

Responsorial Psalm. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands
Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, alleluia!
 You are Peter, the rock on which I build my Church
 the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
 Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
 you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

ROSTERS - 2nd/3rd September 2017
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

BEGA SUN 9:30AM

Commentator L Reeve
Readers V Northcott, A Woods
Gifts Jean Ubrihien
Cleaners B Tygh
Counters B & E Richards
Music Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte Frank Farrell
Eucharistic Ministers U de Morsier, L Stewart
 C Tarlinton

Casuarina: Pat McRae

Nursing Home 11am B Tygh

WISE WORDS: "Seek not to understand that
 you may believe, but believe that you may
 understand." St Augustine

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

- *Bemboka* - Saturdays 6pm Vigil Mass
- *Candelo* - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass
- *Candelo* - 2nd, 4th Sunday - 9.30am Mass
- *Tathra* - Sundays - 7.45am Mass
- *Bega* - Sundays - 9.30am Mass

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 - 28th August

ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

A Christian at 33, a priest at 36, a bishop at 41:
 Many people are familiar with the biographical
 sketch of Augustine of Hippo, sinner turned saint.
 But really to get to know the man is a rewarding
 experience.

There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he
 lived his life, whether his path led away from or
 toward God. The tears of his mother, the instruc-
 tions of Ambrose and, most of all, God himself
 speaking to him in the Scriptures, redirected Au-
 gustine's love of life to a life of love.

Having been so deeply immersed in creature-pride
 of life in his early days and having drunk deeply
 of its bitter dregs, it is not surprising that Augus-
 tine should have turned, with a holy fierceness,
 against the many demon-thrusts rampant in his
 day. His times were truly decadent: politically, so-
 cially, morally. He was both feared & loved, like
 the Master. The perennial criticism leveled against
 him: a fundamental rigorism.

In his day, Augustine providentially fulfilled the
 office of prophet. Like Jeremiah and other greats,
 he was hard-pressed but could not keep quiet. "I
 say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak
 in his name no more./But then it becomes like fire
 burning in my heart,/imprisoned in my bones;/I
 grow weary holding it in,/I cannot endure
 it" (Jeremiah 20:9).

Augustine is still acclaimed and condemned in our
 day. He is a prophet for today, trumpeting the
 need to scrap escapisms and stand face-to-face
 with personal responsibility and dignity.



21st Sunday—Year A

27th August 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/

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



IN TODAY'S GOSPEL WE RECALL a
 high point in Jesus' relationship with his
 disciples. It represents a quantum leap in
 their understanding of who he really is. It
 took them quite a while to come to this point. And even here, as subsequent events in the rest of
 the Gospel clearly indicate, they still did not fully understand the implications of what they had
 just begun to realise. We will see a clear indication of this in next Sunday's Gospel reading.
 In a way, of course, today's passage really is an expression of the faith of the early Church rather
 than just that of the disciples at the time of the event described. Mark, in particular, likes to em-
 phasise the poor understanding of the disciples with regard to the identity and teaching of Jesus.
 The first person in his Gospel to recognise Jesus fully was a pagan soldier at the foot of the Cross
 (Mark 15:39). At that moment, Jesus' disciples, his chosen followers, were nowhere to be seen.
 Who do you say...?

The passage today begins with Jesus asking his disciples who people think he is. Jesus calls him-
 self "Son of Man" here, thus identifying himself with the Messianic figure in Daniel 7:13.

("Behold with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man... to him was given domin-
 ion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him... His king-
 dom ... shall not be destroyed.")

In reply the disciples give various answers: 1- the prophet John the Baptist, executed recently by
 Herod and, in the person of Jesus, thought by some to have come back to life (cf. Luke 9:7); 2-
 the prophet Elijah, who went to heaven in a fiery chariot and was expected to return soon to earth
 as a sign of the imminent coming of the Messiah; 3- the prophet Jeremiah, who through his own
 experience of rejection and suffering, announced the rejection and suffering of the Messiah.

(Only Matthew among the Synoptics mentions Jeremiah.) What is clear is that while Jesus is seen
 by the people as a prophet, a spokesperson for God, he is no more than that.




Then Jesus asks his disciples directly who they
 think he is. Peter, assuming his recognised leader-
 ship role in the group, replies: "You are the Christ,
 the Son of the living God." It is indeed a dramatic
 moment in their relationship with Jesus. For they
 have now acknowledged that their rabbi, their
 teacher and guide, is no less than the long-awaited
 Messiah, the anointed king of Israel. (In the Greek,
 Messiah is translated as Christos, which means the
 'Anointed One'.) It is a major breakthrough for
 them but, as the rest of the Gospel will show, they
 still have a long way to go in understanding fully
 just what messiahship will mean for Jesus - and for
 them.

Nevertheless, aware of their limited grasp of what they are saying, Jesus praises Peter. "Simon, son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven." Only faith could have led Peter to say what he did. It needed faith to recognise the Saviour-King in the dusty human figure standing before him, so different surely from the images that most Jews would have had of their long-expected, all-conquering and nation-liberating leader. Only with God's enlightenment could they see God's presence in this carpenter from Galilee, their friend and teacher. Peter must have glowed with pride and this will partly explain his bitter disappointment and shock in the passage immediately following (cf. next Sunday's readings).

Despite this moment of insight, Peter and the rest have a long way to go in fully knowing Jesus. We might say at this point that we are in exactly the same position. Perhaps for a long time we have recognised in Jesus the Son of God and our Lord but we, too, have a long way to go in fully understanding and in accepting the full implications of being his followers.

PLEASE NOTE: There is no Family Mass next Sunday. Next mass 2nd Oct 5pm.

 **ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH FORUM** - Thursday 14th Sept, 6pm, Club Sapphire. Key speaker Dr Michael Carr-Gregg. Please RSVP Lumen Christie on 64958888 or lccc@cg.catholic.edu.au

FIRST RECONCILIATION 2017. Do you have a child/grandchild, or family member in year 2 or above who would like to make their First Reconciliation? Please contact the office

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE
hosted by:
Rachel & Tony Healey
28th Aug - 4th Sept
6492 6463

2017 First Reconciliation



Information night 11th Oct. 6:30pm St Patrick's School.

Enrolment Mass Sunday 15th Oct, 9:30am St Patrick's

Candidate Family Masses 22nd & 29th October, 5pm.

First Reconciliation Wed 1st Nov, 7pm St Patrick's

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 1st 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 Marge Simpson, Gordan Ryan, Alice Burns, Julian Cadman, Chris Phillipps, Bernard Goldsworthy, John Daly, Joseph Xiet Van Trinh

ANNIVERSARIES Patsy Hart, Therese Eadie, Noa Jessop, Neville, Eric & Carrie Turnbull, Jack Boller, Aino Senbruns, Brian O'Farrell, Joseph & Mary Nyugen

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER PASTORAL STATEMENTS

(full copies available to read at the entrance)

Marriage Plebiscite: "It needs to be stressed that our love and care for people in our parishes, communities and neighbourhoods who are same-sex attracted is reaffirmed. This will be a vulnerable time for some and we need to reiterate once more that we are walking alongside each other in mutual respect. At the same time, our acknowledgement of what is now described as traditional marriage (man & woman united in love and open to the possibility of children) be reaffirmed. It is one of the greatest treasures humanity has yet produced. It needs our fulsome support at this time of moral fluidity."

Seal of the Confessional: "The Catholic Church considers Confession as a privileged encounter of mercy between the priest (representing Jesus) and the penitent on the road to conversion. The absolute confidentiality of the "seal" of confession is to be maintained and never to be compromised for any reason. This has always been protected in the law of Australia and long may it continue. This matter raises significant issues pertaining to the rights of Freedom of Religion and Speech. This issue has become current due to a recommendation of the Royal Commission that the current civil privilege in this matter be changed. Outside of this particular discussion, it needs to be stressed that the Catholic Church insists that all offences against children be reported to the authorities."

INTRODUCING THE LIVING WORD Receive a daily Gospel Reflections from the Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn straight to your inbox. To sign up to this free service visit www.cgatholic.org.au/subscribe-to-gospel-reflection/ or follow the link from the parish website

CATECHIST SUNDAY: Next Sunday 3rd Sept. Please pray for our catechists. Catechist & Friends retreat day 23rd Sept - St Joseph's Merimbula. BYO lunch. RSVP: kylie.bereza@cg.org.au



FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: The annual Father's Day Collection for our retired clergy will be held next weekend. The appeal is used to support the care of 24 retired priests. Donations are tax deductible. Please be generous.

GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY, To accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.

Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;

Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will;

That I may be reasonably happy in this life, & supremely happy with Him forever in the next. **Amen.**

