



SUNDAY MASS TIMES
 ➤ **Bemboka** - 2nd, 4th Saturday - 6pm Vigil Mass
 ➤ **Bemboka** - 1st, 3rd, 5th Sat. - 6pm Mass or Liturgy
 ➤ **Candelo** - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass
 ➤ **Candelo** - 2nd, 4th Sun. - 9.30am Mass or Liturgy
 ➤ **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

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.

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

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

St. Pat's Choir practices Thursdays 5.15—6pm
 Contacts Mary 64921850 or Matt 0429 338 348.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2018
Baptisms—During Mass, 1 month notice
First Reconciliation—7th November
First Eucharist—31st May
Weddings—by appointment, 6 months notice required.
RCIA—If anyone would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith or knows of someone who would like to become a Catholic, please contact Fr. Luke.
 PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.

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.

WORDS OF WISDOM:
 You must remember to love people and use things, rather than to love things and use people.
 - VEN. FULTON SHEEN

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION GROUP
 Is taking a break during January Resume Tuesdays in Feb. at 7pm Star of the Sea Tathra.



ROSTERS 7th January 2018 - 4th February 2018

Please arrange a swap if you are not available

TATHRA SUN 7:45AM							
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners	Wardens	Overhead	Eucharistic Ministers
7th Jan	Betty O'Brien	Paul Gardiner	M & M Plevy	M & M Plevy	P Preo; Michael & Eddie	M Taylor	C Maley, L Carey
14th Jan	M Hergenhan	E & T Nguyen	E & T Nguyen	D & R Cummins	D Grainger, P Preo	T Sly	L Carey, P McDonald
21st Jan	Trish Sly	Mary Plevy	V Besant & T Sly	Oakley Family	B Miller, D Grainger	E Nguyen	P McDonald, M Plevy
28th Jan	Marie Oakley	Betty O'Brien	D & R Cummins	D & M Miller	L Maley, B Miller	C Maley	M Plevy, J Reid
4th Feb	David Grainger	Mary Tupper	Margaret Taylor	Marg T & Lee R	R Cummins, L Maley	J Reid	J Reid, G Collins

BEGA SUN 9:30AM						
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners	Counters	Acolyte
7th Jan	T & E Tomlinson	K Jennings J Ubrihien	Jean Ubrihien	M Robertson	V Northcott & B Burton	Frank Farrell
14th Jan	K Summerell	V Northcott A Woods	B Burton	J Taylor	Collins, Sheedy & McNaught P&F	Tony Healey
21st Jan	P Malone	M Johnston M Scott	Kath Summerell	Sixsmith		David Grainger
28th Jan	J Lott	C Sullivan R Sheehan	Woods Family	Healey	T Malone & D Carey B & E Richards	Sean McCambridge
4th Feb	F McNaught	B O'Reilly J Scott-Pegum	Tomlinson Family	Caragher		Frank Farrell



BEMBOKA SAT 6PM				
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners
7th Jan	G Bevitt	G Green		Berman
14th Jan	J Guthrie	M Guthrie	Berman	Bevitt
21st Jan	S Berman	E Bevitt		Green
28th Jan	G Berman	P Bateman	Bevitt	Allen
4th Feb	G Green	G Bevitt		Gerrey

BEGA SUN 9:30AM CONT.		
Date	Eucharistic Ministers	Nursing Home
7th Jan	C Tarlinton, U de Morsier E Collins	B Tygh
14th Jan	Casuarina: Pat Platts E Caragher, M Holzhauser J Morrow, J Ubrihien	
21st Jan	U de Morsier, B Burton B Tygh, M Rheinberger	C Tarlinton
27th Jan	C Sullivan, A Tarlinton, R Healey, M Twyford	
4th Feb	C Tarlinton, U de Morsier E Collins. Casuarina: P Gardiner	M Twyford

CANDELO				
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners
7th Jan	J Coman	K Wels	Julie Banks	Jan - Kathy Wels & Family.
14th Jan	Robert Coman	Sarah Heffernan	Ann Hyam	
21st Jan	K Wels	P O'Callaghan	P O'Callaghan	
28th Jan	J Coman	L Thompson	M & G Heffernan	Feb - Sharon & David Heffernan
4th Feb	K Wels	R Hopkins	Roger Heffernan	

Year B 31st December 2017 — 21st January 2018

St. Patrick's Parish

St. Patrick's, Bega - St. Columba's, Bemboka - St. Joseph's Candelo
 Star of the Sea, Tathra.

Fr. Luke Verrell Parish Priest.
 Mrs. Tanya Tomlinson, Parish Secretary.
 Hrs 9-3 Tuesday, 9-3 Thursday
 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/

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

31st December 2017

Marriage is too often conceived as the sacrament which unites a man and a woman to form a couple. In reality, marriage establishes a family, and its purpose is to increase the number of the elect, through the bodily and spiritual union of the Christian spouses.

- Every marriage intends children. Mary and Joseph are united only in order to bring Jesus into the world, to protect and raise him. They have only one child, but he contains the whole of mankind, even as Isaac, an only child, fulfilled the promise made to Abraham of a countless progeny.
- The purpose of every marriage is to establish a Christian family. The Holy Family observed the religious laws of Israel; it went in pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year with other Jewish families (Lk. 2:41). Jesus saddens and amazes his father and his mother because to their will and company he prefers "to be in his Father's house". Thus it may happen that God's will obliges the family to make disconcerting sacrifices. Yet every Christian family must live in harmony and in prayer, which are the pledges of joy and union.
- "He remained obedient to them." Jesus was God. And through the fullness of grace Mary stood above Joseph. Nevertheless — if we except the event in the Temple — Joseph remained the head of the family; he took the initiative (as when the Holy Family fled to Egypt), and in Nazareth Jesus obeyed his parents.



Responsorial Psalm.
 The Lord remembers his covenant for ever

Gospel Acclamation.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
 Now he speaks to us through his Son
 Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
 Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



Solemnity of the Mary Holy Mother of God

1st January 2018



On New Year's Day, the octave day of Christmas, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God. The divine and virginal motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a singular salvific event: for Our Lady it was the foretaste and cause of her extraordinary glory; for us it is a source of grace and salvation because "through her we have received the Author of life"

"Mary, the all-holy ever-virgin Mother of God, is the masterwork of the mission of the Son and the Spirit in the fullness of time. For the first time in the plan of salvation and because his Spirit had prepared her, the Father found the dwelling place where his Son and his Spirit could dwell among men. In this sense the Church's Tradition has often read the most beautiful texts on wisdom in relation to Mary. Mary is acclaimed and represented in the liturgy as the "Seat of Wisdom." — Catechism of the Catholic Church 721.

Responsorial Psalm.
 May God bless us in his mercy

Gospel Acclamation.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
 Now he speaks to us through his Son
 Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.



RECENTLY DECEASED Jill Lawler, Fr Paul Tarpey, Joan O'Reagan, Philip Ward, Dimitry Tiutiunnik, Joan Talbot, Mary Porrill, Sr M Elizabeth Couch
ANNIVERSARIES Pam Collins, Carrie, Eric & Neville Turnbull, Alan Hanscombe, Mick Tygh, Ken Lehman, WD Heffernan, Win Storman, Molly Heffernan

Have a Holy Christmas
 And Many Blessings for 2018.



The Epiphany of the Lord

7th January 2018



The young Messiah is revealed as the light of the nations. It is customary to replace the images of the shepherds at the crib with the three Magi and their gifts. Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.



The Baptism of the Lord

8th January 2018

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world."



Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

Responsorial Psalm.

You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!
John saw Jesus approaching him, and said: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen & testified that this is the Son of God.



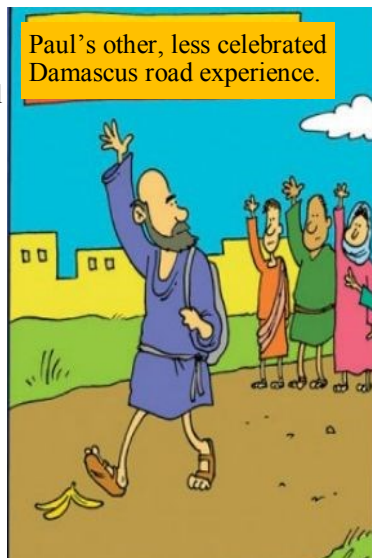
*January Baptisms:
Mackenzie Rose Griffin
Matthew & Halley Bottomley*

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL Very big thank you to all who contributed.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR 2017 was collected at the Christmas Masses and will be split between works in Australia & abroad. Contributions will be made towards projects in the Wilcannia Forbes Diocese, works in Nigeria, the Philippines and Timor Leste; as well as giving an Archdiocesan contribution to the National Council of Churches in Australia's '2016 Christmas Bowl Appeal'

PARISH OFFICE HOURS JANUARY. Due to the school holidays I will be varying office hours in January. 2nd, 4th, 22nd & 25th—Normal Times; 8th-19th Varied. Thank you for support over the last 12 months. Tanya

LENTEN PROGRAMME BOOKLETS: Ash Wednesday is 14th February. Order forms for the Lenten preparation booklets will be available in the church entrance from mid-January.



THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL—25TH JANUARY

Paul's entire life can be explained in terms of one experience - his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot's hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church. Now he himself was "entered," possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Savior.

One sentence determined his theology: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9:5b). Jesus was mysteriously identified with people - the loving group of people Saul had been running down like criminals. Jesus, he saw, was the mysterious fulfillment of all he had been blindly pursuing.

Paul's life became a tireless proclaiming & living out of the message of the cross: Christians die baptismally to sin & are buried with Christ; they are dead to all that is sinful & unredeemed in the world. They are made into a new creation, already sharing Christ's victory & someday to rise from the dead like him. Through this risen Christ the Father pours out the Spirit on them, making them completely new.

So Paul's great message to the world was: You are saved entirely by God, not by anything you can do. Saving faith is the gift of total, free, personal and loving commitment to Christ, a commitment that then bears fruit in more "works" than the Law could ever contemplate.

Paul is undoubtedly hard to understand. His style often reflects the rabbinical style of argument of his day, and often his thought skips on mountaintops while we plod below. But perhaps our problems are accentuated by the fact that so many beautiful jewels have become part of the everyday coin in our Christian language.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

14th January 2017



The first reading is taken from the first Book of Samuel that gives an account of Samuel's vocation to take over the leadership of the Chosen People.

The second reading is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians which St. Paul makes it crystal clear that justifying fornication as part of Christian liberty is an incorrect interpretation of his preaching and that the body must be preserved from all immorality.

The Gospel is from St. John 1:35-42 and gives an account of the vocation of the first four Apostles who followed Jesus. It was a momentous event in the history of salvation. It was the beginning of a stream of vocations that would grow and spread down through the ages until the end of the world. It was momentous, firstly, in that Christ, who had come to open heaven for all men and who could find means of

bringing them all to that eternal home without help from any man, decided instead to let men co-operate with him in this divine task. He decreed to set up a kingdom in this world—his Church—which would be run by mere mortals for their fellow-mortals, but which would be under his protection and assisted by his divine aid until the end of time. Christ chose this very human way, in order to make his Church more acceptable to our limited, human understanding and more approachable for sinful, human nature.

Responsorial Psalm.

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

21st January 2017

The first reading is taken from the Book of the Prophet Jonah tells the story of Jonah's call from God to go to a pagan city and preach repentance to the sinful people there.

The second reading is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. St. Paul admonishes his converts to do what our Lord himself advised his follower—always to be ready for the judgment.

The Gospel is from Mark 1:14-20. Jesus came to announce to all men the good news of God's eternal plan for them. He spent his public life convincing the Jews of Palestine of the truth of this message, and he died on the cross because he claimed to be that he was God's divine Son, who had come in human nature to raise all men to the standing and status of adopted sons of God. That very death, cruel and unjust though it was, was part of the divine plan. He conquered death and was raised from the grave to prove that we too, if we accept his divine gospel and live by it, will be raised from the dead and reign with Christ in the kingdom of his Father forever. Christ preached this doctrine in Palestine. It is the doctrine for which he gave his human life and which he gave to his Apostles to hand down to all future generations. This is the self-same doctrine preached by Christ's Church to all men today. It is the good news of God's mercy and love toward us weak, mortal creatures. To some it seems too good to be true; it would indeed be so if God were a limited, finite being like us, but he is Being itself. He is without limit, his goodness and love are limitless as is his nature. What God can see in creatures has ever been a puzzle to thinking man. We cannot hope to fathom the mind of God, nor do we need to. We Christians should be the happiest people on earth. We know why we are here, we know where we are going and we know how to get there. There are trials and troubles which beset us on our journey; there are rough parts of the road and weaknesses in our human nature which often lead us off the right road, but we are not left to our own human resources.



We Christians can indeed be the happiest people on earth, if we live according to the divine good news revealed to us through Christ. "Repent and believe in the gospel," Christ told the people of Galilee. If we have failed in the past, let us repent today and show our belief in the truth of the Christian gospel by living as true Christians who are on their way to heaven.

Responsorial Psalm.

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near: Believe the Good News. Alleluia!

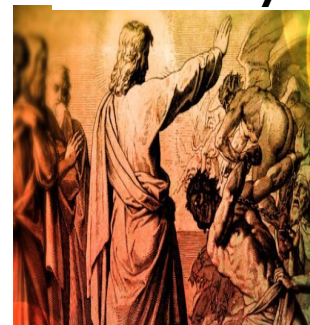
Communion Antiphon

Look towards the Lord and be radiant; Let your faces not be abashed.



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

28th January 2017



The Gospel from St. Mark makes it clear that, from the very first day of Christ's public ministry, his messianic power began to be manifested to those who saw and heard him. The Jews of Capernaum were "astonished" at his teaching and "amazed" at his power over the evil spirits. "What is this," they asked one another, "a new teaching and the unclean spirits obey him!" But they were still a long way from recognizing him for what he was, the Messiah and Son of God. This is as might be expected, the astounding mystery of the incarnation was way beyond human expectation or human imagination. And it was our Lord's own plan to reveal this mystery, slowly and gradually, so that when the chain of evidence had been completed by his resurrection, his followers could look back and see each link in that chain. Then they would be ready to accept without hesitation the mystery of the incarnation and realize the infinite love and power of God that brought it about. We look back today through the eyes of the Evangelists, and, like them, know that Christ was God as well as man—two natures in one person. We should not therefore be "amazed" at the teaching of Jesus or at his power over the unclean spirits. What should amaze us really is the love that God showed mankind in becoming one of our race.

Responsorial Psalm.

If today you hear his voice Harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!
A people in darkness have seen a great light
A radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.