

Rosporial Psalm. Happy are those who fear the Lord

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon To be near God is happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

ROSTERS - 25th/26th November 2017
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

BEMBOKA SAT 6PM

Commentator P Bateman
Readers R Allen
Gifts Allen
Cleaners Green



WISE WORDS: God gave you your particular mix of talents and abilities because they match up with the mission he has in mind for you. - Matthew Kelly

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 - 22nd November

SAINT CECILIA

Although Cecilia is one of the most famous of the Roman martyrs, the familiar stories about her are apparently not founded on authentic material. There is no trace of honor being paid her in early times. A fragmentary inscription of the late fourth century refers to a church named after her, and her feast was celebrated at least in 545.

According to legend, Cecilia was a young Christian of high rank betrothed to a Roman named Valerian. Through her influence, Valerian was converted, and was martyred along with his brother. The legend about Cecilia's death says that after being struck three times on the neck with a sword, she lived for three days, and asked the pope to convert her home into a church.

Since the time of the Renaissance she has usually been portrayed with a viola or a small organ. Like any good Christian, Cecilia sang in her heart, and sometimes with her voice. She has become a symbol of the Church's conviction that good music is an integral part of the liturgy, of greater value to the Church than any other art. St Cecilia is the Patron Saint of Musicians

On a lighter note: Health and Safety - the things that we are no longer allowed to do.



Racing blindfolded children down the aisle



33rd Sunday—Year A

19th November 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/>

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

THIS IS, IN EFFECT, the last ordinary Sunday of the Church year. Next week, the 34th Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. And again, as last week, we are reminded not just of the end of the liturgical year but of the end of all things and the preparations we need to make.

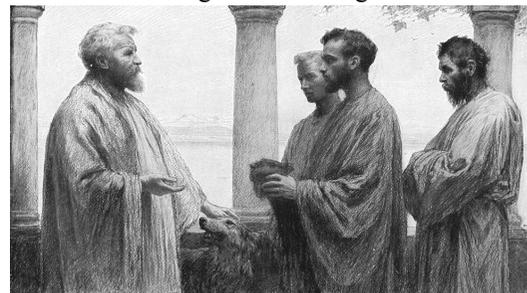


Last week, the story of the ten bridesmaids waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom, was about constant readiness for the final coming of Christ. Today's Mass is rather about the preparations we need to make. The Second Reading reminds us that the Day of the Lord will come "like a thief in the night", when we least expect it, when we are least ready. "We do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober." And what should we be doing while we are wide awake (and, hopefully, sober!) in anticipation of the Lord's coming?

The First Reading suggests that we should be as diligent and industrious as a loyal and faithful wife. A perfect wife, Proverbs says, "is far beyond the price of pearls". She is hardworking, mainly for her family, but she also "holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy". Her value is not in her charm or her beauty but in her wisdom, that is, in her awareness of where the real priorities in life lie.

The Gospel passage, however, goes further in pinpointing the ultimate purpose of our activities. It is the parable of the talents. Literally, one talent was a very large sum of money, equivalent to thousands of dollars today. The parable contains words of advice for the interim period between Christ's resurrection and his final return. It urges a responsible use of the goods the Master has entrusted to us so that we may be ready to face him when he calls us to account.

We see in the parable an employer entrusting his property to each of three servants to administer while he is away. They are not given the same amount and this implies that they have different abilities, or 'talents' as we would say today. It is also implied that different returns are expected from different abilities. People are not competing against each other, only against themselves. The first two, of whom one received five talents and one received two talents, traded with what they had been given and doubled their capital. The third, however, the one who received the least, "went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money".



In the Greek text, the word used for "gained" or "made" was used in religious contexts for winning converts. Thus the parable suggests that we are talking about the kind of "profit" a Christian is meant to be aiming at, which has nothing to do with dollars and cents. The man, therefore, who dug his single talent was guilty of keeping it purely for himself and not risking its exposure to others who could have benefited from his efforts.

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“A long time after”, suggesting the long period between Jesus’ resurrection and his coming again, the employer returns to call his servants to account. He is very pleased with the first two who had done so well as to double their original capital. Because they had shown such trustworthiness and a willingness to take risks over what was relatively little, they could now be confidently entrusted with much more. They could enter the “joy of their lord”, namely the Kingdom of God.

The third man came forward and sheepishly offered his single talent. He had been afraid of his master. “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered. Here is the talent; it is yours, take it back.” The employer is very angry. At the very least, the money could have been put in a bank and earned a modicum of interest. As it was, it produced absolutely nothing. One is reminded here of the branches on the vine which have no fruit and get thrown into the fire. In terms of the Gospel, it speaks of the Christian, who may be very devout, but who makes no contribution whatever to the life of the Christian community or to its mandate to give witness to the Gospel before the world (something that can be far more risky than commercial trading).

Finally, we need to spend some time reflecting – and why not today? – on what particular talents or gifts God has given us. Some of us are clearly very gifted but there is no one, absolutely no one, who can say they have been gifted with nothing. And we can ask ourselves how are we using our particular gifts in the service of our Christian community and the wider society? Any other use of them is to bury them in a napkin and render them unproductive. If we were to die today and met Jesus and he asked us, “How did you use the gifts and talents I gave you? Who benefited and how from those gifts?” What would you be able to say in reply? And the Master is going to come back, “like a thief in the night”, so we need to be ready. If you have buried that talent or used it in only selfish ways, get out there quickly and get it working for the Kingdom.

Welcome Father George

COLUMBAN FR GEORGE HOGARTY has recently returned from Peru where he was parish priest in one of the poorest areas in Peru for 8 years. Fr George is visiting and speaking at all Masses this weekend to promote subscriptions to ‘The Far East’ Magazine. Fr George's profile and flyer are in the foyer of the church.

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 Joan Talbot, Mary Porrill, Sr M Elizabeth Couch rsj, Edith McDonald, Gladys Evans, Kim Hopkins, Fr John Airey, James Scott

ANNIVERSARIES Cec Berman, Jim Barretts, Patricia Tregurtha, Max Hefferan, John Bateman, Kevin Russell, Cec Berman, Ada Wilds, Leo Bateman, Monica Brown

MASS TIME CHANGES 2ND DECEMBER ONLY

To allow Fr Luke to say Mass in all churches during his visit. Mass on Saturday 2nd December has been changed to:

Bemboka - 5pm
Candelo - 6:30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 9TH/10TH DECEMBER



Making dreams come true.
 Last Year the Bega Conference distributed 30 hampers plus toys and Gift cards to local families in need. We thank you for your continued generosity this Christmas

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

ST PATRICK’S SCHOOL NEWS: Kinder 2018 Orientation Dates: 15th, 22nd, 29th Nov. School Mass 8th Dec –Feast of the Immaculate Conception. 9am

LUMEN CHRISTIE YEAR 7, 2018 ORIENTATION DAY - Friday 1st Dec, 9am-3:20pm. Students wear their primary sports uniform and runner. Bring a pencil case, recess, lunch, drink & hat. Please note a sausage sizzle will also be held at lunchtime.

BOOKS ORDERS NOW AVAILABLE - Advent reflections - \$4.50. God’s Word—\$15

PLEASE HELP our counters by NOT folding notes before placing them into the PG envelopes. Notes now go through a counting machine at the bank and folded notes are a problem. THANK YOU.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Ronnie’s own rendition of Peace like a River was the talk of the annual talent show at Wayward Christian Centre

FOR SALE: available from the Parish office: Bibles - \$16; Sunday Missal - \$32. Contact the office or place your order in a marked envelope in the 2nd collection.

DID YOU KNOW that the parish bulletin can be found on our website. Been away or lost a bulletin visit cg.org.au/bega
 Baptism request forms can also be downloaded.

FR. MICHAEL’S FARWELL

The PPC are making plans to farewell and thank Fr Michael before Christmas. If you would like to contribute to a gift a special account has been opened and you can make a direct deposit if you wish.

BSB: 802124
A/C no: 100085724
Ref: Betty O’Brien
 For more information see Betty O’Brien.