

**Responsorial Psalm.** Lord, I love your commands  
**Gospel Acclamation.** Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Blessed are you, Father, Lord of Heaven and earth;  
 you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
 Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
 and never forget all his benefits.

**ROSTERS - 5th/6th August 2017**  
 Please arrange a swap if you are not available

**BEGA SUN 9:30AM**  
*Commentator* K Summerell  
*Readers* C Sullivan, R Sheehan  
*Gifts* Woods Family  
*Cleaners* V Northcott, B Burton  
*Altar* K Murphy  
*Counters* V Northcott, B Burton  
*Music* Matt Heffernan & Choir  
*Acolyte* Frank Farrell  
*Eucharistic Ministers* L Stewart, A Tarlinton  
 U de Morsier  
**Casuarina: Paul Gardiner**  
*Nursing Home 11am* M Twyford

**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**

**Bega** Friday, 5.30 - 6.00pm  
 Saturday, 9.30 - 10.00am  
**Bemboka** before vigil Mass  
**Candelo** before vigil Mass  
**Tathra** before Sunday Mass

**FEAST DAY - 2nd August**

**SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD**

Born in La Mure d'Isère in southeastern France, Peter Julian's faith journey drew him from being a priest in the Diocese of Grenoble (1834) to joining the Marists (1839) to founding the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (1856).

In addition to those changes, Peter Julian coped with poverty, his father's initial opposition to Peter's vocation, serious illness, a Jansenistic over-emphasis on sin, and the difficulties of getting diocesan and later papal approval for his new religious community.

His years as a Marist, including service as a provincial leader, saw the deepening of his eucharistic devotion, especially through his preaching of Forty Hours in many parishes. Inspired at first by the idea of reparation for indifference to the Eucharist, Peter Julian was eventually attracted to a more positive spirituality of Christ-centered love. Members of the men's community, which Peter founded, alternated between an active apostolic life and contemplating Jesus in the Eucharist. He and Marguerite Guillot founded the women's Congregation of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

Peter Julian Eymard was beatified in 1925 and canonized in 1962, one day after Vatican II's first session ended.

In every century, sin has been painfully real in the life of the Church. It is easy to give in to despair, to speak so strongly of human failings that people may forget the immense and self-sacrificing love of Jesus, as his death on the cross and his gift of the Eucharist make evident. Peter Julian knew that the Eucharist was key to helping Catholics live out their Baptism and preach by word and example the Good News of Jesus Christ.



17th Sunday—Year A

30th 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/

WE HAVE TODAY the third and final set of readings centred on the parables of the Kingdom from Matthew chapter 13.

The 1st & 2nd parables are in effect saying that to know God and to live accord-

ing to the Gospel are the most precious things in life. Through Jesus and the Gospel we come to know and understand what is the real meaning of life, what are the most important things in life. In the first parable Jesus compares entering the Kingdom to a man who finds treasure in a field. In this parable, the man comes across the treasure but the field where it is hidden does not belong to him. He sells everything he has in order to get ownership of the field and hence of its buried treasure. The idea obviously is that when one really discovers Jesus and his vision of life everything else becomes secondary. The second parable is similar. A businessman is looking for fine pearls. When he finds the one he wants, he sells everything else he has in order to acquire it.

A slight, if significant, difference has been pointed out between the two stories. For, in the first, the man was not actually looking for the treasure. Perhaps he found it while digging the ground or ploughing the field, that is, in the course of his ordinary working day. Jesus — and the real meaning of Jesus — may come to me unexpectedly through some daily experience. Many people have described their conversion to Christ as happening in such an unexpected way. There is a need, as the Gospel constantly urges, for us to be ready whenever and however Jesus comes into our lives.



In the second parable, however, the man is on the lookout for the "pearl of great price". He knows it must exist and he uses all his energies to find it. Although we are baptised Christians, we still need to pursue constantly the true and full meaning of the Gospel which can escape us for many years. We always need to understand more, to love more, to serve more.

It is in this context that we can take a look at the First Reading from the First Book of Kings. The young King Solomon is told by God, "Ask what you would like me to give you." It is a question that Jesus sometimes asks in the Gospel and he is asking it of me in today's Mass. How am I going to answer? What do I most want to have or to be right now? We can make a good guess at what a lot of people, including ourselves, would be likely to ask. For many it would be likely to have some connection with money or material security. What did Solomon ask for? "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between God and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?"

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



In other words, he asked for wisdom and discernment. Wisdom is much more than knowing a lot of things or having prestigious university degrees. Being endowed with wisdom is much more than being just a morally very good person. Wisdom gives an in-sight into what is truly important in life, an awareness of the meaning and purpose of living, of what really matters. It is an understanding of where our real wellbeing and happiness lies. That is indeed a pearl of great price, price-less in every sense of the word.

This brings us to the third parable today. While the first and second parables speak of the total commitment and dedication which are the ideal of every follower of Christ, this third parable helps to put our two feet firmly back on the ground. While the ideals are valid and still beckon us, they must not lead us into any form of elitism. This parable reminds us that the Church and even the Kingdom in the process of its evolution is full of all kinds of people. Our Church is a Church of both saints and sinners. And we might say it is primarily for sinners. "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Mark 2:17). The role of the Church is to accept into its bosom "the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame" (Luke 14:21) and lead them to the treasure and the pearl of great price.

The lesson of this parable is similar to that of the weeds growing up with the wheat, namely, that the kingdom is a mixed body of saints and sinners (good and rotten fish). There will be always be a temptation on the part of some who feel they are more "faithful" to separate themselves from the "bad eggs", from the weeds, but Jesus is here telling us that that is the work of God in his own good time. In the meantime, it is for us to learn to be tolerant, compassionate and understanding of those who seem to fall far below the requirements of the Gospel and the Kingdom. Judgment is for later.

Right now, it is for us to use the time given to us to go in search of the treasure and the pearl of great price, of the gift to be able to identify, with Jesus, the really true, the good and the beautiful, and to help others too in the same search.

**EDEN PILGRIMAGE**

Saturday August 12  
Reaching Eden for  
Mass at midday, a BBQ  
lunch will be provided.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA  
STATUE**

hosted by:  
Mark & Marie Oakley  
31st July - 6th August  
6494 1472

**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  
On Hold.

**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** John Daly, Joseph Xiet Van Trinh, Kevin Bateman, Frank Lawless, Sr Maria Goretti Pearson, Sr Elizabeth of Jesus ocdm, Sr Joan Westblade  
**ANNIVERSARIES** Brian O'Farrell, Joseph & Mary Nyugen, Eunice Tarlinton, Malcolm McCambridge, Kath West, Catherine Rose, Malcolm Johnston, Basil Rose



**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

**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.

**BEGA VALLEY MEALS ON WHEELS** are Urgently seeking volunteers. Please see the notice board for more information.

**THE ENEMY WITHIN**, Suicide Prevention and Wellbeing Education. This week, please see the notice board for further information.

**FAR SOUTH COAST FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES** conducts a FREE support group for Mums & other female carers & their children: fun activities, morning tea, child care. Every Tuesday during school terms, 10am to 1pm, at Bega Uniting Church building. To be part of the group, contact Valerie (64923411 or 0438037459 or [vvalerie@fscfss.ngo.org.au](mailto:vvalerie@fscfss.ngo.org.au))

**THE CATHOLIC VOICE** is always trying to improve and respond to the community. A brief 30 sec. survey has been prepared and responses are anonymous. The more feedback the better equipped John and the Communications Team will be in creating a paper that will both 'inform' and 'form'. Please visit: <http://cgatholic.org.au/catholic-voice/survey/>

**PETER'S PENCE 2017** in Canberra Goulburn collected \$31 195 & the Archbishops office received a letter of thanks from Fr Brian Lucas, Catholic Mission, advising the donation of \$4,928.50 was received from our Archdiocese, and will be donated towards the Timor-Leste project, which will provide 250 people directly & 150 indirectly with safe and accessible water sources through the creation of 10 water modules.



Solomon's difficult decision

PLANNED GIVING COMPARISONS			
History	2nd Collection	Contributors	
2012	108200	174	
2013	103100	175	
2014	103900	168	
2015	99349	149	
2016	97826	139	
Expenses	Insurance 2005	24000	
	Insurance 2016	38911	