

**Responsorial Psalm.** I love you, Lord, my strength  
**Gospel Acclamation.** Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.

**ROSTERS - 4th/5th November 2017**  
**Please arrange a swap if you are not available**

<b>BEGA SUN 9:30AM</b>	
<i>Commentator</i>	J Lott
<i>Readers</i>	C Sullivan, R Sheehan
<i>Gifts</i>	Jean Ubrihien
<i>Cleaners</i>	R & Y Sixsmith
<i>Counters</i>	C Murphy, T D’Arcy
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan & Choir
<i>Acolyte</i>	Tony Healey
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	E Collins, B Tygh
	M Twyford
<b>Casuarina: P Gardiner</b>	
<i>Nursing Home 11am</i>	F Farrell

**WISE WORDS:** The fruit of silence is prayer.  
The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith  
is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit  
of service is peace. - St Teresa of Kolkata

<b>SUNDAY MASS TIMES</b>	
➤ <u>Bemboka</u>	- Saturdays 6pm Vigil Mass
➤ <u>Candelo</u>	- 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass
➤ <u>Candelo</u>	- 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday - 9.30am Mass
➤ <u>Tathra</u>	- Sundays - 7.45am Mass
➤ <u>Bega</u>	- Sundays - 9.30am Mass

<b>Weekdays</b>	
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

<b>Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation</b>	
<u>Bega</u>	Friday, 5.30 - 6.00pm
	Saturday, 9.30 - 10.00am
<u>Bemboka</u>	before vigil Mass
<u>Candelo</u>	before vigil Mass
<u>Tathra</u>	before Sunday Mass


**FEAST DAY - 2nd November**  
**ALL SOULS**

The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. “If we had no care for the dead,” Augustine noted, “we would not be in the habit of praying for them.” Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of prayer for the departed members.

In the middle of the 11th century, Saint Odilo, abbot of Cluny, France, decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on November 2, the day after the feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Roman Church.

The theological underpinning of the feast is the acknowledgment of human frailty. Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the prayers of the living can speed the process of purification. Superstition easily clung to the observance. Medieval popular belief held that the souls in purgatory could appear on this day in the form of witches, toads or will-o’-the-wisps. Graveside food offerings supposedly eased the rest of the dead.

Observances of a more religious nature have survived. These include public processions or private visits to cemeteries and decorating graves with flowers and lights. This feast is observed with great fervor in Mexico.



**30th Sunday—Year A** **29th 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  
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/>

“LOVE – AND DO WHAT YOU LIKE” is a statement attributed to the great St Augustine. He did not say simply, “Do what you like” but “LOVE, and do what you like.” The word ‘love’ changes the meaning of the statement completely. We have a similar theme in today’s Gospel. It touches on the very heart of the Christian message and indeed of all human living.

We are at a stage in Matthew’s Gospel these weeks where Jesus is being challenged by various leading groups among the Jews. Now it is some Pharisees who approach him with their own question, a question much debated among themselves: “Which is the greatest commandment of the Law?” Unlike other encounters, there is not necessarily any malice in this approach. As a Rabbi, influential with the crowds and known by many as someone with a mind of his own, they wanted to know Jesus’ opinion.

Jesus often answered people’s questions with one of his own but in this case he gives an answer. And he cites not one law but two. He first quotes the book of Deuteronomy which says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind.” Jesus says this is the “first and greatest commandment”. Probably Jesus’ hearers would have had no problem agreeing with that. He then goes on immediately to say, “The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself.” For Jesus’ listeners, this commandment would have been seen very much as a secondary requirement. And, as we know, the word “neighbour” could be taken in a highly restricted sense. Jesus was making a significant change in linking these two commandments together as one and inseparable. From the rest of the New Testament it is clear that one cannot love God without loving one’s brothers and sisters at the same time. Nor does one love others just for God’s sake or to please God or observe a commandment. One is expected to go much further. One does not go to God through others but one seeks, finds and loves God IN others. “As often as you did/did not do it to the very least of my brothers and sisters, you did/did not do it to me” (Matt 25:40).

Jesus identifies himself with the hungry and thirsty, with the naked, the sick and those in prison (irrespective of their crimes). Jesus identifies himself with those in most need of love and compassion. He is also to be loved in the leper (nowadays the AIDS victim, the alcoholic, the drug addict, the homeless), the outcast – and even in the enemy who threatens me.

There is only one “commandment” consisting of two inseparable parts. The key word is “love” but there are really three loves involved: love of God, love of others and love of self. Ultimately, love of God, the source of all being and life, comes first. Then comes, as a natural outcome, love for all those in whom God dwells and whom God creates. Because they are the objects of his love, they must also be the objects of mine. Lastly, there is the love of self. I also am worthy of being loved. Strangely enough, to implement these loves effectively, we may have to reverse the order: love of self, leading to love others, leading finally to love of God.



In a way, the most basic love is love of myself. "Love your neighbour as yourself," says today's Gospel. On the one hand we might think this is an unnecessary command. What people do not love themselves, think about themselves, worry about their welfare? At the same time, we have been taught many times not to be loving ourselves, not to be selfish and self-centred. And it seems that a great many people do not really love themselves very much at all. Quite a number actually hate themselves and a large number have a low level of self-esteem. They do not like very much what they see in the mirror. Many secretly dislike themselves and would dread people getting to know them as they see themselves.

If we have difficulty loving ourselves, it will be difficult to reach out in love to others. We will be too busy worrying whether others are loving us, or at least the facade we present to others.

Finally, we need to say that this love is not necessarily an emotional and romantic love. It is a love, as the First Reading indicates, which involves treating every single person with deep respect, with justice, with compassion. It reaches out even to those who behave badly or wish to harm me. It is a deepdown desire that wishes that every person experience what is the very best for them. It is a way of relating to people that helps them also to become more caring and loving – of themselves, of others, and of God. As Paul tells the Thessalonians today, "You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you...and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord." That is the core of all evangelisation. It is not just a question of "converting" people and getting them to the baptismal font as Catholics. It is rather gently to lead them so that they find the God who loves them and find God in loving those around them. What I am to myself becomes what I am to others and vice versa. And together we all go to God as he comes to us. In love.

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL NEWS:** Giving Mass 10th November 9am

**ALL SAINTS DAY** - 1st November, usual weekday Mass - 9am Tathra, 5:30pm Bega.

**ALL SOULS DAY MASS** Bega's cemetery - Thurs **2nd Nov 7am.**  
**BYO your own chair.**

**MASSSES FOR THE DEAD WILL BE OFFERED IN NOVEMBER.**  
Envelopes may be placed on the collection plates.

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA  
STATUE**

hosted by:  
Kath & Gordon  
Summerall  
30th Oct—5th Nov  
6492 2768

#### 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** James Scott, June Douch, Gladys Hankinson, Kevin Ryan, Lydia Crowe, Barry Savage, Loretta McDonald (McNamara), Fr Phil Harding

**ANNIVERSARIES** Ada Wilds, Leo Bateman, Monica Brown, Margaret Bateman, Dulcie Heffernan, Fr. M. Eugene, Fr. Dom Egan, Maura Anne Wesley-Collins, Paul Malone, Danny McCambridge, Gerald Rheinberger

#### NEW PARISH APPOINTMENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE:

##### Parish Priests

Fr Luke Verrell—Bega  
Fr Loi Viovicente—North Belconnen,  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Fr Pale Leota—Pambula/Merimbula  
Fr Simon Falk—South Belconnen,  
St Matthew's & St Vincent de Paul  
Fr James Antony—South Tuggeranong  
Fr Michael Lim—Weston Creek

##### Assistant Priests

Fr Andrew Lotton—St Christopher's Cathedral  
Fr Joshua Scott—Central Canberra  
Fr James Onoja—Cooma  
Fr Lolesio Gisa—Goulburn  
Fr George Ogah—Tumut  
Fr Varghese Assin—Young

**"ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL"** a Christian tour to India in February 2018, Bookings will be closing shortly. Please contact Marie Fonseca the organiser on 02 9344 0523 or 0418 265117, Email: [info@spiceodyssey.net.au](mailto:info@spiceodyssey.net.au) Website: [www.spiceodyssey.net.au](http://www.spiceodyssey.net.au) to download a flyer.

**GRIEF TO GRACE – HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABUSE** - A spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. *13 April 2018*. Contact Anne: [info@griegtograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griegtograceaus.org.au) or 0407704539. More information visit [www.griegtograce.org](http://www.griegtograce.org)

**THE CURRENT OF GRACE**-11 November. A day of teaching, worship and prayer led by Archbishop Christopher in the Haydon Hall, St Christopher's Pastoral Centre, 55 Franklin Street, Manuka. BYO lunch with morning tea provided. Mass will be celebrated at 12.15pm in St Christopher's Cathedral. Information Neda: 0415266019; Sandra 0405692999; Susanna 0419902293

**WE WELCOME** Edith McDonald into our parish community. Edith was received into full communion with the Catholic Church this week.



"That 'Love thy neighbor' part,  
does that include cats?"

#### MEET FR LUKE.

Fr Luke Verrell will be visiting Bega on 27th Nov-3rd Dec. There will be a cuppa in the school hall after the 9:30 Sunday mass. Please bring a plate to share.

Fr. Luke Verrell grew up in Queanbeyan and joined the Good Shepherd Seminary in 2005. He was ordained a priest in December 2013 by Archbishop Christopher and has served as an assistant priest in Corpus Christi Parish, Tuggeranong and the Immaculate Conception Parish Tumut. Fr. Luke's parents live in Narooma and he has a sister (with family) in Canberra and brother in Sydney.