

Rosporial Psalm. The Lord is near to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

ROSTERS - 30th Sept/1st Oct 2017
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

BEMBOKA SAT 6PM

Commentator P Bateman
Readers R Allen
Gifts
Cleaners Gerry



WISE WORDS: Do not forget that true love sets no conditions; it does not calculate or complain, but simply loves. Pope John Paul II

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 - 27th September

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The deathbed confession of a dying servant opened Vincent's eyes to the crying spiritual needs of the peasantry of France. This seems to have been a crucial moment in the life of the man who had become a priest with little more ambition than to have a comfortable life.

It was the Countess de Gondi who first supported the missionaries (Vincentians) to work among poor tenant farmers & country people in general. Vincent wouldn't accept leadership at first but after working with galley slaves he took on the role. He then establish confraternities for the poor in each Parish & with St Louise de Marillac, the Sisters of Charity. He had wealthy Parisian women collect funds for his missionary projects, founded hospitals, collected relief for war victims, & ransomed over 1,200 galley slaves from North Africa. He was a pioneer in clerical training and in establishing seminaries.

Most remarkably, he was a very irascible person. He said that except for the grace of God he would have been "hard & repulsive, rough & cross." But he became a tender and affectionate man, very sensitive to the needs of others. Pope Leo XIII made him the patron of all charitable societies. Outstanding among these is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, founded in 1833 by his admirer Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.

The Church is for all God's children. But obviously the greatest concern of the Church must be for those who need the most help—those made helpless by sickness, poverty, ignorance, or cruelty. Vincent de Paul is a particularly appropriate patron for all Christians today, when hunger has become starvation, and the contrast between those who have and those who don't is more & more glaring



25th Sunday—Year A

24th 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/>

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

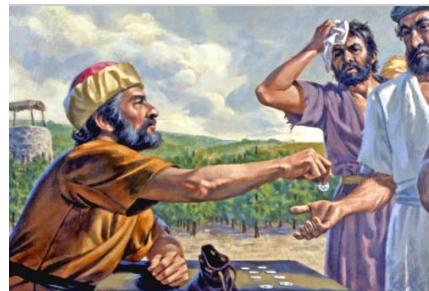


THIS STORY first of all needs to be understood against the background of the early Christians. Those who have worked long hours in the vineyard, "who have done a heavy day's work in all the heat", are the Jewish people. The late arrivals, those who have come at the 11th hour are the new Christians, many of them Gentiles of "pagan" origin.

Nowadays, many people reading this parable have problems with what seems to be a quite unfair treatment of the labourers. Our reaction (under the influence of trade unionism and "fair play") generally is that those who have done more, who have given more, should get more. Those who work 12 hours should get more than those who work for one hour. That is simple justice. Anything else is simply exploitation.

However, justice is the whole point of the parable and of Jesus' teaching. If we have problems with the parable, it means that we are not yet on Jesus' wavelength.

What this means is that we have to look at this story from a very different point of view. We have to learn what God's justice is like. Another name for God's justice is mercy and compassion. In the eyes of the world it can sometimes seem very unjust. In the parable the point being made is not that the longer workers got less than what was their due but that the later workers got exactly the same treatment from their master.



Things are not being measured according to individual output but according to need. All, early or late, have exactly the same need for God's mercy and God's love and everyone gets all of it.

So, rather than criticising God for acting this way, we should be deeply grateful. Sometimes we, who have borne the heat of the day and tried over many years to live up to the demands of the Gospel, may regard it unfair that a person, who has led a terribly immoral pagan life, can have a last-minute conversion and die in God's love.

There are two things that can be said about that: **a.** The first is that we ourselves should be grateful that our God is ready to accept us back at any stage once we express sorrow for our sins and wish to be reunited with him in love. God – as the life of Jesus clearly manifests again and again – is ready to accept the sinner back at any time, even at the 11th hour. God has a notoriously short memory as far as our past is concerned. This is something that we should be deeply grateful for. **b.** Secondly, it is a strange way of looking at our Christian way of life to think that, by following it, we are losing out to people who live a life of sin and immorality. It is the person who lives a life based on the Gospel values of truth, love, generosity, sharing, and justice who experiences real happiness. The life of sin is often based on a futile search for happiness through pleasure and enjoyment.

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Freedom in Christ The high point of Christian freedom is expressed by Paul in today's Second Reading from his letter to the Christian community at Philippi in northern Greece. Paul is in prison and faces the possibility of being executed for his Christian faith. But he is ready.

This is an extraordinary example of what is known as Ignatian "indifference", that is, the perfect acceptance of what God wants, the perfect acceptance of God's ways and the total merging of my vision with his. And this is done actively, not passively. Let us ask him that we may have the same level of freedom and generosity in our own lives. For there is the secret of our real happiness.

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL NEWS: Enrolment Mass and Blessing of Mini Vinnies 15th October, Grandparents Day 27th October. Mass at 9am.

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

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.

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL BLESSED OZANAM APPEAL— THIS SUNDAY



For the Twinned conferences of the Bega St Vincent de Paul Society. To support Bega's 3 twins in India with spiritual, cultural and financial bonds. *THANKS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY*

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE

hosted by:

Les & Joan De La Mare
25th Sept - 1st Oct
6492 2384

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 Fr Phil Harding, Zel Caddy, Tora Kite, Fr Mayne Murphy, Richard Heffernan, Marge Simpson, Gordan Ryan, Alice Burns, Julian Cadman
ANNIVERSARIES Danny McCambridge, Gerald Rheinberger, Ben Bollar, Harold Tarlinton, Don Fletcher, Patrick O'Callaghan, Bernard John Collins, Ada Wilds

SAME SEX MARRIAGE VOTE: With the postal survey due to arrive in our letterboxes the following information is available in the Church entrance. Archbishop Christopher's latest Pastoral Message; The Archdiocese of Hobart's leaflet titled '*Pope Francis, Marriage & the Plebiscite*'; and the Coalition for Marriage flyer.

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

AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION IN SYDNEY Sisters of Charity Outreach operates affordable accommodation in Westmead for regional NSW residents who need to attend medical appointments and hospital in Sydney. Contact the Manager of Chisolm Cottage on: Phone: 02 9633 4228. Email: chisholmcottage@outreach.net.au Visit the website: www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au

Today we celebrate **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy*. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details or to download a copy, visit www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au.

2017 BLACKFRIARS LECTURE SERIES 'Ahead of the game: recognising the opportunities for the ageing population' Public Lecture by Dr Kay Patterson AO. Please see the notice board for more details

Media personality, Geraldine Doogue will be keynote speaker at a gala dinner '*Living the Gospel Today – Next steps to re-imagining our parish communities*', hosted by St Gregory's Parish Pastoral Council, Queanbeyan, Tuesday 28 November. Queanbeyan Roos Club, Tickets \$60. Bookings: www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com Inquiries: (02) 6299 4611/queanbeyan@cg.org.au

God's Word 2018

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

2018 Columban Art Calendars

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

PRAYER FOR GRACE

Merciful Lord, you are never weary of speaking to my poor heart. Grant me grace that, if today I hear your voice, my heart may not be hardened. Amen

