

**Responsorial Psalm.** Remember your mercies, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation.** Alleluia, alleluia!  
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they know me.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have

**ROSTERS - 7th /8th October 2017**

**Please arrange a swap if you are not available**

**TATHRA SUN 7:45AM**

*Commentator* Kate D'Arcy  
*Readers* Carleen Maley  
*Gifts* Pat McRae  
*Cleaners* Mike & Mary Tupper  
*Wardens* Peter D'Arcy, Mike Tupper  
*Audio-Visual* Trish Sly



**WISE WORDS:** Far better it is for you to say: "I am a sinner," than to say: "I have no need for religion." The empty can be filled, but the self-intoxicated have no room for God. 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

**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'

**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**

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

**FEAST DAY - 7th October**

**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY**

St Pius V established this feast in 1573 to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the rosary. Clement XI extended the feast in 1716.

The development of the rosary has a long history. First, a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms. Then there was a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Marys. Soon a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving the rosary to St Dominic is recognized as a legend, the development of this prayer form owes much to the followers of St Dominic. One of them, Alan de la Roche, was known as "the apostle of the rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15th century. In the 16th century, the rosary was developed to its present form with the 15 mysteries with Pope John Paul II adding five more in 2002.

The purpose of the rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, & resurrection. The Our Fathers remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Marys remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was and is intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of his earthly and heavenly existence. The Glory Bes remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity. The rosary appeals to many. It is simple. The constant repetition helps create an atmosphere to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus & Mary are with us in the joys & sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us to his glory forever.



26th Sunday—Year A

1st October 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

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PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
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Website: <http://cg.org.au/bega/>

## 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY WE ARE PRESENTED with another challenge by Jesus to the religious leaders of the people. It consists of a parable about two sons whose father operates a vineyard. He tells one to go and work there. The lad refuses but later changes his mind and goes. The second one is also told to go. He agrees to do so but in the end he does not.



"Which of the two did his father's will?" Jesus asks. They all agree that it was the one who at first would not go but later did so. In case there was any doubt, Jesus then clearly spells out the meaning of his story. Tax collectors and prostitutes, perhaps the most despised of all people from the religious leaders' point of view, were making their way into the kingdom of God before the chief priests and the elders. In their eyes, it was a shocking and dreadfully insulting thing to say. As proof of what he says, Jesus reminds them that they refused to believe John the Baptist, "a pattern of true righteousness", when he called people to repentance. On the other hand, the tax collectors and prostitutes did. And, even after that, the priests and elders refused to do so. They were there, of course, watching but felt that John's words did not concern them.



Today's Gospel is clearly directed at the religious and civil leaders of the people in Jesus' time. They spoke much about God and, in particular, how God was to be served by a strict observance of the Law. But it is clear they did not have the spirit that Jesus was communicating through his life and teaching. The spirit of love, compassion, caring and forgiveness for the weak and vulnerable. They also heard the teaching of Jesus but made no effort to carry it out. They excused themselves by challenging Jesus' legal authority to do what he was doing. Because Jesus did not fit into the parameters of their legal world, they could not classify him and they rejected him. On the other hand, the "tax collectors and the prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you". They certainly were not keeping God's Law. They had said No to his commandments many times. But then they met Jesus and they experienced a radical transformation in their lives. They listened and they responded.

The chief priests and the elders are like the second son in the story. They say 'Yes' to obeying God but they do not listen to Jesus, the Son of God, or follow his instructions. The sinners, the outcasts of both Jewish and Gentile society, are like the first son. They do not obey God's commands, they commit many sins, but later they accept the teaching of Jesus and become his followers. What is clear from this Gospel and from the First Reading is that God is primarily concerned with my present relationship to him. As far as the past is concerned, God has a very short memory! In fact, we might say he has none at all. This is the "injustice" of

God that Ezekiel mentions. We remember the man who was crucified with Jesus on Calvary. He was a major criminal, a brigand, a robber, perhaps a murderer. There, in the very last moments of a life of murder and mayhem, he asks pardon and forgiveness – “Jesus, remember me when you enter into your Kingdom.” The reply comes instantly, without any qualifications whatsoever, “Today, you will be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:42-43) How unjust! How unfair! We are reminded of last week’s parable where the workers complained about the latecomers who were given a full wage.

However, it would not at all be a very good idea to think that I could live a life of total selfishness with the intention of making a last-minute deathbed conversion. Apart from the riskiness of such a gamble, such a decision would be quite short-sighted. It is a totally false idea that to base one’s life on the Gospel is somehow to step outside the mainstream of human living and do something unnatural or ‘supernatural’. For believers and non-believers alike, this is probably the saddest misconception of all. On the contrary, it is the Gospel life vision that is totally human and totally in harmony with our deepest aspirations. If we want true fulfilment and happiness, it is this Way that has to be seized as soon as we become aware of it.

*Emptying oneself.* In the Second Reading we have the magnificent hymn about Jesus’ own spirit of service and selflessness. Paul says this in the context of a plea for greater unity in the Christian community at Philippi. In urging the Christians to serve each other’s needs with the deepest respect, he asks them to have the mind of Jesus himself, to think like he does. And he illustrates this by quoting what seems to have been an early Christian hymn. It speaks of the awesome dignity of Jesus as the Son of God. Yet Jesus did not emphasise this in his life among us. On the contrary he “emptied” himself and became just like us. He went further and took on the status of a slave and

**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.

**BENEDICTION.**  
*Bega* - 1st Sun. of the Month after 9:30 Mass  
*Candelo* - 1st Saturday after 6pm Vigil.  
*Bemboka* - 2nd Saturday at 5:30pm

**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** 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 Bollard, Harold Tarlinton, Don Fletcher, Patrick O’Callaghan, Bernard John Collins, Ada Wilds



*Baptisms This Weekend:*  
*Corbin Wallace O’Brien; Hudson Cole O’Brien;*  
*Naith Connacher Gottaas Brooks; Jayden James Constance;*  
*Flyn Alexander Gottaas Brannigan; Eliza Anne Dean &*  
*Maddix William McGann*

Last Sunday was **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**. The Social Justice Statement can be viewed at [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au).

**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS BOOK:** If you are interested in using the Diocese of Wollongong Advent reflections booklet. Please use the order form at the church entrance. Cost will be approx. \$4.50

**MEN’S BREAKFAST** at St John’s October 7, 8am, Guest speaker Ron Watts, a pilot who has flown for many years on humanitarian missions for MAF and Angel Flight. He will bring with him a display aircraft on trailer for us to look at. Our usual hearty breakfast and relaxed fellowship will ensure a great men’s morning. Donation of \$8.00 appreciated, part of which will go to MAF or TEAR humanitarian charity.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Deacon Joshua Scott who will be ordained to the Priesthood Friday 13th October 6pm.

**God’s Word 2018**  
 Please use the sheet at the church entrance to order your copy. Last weeks. \$15.

**2018 Columban Art Calendars**  
 Now available. \$9. Please place your money in the marked envelope & place in the collection.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE**  
 hosted by:  
 Beth Bateman  
 2nd - 8th October

