

**Responsorial Psalm.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God

**Gospel Acclamation.** Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.

**ROSTERS - 9th/10th September 2017**  
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

**BEGA SUN 9:30**

Commentator	K Summerell
Readers	M Johnston, M Scott
Gifts	B Burton
Cleaners	Bex Gabriel
Counters	T & M Collins
Music	Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte	Tony Healey
Eucharistic Ministers	J Morrow, V Coman E Collins, E Caragher



**WISE WORDS:** "If you do not live what you believe, you will end up believing what you live." Archbishop Fulton J Sheen

**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

**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 - 8th September**

**THE NATIVITY OF MARY**

The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal *Protoevangelium of James* fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child that will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

St Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation and asks for an increase of peace.

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two people has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love & peace. This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large



22nd Sunday—Year A

3rd September 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/>

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



IN LAST WEEK'S GOSPEL we saw the disciples riding high. They had, through Peter, acknowledged that Jesus, their teacher and friend, was no less than the long-awaited Messiah-King of Israel. "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." It must have been a really exciting moment for them. It is hard to imagine that this was not a moment of particular joy and satisfaction for the disciples. They now were thinking that Jesus, in line with Jewish expectations, would be a glorious and powerful king. And they, of course, as his followers and companions would have a special share in the glory and privileges that went with it.

However, the euphoria was not to last very long. Very soon after this, "Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day." This, undoubtedly, comes as a terrible shock. This was not at all part of the scenario for the coming of the Messiah! What is worse, the agents of Jesus' humiliation and death will not be some hostile outsiders (like the pagan and barbaric Romans) but the leaders and most distinguished people of their own community. The elders, chief priests and scribes were the people who formed the Sanhedrin, the ruling body of the Jews in Palestine.



So, it is not surprising that at this point, Peter, still flush with his newly-acquired status, takes Jesus to one side, speaking to him almost on equal terms. "Heaven preserve you, Lord! This must not happen to you." How can this happen to the Messiah-King of Israel? The angry reaction of Jesus must have come as somewhat unexpected, to say the least. Turning to face Peter, Jesus says: "Get behind me, Satan!" These are strong words for someone who just now was being given leadership of the community Jesus would leave behind. It is not to be understood that Peter is literally a demon but the disciple's words are understood as a real temptation to Jesus to turn away from the path he is to follow. Unwittingly and with the best of intentions, Peter is doing the devil's work - trying to steer Jesus away from the path laid out for him by his Father. How often have we been such a temptation or stumbling block to others? Perhaps more often than we care to think.

Jesus is angry for, though his disciples may have acknowledged that he is the Messiah, they clearly have no idea whatever what kind of Messiah-King Jesus is going to be. They are, as he says, thinking in purely human terms and have not yet got "the mind of Christ" (Philippians 2:5). Yes, Jesus will be a King, but he will be a King of love, a King who will rule by serving. Because he loves and serves them, he will, if necessary, be prepared to die for them, for this is the greatest love that a person can show for his friends.

Paul, in the Second Reading, also knew all about this. He urges his fellow-Christians to offer their "living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God" and not to "model [themselves] on the behaviour of the world around [them]". They need a "new mind", the way of thinking which Jesus had and which Peter certainly did not yet have in today's Gospel.

Continued over page

Today's Gospel goes further than just asking us to understand why the glory of Jesus our King and Lord was to be found through suffering and the shameful death of the Cross. There is a further call for us to walk the same road with Jesus. "If anyone (not just the heroic martyr or the saint) wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me." Jesus is asking each one of us to dedicate our lives in totally loving and serving others even if, at times, this involves misunderstanding, ridicule, pain and even death itself.

It would be altogether wrong to think that Jesus is asking us to lead miserable lives in order to be good Christians, although one gets the impression that some people interpret the passage in that way. To follow Jesus fully, we must be able to see life as he sees it, we must have that "mind of Christ".

When we have the mind of Christ then we can only see our lives in terms of loving and serving others and not in the pursuit of purely self-centred or even family-centred ambition. When we have the mind of Christ, the whole direction of our life changes. Our whole concept of happiness changes. Jesus is calling us not to a life of sacrifice and suffering but rather to a life of total love and freedom. The person who can go to jail for his beliefs is more free and usually a lot happier than the one who is tied to the pursuit of material things, social position, pleasure and the fear of pain.

"Renouncing oneself" is not a suppression of one's personality. It is rather to let go of oneself so that one can really find oneself. This is what today's readings are saying, namely, that Jesus is calling us to where true success and happiness are. Maybe when we walk the way of Jesus there will be people who criticise us, think we are stupid and even attack us. Yet those who have chosen the way of Jesus again and again confirm that their lives are full of freedom, happiness and peace. Isn't that what we all would like to experience?



## Happy Father's Day to all our Father's and those who father

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

**ANNIVERSARIES** Ada Wilds, Patsy Hart, Therese Eadie, Noa Jessop, Neville, Eric &  
Carrie Turnbull, Jack Boller, Aino Senbruns, Brian O'Farrell



**FATHER'S DAY APPEAL:** The annual Father's Day Collection for our retired clergy is this weekend. The appeal is used to support the care of 24 retired priests. Donations are tax deductible. Please be generous. Envelopes are available in the pews and can be placed in the 2nd collection.

**ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEATH 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](mailto:lccc@cg.catholic.edu.au)

**DO YOU KNOW THE FACTS**—please take a flyer on the proposed Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill (NSW) in the church entrance. Produced by HOPE it will help you understand the proposed Bill and get involved.

**BLESSED OZANAM APPEAL.** Vinnies will be holding a leaving collection on the 24th Sept.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION 2017.** For adults and children (7yrs +) who have not yet received this sacrament. Please contact the office for more information or visit the website for an enrolment form.

### 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

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE

hosted by:  
Adam & Lourdes Twyford  
5th - 10th Sept  
0413 338 069

### God's Word 2018

Still \$15. Please use the sheet at the church entrance to order your copy.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



You said take up lacrosse and follow you ... now what?

### A PRAYER FOR FATHERS

God our Father, We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own Fathers and Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow. We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfather, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. **Amen.**