supported Produce:

Next day- Monday 31 August.
Order-QR code, or
phone- 0431 716 457. Small,
medium, large boxes.

Next Sunday:

Combined Service: Sunday 30
August 10am St Mary's Church
Ballina.

Property Matters- St Mary's Church

Switchboard Upgrade: A 72
circuit board with additional space
for 16 circuits is now complete.
This replaces the 48 circuit board.

Air conditioners are installed at the
Norton and Burnett Streets exits
and on the eastern wall to the side
of the organ. We are now ready
for summer!

Solar panels and battery storage.
Following extensive research and
consideration of three quotes,
Parish Council is in the final
stages of making a decision.
Placement of the panels on the
roof- consideration has been given
to maximise the output with
sensitivity to maintain the
architectural integrity of the
building.

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday 23 August

8am Lennox Head

10am Ballina

Wednesday 26 August

10am Ballina

11.30am Palm Lake Resort

Sunday 30 August

Combined service

10am Ballina

Wednesday 2 September

10am Ballina

ON EVERY WEEK

Craft Group

Mondays 9.30am

except Public Holidays

Function Room

St Mary's Singing Group

Thursdays 2pm

Function Room

Prayer Group

Thursdays 3pm

Mariners Chapel

ON EVERY MONTH

Death Café

First Saturday of each month

10.30am Function Room

Men's group

Second Wednesday monthly

8.30am The Corner Café

FORTNIGHTLY

Community Supported

Produce

31 August. 14, 28 Sept

CONTACT US

Locum

Bishop Carol Wagner

0427 836 988

or via office email

*Workdays: Sunday, Tuesday
and Wednesday*

Parish Office

Phone: 6686 2094

office@anglicanballina.com.au

Website

www.anglicanballina.com.au

Facebook

Ballina and Lennox Head
Anglicans

GIVING OPTIONS

By Direct Debit or online

BSB: 705077 Acc:

00040134

Ballina Anglican Parish

In Person

Gifts can be placed in
offertory box during services

Birthdays

Elaine Moyle

Anniversary

Jan and Graham Fryer

Office Administrator's

Leave: Cathie Guest is on

long term leave. Her workload
is covered by volunteers with
the Parish Office open
Monday to Thursday 9am to
1pm.

St Mary's Church and Parish
Office will be closed on
Fridays until further notice.

Mission of the Month – Act for Peace Projects: “To create, together, a world where people uprooted by conflict and disaster have a safe place to belong. We are an international humanitarian agency that works with and for people around the world who are uprooted by conflict and disaster.”