

**Responsorial Psalm.** The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

**Gospel Acclamation.** Alleluia, alleluia!  
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise

**ROSTERS - 22nd/23rd July 2017**  
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

**BEGA SUN 9:30**

<i>Commentator</i>	Confirmation
<i>Readers</i>	Confirmation
<i>Gifts</i>	Confirmation
<i>Cleaners</i>	E Sawtell, M Rheinberger
<i>Altar</i>	J Morrow
<i>Counters</i>	T & M Collins
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan & Choir
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sean McCambridge
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	E Collins, R Healey C Tarlinton, B Tygh

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

- **Bemboka** - Saturdays 6pm Vigil Mass \*
  - **Candelo** - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass
  - **Candelo** - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 9.30am Mass\*
  - **Tathra** - Sundays - 7.45am Mass
  - **Bega** - Sundays - 9.30am Mass
- \*odd weekends Bemboka, even weekends Candelo will be Liturgy not Mass if Fr Paul is away.

**Weekdays**

Tuesday	5.30pm Bega
Wednesday	9.00am Tathra, 5.30pm Bega.
Thursday	9.00am Bega
3rd Thurs.	11.00am Hillgrove House
3rd Fri	11.00am Casuarina
Friday	9.00am Bega
	4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'
Saturday	9.00am Bega

**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**

<b>Bega</b>	Friday, 5.30 - 6.00pm
	Saturday, 9.30 - 10.00am
<b>Bemboka</b>	before vigil Mass
<b>Candelo</b>	before vigil Mass
<b>Tathra</b>	before Sunday Mass

**FEAST DAY - 24th July**

**SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLUF**

Although this saint never traveled far from the Lebanese village of Beka-Kafra, where he was born, his influence has spread widely.  
Joseph Zaroun Makluf was raised by an uncle because his father, a mule driver, died when Joseph was only three. At the age of 23, Joseph joined the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya, Lebanon, and took the name Sharbel in honor of a second-century martyr. He professed his final vows in 1853 and was ordained six years later.

Following the example of the fifth-century Saint Maron, Sharbel lived as a hermit from 1875 until his death. His reputation for holiness prompted people to seek him to receive a blessing and to be remembered in his prayers. He followed a strict fast and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. When his superiors occasionally asked him to administer the sacraments to nearby villages, Sharbel did so gladly.

He died in the late afternoon on Christmas Eve. Christians & non-Christians soon made his tomb a place of pilgrimage and of cures. Pope Paul VI beatified him in 1965 & canonized him 12 yrs later.

John Paul II often said that the Church has two lungs (East and West) and it must learn to breathe using both of them. Remembering saints like Sharbel helps the Church to appreciate both the diversity and unity present in the Catholic Church. Like all the saints, Sharbel points us to God and invites us to cooperate generously with God's grace, no matter what our situation in life may be. As our prayer life becomes deeper and more honest, we become more ready to make that generous response

**WISE WORDS:** "Charity is no substitute for justice withheld."  
St Augustine.



15th Sunday—Year A

16th July 2017

# St. Patrick's Parish

St. Patrick's, Bega - St. Columba's, Bemboka - St. Joseph's Candelo  
Star of the Sea, Tathra.

Fr. Michael Lim. Parish Priest.  
Mrs. Tanya Tomlinson, Parish Secretary.  
Hrs 9-1 Tuesday, 9-3 Thursday  
St. Patrick's School, Bega. Mrs. Jo Scott-Pegum (Principal) 6492 5500  
Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula. Mr. Steve Centra 6495 8888

Ph. 64921058, Fax 64925399  
PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
Email: Bega@cg.org.au  
Website: <http://cg.org.au/bega/>

The parable has strong links with the First Reading from Isaiah. In both we are told that God shares his abundance with us and his plans will not be frustrated. God's creative and nurturing work is compared with rain and snow falling on the earth and not returning until it has given moisture, "making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating". In the parable, it is true that the seed falls many times on inhospitable soil but some will undoubtedly fall on rich soil and produce an abundant harvest. "So," says the Lord in Isaiah, "the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do."

## 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



This is clearly a message of hope for communities which may at times be discouraged by the meagre results of their evangelisation efforts. We are reading here from Matthew 13. The whole chapter consists of "parables of the Kingdom". They all say in different ways that the Kingdom of God, in spite of its tiny and weak beginnings will be established for it is "like a treasure hidden in a field" or "a pearl of great price". Once discovered, all else is given up in order to be part of it.

In the whole of Scripture God's word is not just a spoken word. It is a doing word, a creating, life-giving word. It is like a life-bearing seed. Where do we encounter that word? If we are sufficiently sensitive, we encounter it unceasingly in every experience of our lives, whether that experience is joyful or sad, a success or a failure, pleasant or painful.

There is clearly, of course, for us one place in particular where God's word is more clearly experienced and that is in Jesus Christ. For Jesus is the Word of God. Everything that Jesus said, everything that Jesus did was God communicating to us through him. Not just his teaching but his whole life, from the hidden years of Nazareth through his public life to his death and resurrection – in all of this Jesus was, and is for us today, the Word of God.

And yet, as in the parable, much of that Word fell on barren soil. Many refused to hear or to see (hence so many cases of deafness and blindness in the Gospel). Why? Not because they are stupid but because they basically do not want to. If they saw, if they really heard, they might be converted, they might have to change their ways radically – and that is the last thing they want to do. Even Jesus' closest disciples did not provide, at first, very promising soil. Jesus' life and mission seemed to end in tragic and dismal failure. There was not a single disciple in sight. His enemies laughed and mocked him. And yet... It was precisely at that moment as the seed

“fell into the ground and died” (cf. John 12:24) that the Word of God began to take root in people’s hearts. Beginning, like the tiny mustard seed, like the small amount of yeast in a large batch of dough, the seed, the Word of God, began to grow and flourish against all odds.

“The word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.” As with Jesus himself, so with us today we need to be reminded that God’s plans will not be frustrated, that the Kingdom will be established. “Listen, anyone who has ears!”

The key word today is ‘hear’. It is a very scriptural word and contains essentially four elements: to listen with a totally open and unconditional mind (“Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God”) to understand what one hears to accept and appropriate fully what one understands and, finally, this acceptance flows out into our behaviour.

One can listen but not understand and one can understand without accepting and one can accept without implementing. All four are necessary for conversion and healing. All four are necessary for full hearing.

## Baptisms This Weekend: Nate Lucas Mills



**PLANNED GIVING** Tax receipts are now available for collection.

**PILGRIMAGE FROM CANBERRA TO EDEN.** 12th Aug. If you are interested in joining the Pilgrimage, please fill-in the sheet in the foyer. We will use this information to arrange car-pooling etc.



**MARY MACKILLOP INTERNATIONAL APPEAL 5/6 AUGUST.** Your donation will support thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru and Papua New Guinea in education, health and livelihoods opportunities, bringing hope to communities for generations to come. “Let us show love in our acts.” *Mary MacKillop 1890.* www.mmi.org.au

### BENEDICTION.

**Bega** - 1st Sun. of the Month after 9:30 Mass  
**Candelo** - 1st Saturday after 6pm Vigil.  
**Bemboka** - 2nd Saturday at 5:30pm  
**Tathra** - 1st Wednesday after 9am Mass

### CHILDREN’S LITURGY 9:30 Mass Bega

Term 2 dates: 28th May.  
June: Family Masses

### MENS’ GROUP: fortnightly on Thursdays

Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997

### MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Meeting is held on Monday at 7.30pm in the annex of Star of the Sea Church at Tathra.

### SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION GROUP

Tuesday at 7pm Star of the Sea Tathra.  
All Welcome.

### ROSARY

**Tathra** - 7:20am before Sunday Mass  
**Bega** - 9am before Sunday Mass  
**Our Lady’s Grotto—St Patrick’s Church**  
every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month 6pm

ALL ARE WELCOME.

**St. Pat’s Choir** practices Thurs 5.15—6pm  
Contacts Mary 64921850 or Matt 0429 338 348.

### ST PATRICK’S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2017

**Baptisms**—During Mass, 1 month notice  
**First Reconciliation**—1st November  
**Confirmation**—23rd July  
**Weddings**—by appointment, 6 months notice required.  
Please contact the Parish Office.



**RECENTLY DECEASED** Sr Joan Westblade, Mavis Sproates, Cyril Mulach, Doreen Beath, Joan Turl, Jesse Gosper, Oscar Franko, Rosemary Tarlinton, Albert Robbins

**ANNIVERSARIES** Eunice Tarlinton, Malcolm McCambridge, Kath West, Catherine Rose, Malcolm Johnston, Basil Rose, Clare Johnston, Celia Rose, Patricia McCambridge

**MEALS ON WHEELS** urgently need volunteers within the Bega, Tathra & Bemboka areas. These services can include: assistance with shopping; respite for a carer; & Meals on Wheels. Full training is provided, and a Criminal Record Check is mandatory. Contact **Helen Kuriger on 6494 7456 or helen.kuriger@bvmowplus.org.au.**



**UPCOMING ORDINATIONS @ ST CHRISTOPHERS. To the Priesthood:** Deacon Joshua Scott - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 6pm. **To the Diaconate** Namora Anderson and Adrian Chan - Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 7pm.

**MEN’S BREAKFAST @ ST.JOHN’S** August 5<sup>th</sup> at 8.00am. Guest Speaker Canon Brian Roberts, a model railway enthusiast. A donation of \$8 to help with catering, and to support the work of TEAR and MAF charities, is appreciated. RSVP to 6492 5555 by August 3<sup>rd</sup> if possible.

**MARIAN PROCESSION:** Save the date 8th October Galong. See the poster in the entrance.

## First Reconciliation 2017



**Information night** 11th Oct. 7pm St Patrick’s School.

**Enrolment Mass** Sunday 15th Oct, 9:30am St Patrick’s Church.

**Candidate Family Masses** two Sunday Evenings in October

**First Reconciliation** Wednesday 1st Nov, 7pm St Patrick’s Church.

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE

hosted by:

Marg Taylor  
17th - 23rd July  
6494 4602

