**Responsorial Psalm.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

- **Gospel Acclamation.** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave his only son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
- **Communion Antiphon** The sparrow finds a home, & the swallow a nest for her young: by your alters, O Lord of hosts, my king & my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

#### **ROSTERS - 10th/11th March 2018** Please arrange a swap if you are not available

BEGA SUN 9:30	
Commentator	J Lott
Readers	C Sullivan, R Sheehan
Gifts	Kath Summerell
Cleaners	J Morrow
Counters	P&F
Music	Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte	Tony Healey
Eucharistic Ministers	B Burton, V Coman,
	M Holzhauser, F Farrell

### WISE WORDS: Not all of us

can fast, or undertake arduous journeys in God's service, or give generous alms, but we can all love. All it takes is the sincere desire to do so. - St John Bosco

## SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

#### Weekdays

W CChuays		
Tuesday	5.30pm Bega	
Wednesday	9.00am Tathra, 5.30pm Bega.	
Thursday	9.15am Bega	
3rd Thurs.	11.00am Hillgrove House	
Friday	9.15am Bega	
4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy		
Saturday	9.15am Bega	

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation			
<u>Bega</u>	Friday,	5.30 - 6.00pm	
_		9.30 - 10.00am	
<u>Bemboka</u>	before vig	il Mass	
<u>Candelo</u>	before vigil Mass		
<u>Tathra</u>	before Sur	day Mass	

#### FEAST DAY - 8th March SAINT JOHN OF GOD

Having given up active Christian belief while a soldier. John was 40 before the depth of his sinfulness began to dawn on him. He decided to give the rest of his life to God's service, but he struggled to find his way. He sought martyrdom in Africa, returned to Spain and publically beat himself.

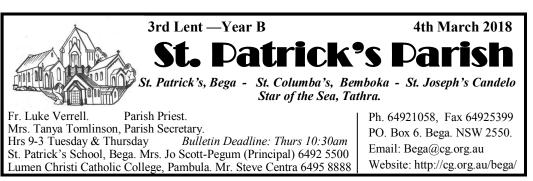
It was Saint John of Avila, who advised him to be more actively involved in tending to the needs of others rather than in enduring personal hardships. John gained peace of heart, and begin work among the poor.

He established a house where he wisely tended to the needs of the sick poor, at first doing his own begging. But, excited by the saint's great work & inspired by his devotion, many people supported him with money and provisions. Among them were the archbishop and marguis of Tarifa.

Behind John's outward acts of total concern and love for Christ's sick poor was a deep interior prayer life which was reflected in his spirit of humility. These qualities attracted helpers who, 20 years after John's death, formed the Brothers Hospitallers, now a worldwide religious order.

John became ill after 10 years of service. He began to put the hospital's administrative work into order and appointed a leader for his helpers. He died under the care of a spiritual friend and admirer, Lady Ana Ossorio.

The utter humility of John of God, which led to a totally selfless dedication to others, is most impressive. Here is a man who realized his nothingness in the face of God. The Lord blessed him with the gifts of prudence, patience, courage, enthusiasm, and the ability to influence and inspire others. He saw that in his early life he had turned away from the Lord, and, moved to receive his mercy, John began his new commitment to love others in openness to God's love



had only the Synoptic gospels, we could public life and did all his preaching in Galilee



and its neighborhood. St. John who wrote his gospel several years later corrects this false impression by mentioning visits made by our Lord to Jerusalem, He gave the "leaders of the people" in Jerusalem plenty of opportunity of hearing his message and his claims. He also worked some astounding miracles in or near the city. For instance, the man crippled for thirty-eight years



(Jn. 5); the man born blind (Jn. 9), the raising of Lazarus; who had been four days buried (Jn. 11). St. John makes it very clear that the leaders (the priests and Pharisees) in Jerusalem were given every opportunity to learn who Jesus was, and every help to believe in him, but they would not. The fault was theirs, therefore, and the loss.

On this particular visit he made it clear to them that he was someone special, someone close to God whose house they were desecrating, and whom he even called his Father. In hidden language he told them that they would put him to death but that that would not be the end, for he would rise again. But even the miracle of his resurrection did not affect the majority of them. They had made up their minds and "there are none so blind as those who will not see."

The reasons for their blindness were the same as those that keep millions of the neo-pagans of today from accepting and living the Christian faith. These, like the priests and Pharisees of Jerusalem in the year 28, are so immersed in the affairs of this world that they can give no thought to their own future. Their eyes are so fixed on the earthly objectives that they have set themselves that they can see nothing else. Yet, they have more than enough reminders whichever way they turn to recall their minds to the historical facts of Christianity. This is 2018 A.D., that is 2018 years since the birth of Christ. Who was he, why was he born, why does the world divide its history into before he came, BC, & after he came, AD? In every town & village of our once Christian western world there is a church or two with steeples pointing to the sky. Why? What do churches mean to men? Near every town there are cemeteries or "sleeping places," according to the meaning of that Greek word. Are those buried there only sleeping and waiting to be called, if not already called, or are they finished forever just like the ox or the unthinking cow that may be buried in the next field.

The agnostics and free-thinkers of our day should start to think about the real facts of life-the central ones of which are that Christ, who was the Son of God, took our human nature and lived for some time on this earth, so that he would raise us up to sonship with God. He suffered crucifixion, because the world was full of sin when he came. But his death made atonement to the heavenly Father for all the sins of the world. His resurrection from the dead was the prelude and the guarantee that we shall all rise to a life of glory in heaven, if only we have followed him faithfully during our years on earth.



ST PATRICK'S NEWS - St Patrick's Day Mass Friday 16th March 2pm. Coles sport for schools vouchers can be placed in the 2nd collection to be passed onto the school. CHRIST

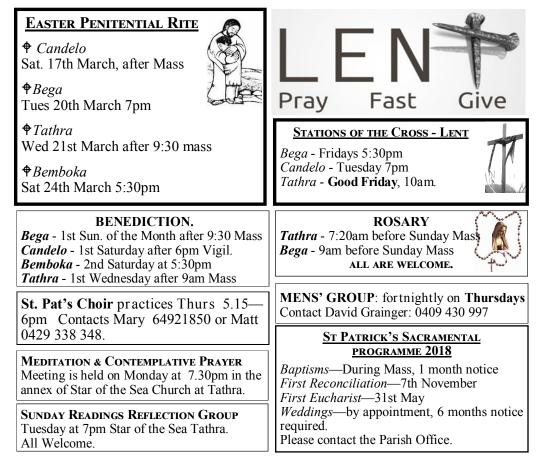
WITH US

**CHANGE TO OFFICE HOURS:** The office will be unattended on the 6th, 8th & 13th March but will be open on the 14th March. Normal hours resume 15th March.

**CLEANERS ROSTER BEGA:** Apologies for the mistake in the cleaners roster. They have been corrected and the new roster is available for collection. Thanks Tanya

SCHOOL REUNIONS: St Vincent's College, Potts Point. Ex students are asked to update their contact details at www.vinniescensus.nes.edu.au Soon to celebrate 160 years. Chanel College Geelong. 60th Anniversary Reunion for students of THE MARIST FATHERS ERA [1958-1970]. For details email chanel.geelong@gmail.com or PO Box 3069 Geelong West 3218

Catholic Voice March edition: In this issue, Catholic Voice catches up with Gowrie's Adeline Potter, who will become a Catholic at Easter. Other highlights include articles on Matthew Hutchison, the new headmaster of Marist College; and Joe Zavone, the new principal of St Edmund's College. The middle page feature article on Caroline Chisholm is sure to be of interest also.



**RECENTLY DECEASED** Frank Bryne, Nat Sears, Bonnie Slinn, Betty Carriage, Beryl Moloney, Jill Lawler

ANNIVERSARIES Denise Mulligan, Anne Sixsmith, Basil Rose, Clare Johnston, Catherine Rose, Pam Collins, Carrie, Eric & Neville Turnbull, Alan Hanscombe

PLEASE PRAY FOR Owen Whitby who has been involved in a tractor accident and is in serious condition in Canberra hospital. Owen is the Son in Law of Kathleen Summerville

Bayan, a 12 year old Syrian girl in Jordan, struggled to overcome the trauma of living in a conflict zone, facing the prospect of missing out on school. With Caritas Australia's support. Bayan is excelling in her studies with ambitions to become an ophthalmologist.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help equip young people to succeed in the future, providing just futures for others like Bayan.

VOLUNTEER WITH PALMS AUSTRALIA- GET OUT THERE AND BE THE CHURCH,"BRUISED, HURTING AND DIRTY" Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenva seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. Palms volunteers don't do quick fixes, but immerse themselves in overseas communities for long-term skill exchange. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, share them with our global family! Contact Christine at Palms on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au/volunteer/

DUBLIN, IRELAND, HAS BEEN CHOSEN BY POPE FRANCIS TO HOST THE NEXT WORLD MEETING OF **FAMILIES** from 21-26 August 2018, guided by the theme "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society & of the Church. More information visit www.acmfc.org.au - Dear married couples, watch over your children and, in a world dominated by technology, transmit to them, with serenity and trust, reasons for living, the strength of faith, pointing them towards high goals and supporting them in their fragility. (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)



# A PRAYER FOR LENTEN GRACE

PROJECT

\_oving God.

During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to vou.

Prepare a place in my home & heart for silence & solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a praver-full life.

Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body & soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.

Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need &, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude & aenerositv.

May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for & faith in you.