

Rosporial Psalm. O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Like a deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is
Yearning for you my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

ROSTERS - 16th/17th September 2017
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

BEGA SUN 9:30

<i>Commentator</i>	J Lott
<i>Readers</i>	C Sullivan, R Sheehan
<i>Gifts</i>	Kath Summerell
<i>Cleaners</i>	V Northcott
<i>Counters</i>	C Murphy & T D'Arcy
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan & Choir
<i>Acolyte</i>	David Grainger
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	B Tygh, A Tarlinton R Healey, J Ubrihien
<i>Nursing Home 11am</i>	L Stewart

WISE WORDS: "By receiving the gift of the
Father's mercy through this sacrament, we
are spurred to be merciful as he is merci-
ful" (CCC1458)

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

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

FEAST DAY - 14th September

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Early in the 4th century, St Helena, mother of Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the Temple of Aphrodite, which was built over Jesus' tomb, & her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher. During the excavation, workers found 3 crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the 4th century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container & placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross & inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

The feast entered the Western calendar in the 7th century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614. The emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb & became a barefoot pilgrim.

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. Countless artists have turned it into a thing of beauty. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority—including Christians. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's edict of toleration



23rd Sunday—Year A

10th 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 *Bulletin Deadline: Thurs 10:30am*
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/>

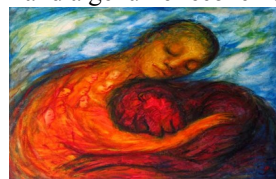
WE ARE REMINDED TODAY that to belong to the Church is to belong to a community of brothers and sisters in Christ. This means that being a Christian is not a private, purely personal affair, although that is the way some people seem to behave.

23^d Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Gospel passage of today deals with such situations within the Christian community. The whole of Matthew chapter 18 is a discourse on mutual relations within the Christian community and, especially, what to do when divisions arise, as must inevitably happen. We are communities of sinners trying to be saints and there are many pitfalls on the way. In today's passage we see first of all a three-stage procedure for dealing with a community member who has done "something wrong". Presumably, it is some form of external behaviour which is harmful to the quality of the community's witnessing to the Gospel.

The whole thrust of the passage is that we should all work towards reconciliation rather than punishment. There will also be a desire to keep the issue at as low a profile as possible. (We read regularly in our newspapers what happens when people drag their mutual grievances against each other to the law courts.) So, the first stage is for the two people concerned to solve the issue among themselves. If it works out at that level, that is the ideal situation. "You have won back your brother." "Won back" here is a Jewish technical term for conversion. For it is not enough that he merely stop his offensive behaviour, there also needs to be a genuine change of attitude and a genuine reconciliation with the offending person.



The situation, obviously, can be changed by a change in the attitude and behaviour of the wrongdoer. Once he repents and converts, he will be – indeed must be – received back with joy. And so it is that Paul in the Second Readings puts the emphasis on love. It contains all other Christian obligations. "Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments."

It is easy to think that being a Catholic means being concerned with the relationship between God and me, that my duty is to "save my soul". But, in fact, the only way to "save my soul" is by becoming a truly loving and caring person as part of a loving and caring community of people united in Christ. And sometimes that caring may involve bringing the brother/sister face to face with the loving demands of the Gospel. We do not help each other by turning a blind eye to behaviour which is clearly unchristian.

As a community we have a responsibility for each other's wellbeing. We do not further the witness of a loving community when we, in false "charity", ignore social problems such as drug-taking, alcoholism, compulsive gambling, violence in the home, discrimination against the physically and mentally handicapped, racial exploitation and the like taking place in our parish community. It is not enough just to deal with these things in the privacy of "Confession" for, ultimately, reconciliation must be at the community level. And, as such, this is the responsibility of the community exercising its calling as the Body of Christ.



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

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: Envelopes are still available to donate to the appeal. They can be placed in the 2nd collection. Donations are used to support the care of the 24 retired priests in our Archdiocese. Thank you for your generosity.

EARN AND LEARN STICKERS: Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers can be placed in the collection and will be passed on to St Patrick's School.



2018 Columban Art Calendars

Now available at the Church entrance. \$9. Please place your money in the marked envelope & place in the collection.



God's Word 2018

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

FIRST RECONCILIATION 2017. For adults & children (7yrs +) who have not yet received this sacrament. Please contact the office or visit the Parish website.

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:
Anne Farrell
11th - 17th Sept
6592 1925

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 Don Fletcher, Patrick O'Callaghan, Bernard John Collins, Ada Wilds, Patsy Hart, Therese Eadie, Noa Jessop, Neville, Eric & Carrie Turnbull, Jack Boller

THE SAPPHIRE COMMUNITY PANTRY is looking for volunteers. It aims to provide healthy food and essential items to individuals and families, at low cost or free to alleviate the financial pressures faced by people on limited incomes. The Pantry is a not-for-profit, non-denominational social enterprise, auspiced by the Southern Women's Group, and occupying a space donated by the Salvation Army. Volunteers will be assisting with the day to day running of the Pantry. For more information please call Christine Welsh on 0438 407 364.

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.

AUSTRALIA NEEDS FATIMA – Special Fatima 100th anniversary Rosary beads and rosary booklet - \$5 (incl postage & handling). To order call (02) 9715 2324 or email us at info@fatima.org.au

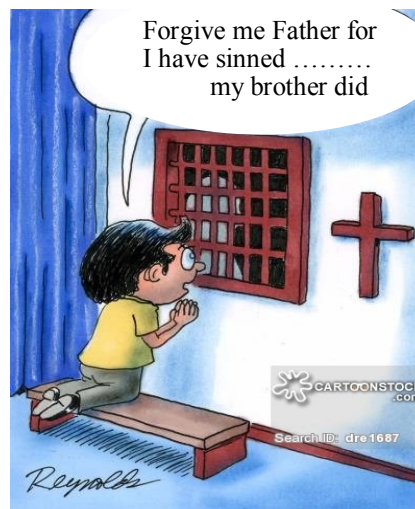
ORDINATIONS TO THE DIACONATE: Please pray for Namora Anderson and Adrian Chan who will be ordained on Friday 22nd at 7pm.

MARIAN PROCESSION AND YOUTH PILGRIMAGE. Sunday the 8th October St Clements, Galong. Visit the Archdiocesan website for more information. cgatholic.org.au/

CATECHIST AND FRIENDS RETREAT DAY - 23rd September, with Sr. Judy Bowe, mgl. at St Joseph's Merimbula from 10am - 4pm. BYO lunch. RSVP: kylie.bereza@cg.org.au

AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION IN SYDNEY Sisters of Charity Outreach operates a great service for regional NSW residents who need to attend medical appointments and hospital in Sydney. **Chisholm Cottage** is located at Westmead. Contact the Manager: Phone: 02 9633 4228. Email: chisholmcottage@outreach.net.au Visit the website: www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au

“Oh my God,
forgive what I have been,
correct what I am,
and *direct* what I will be.”
Amen.
PRAYER OF ST ELIZABETH ANN SETON



ST VINCENT DE PAUL BLESSED OZANAM APPEAL—SUNDAY 24TH

Blessed Ozanam Appeal is a collection for the Twinned conferences of the Bega St Vincent de Paul Society. Vast numbers of people in developing countries live below the poverty line. With over 600 million in the Asia-Pacific region, twinning provides regular help. A spiritual bond is formed by a union of prayer and solidarity. A cultural bond is built up by regular exchange of correspondence. A financial commitment is sent quarterly to the twinned conferences. Bega has three financed twins in India and we correspond with them on a regular basis.