

Responsorial Psalm. Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, Alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

ROSTERS - 22nd/23rd December
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

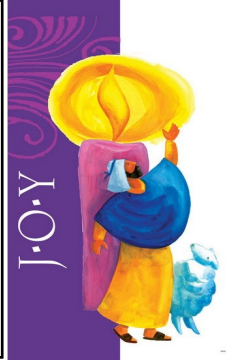
Bemboka Sat 6pm
Commentator E Bevitt
Readers G Berman
Gifts Berman
Cleaners Bevitt

Candelo Sun 9:30am
Commentator J Coman
Readers Ann Haheys
Gifts Michael Heffernan Family
Cleaners - Dec Lorraine & Simon Thompson

Tathra Sun 7:45am
Commentator Carleen Maley
Readers Vicki Kennaugh
Gifts Denise & Bernie Miller
Cleaners Les & Carleen Maley
Wardens B Miller, Michael & Edie
Audio-Visual Margaret Taylor
Eucharistic Ministers Carleen Maley, Les Carey

Bega Sun 9:30
Commentator P Malone
Readers B O'Reilly, J Scott-Pegum
Gifts Bex Gabriel
Counters Collins, Sheedy, McNaught
Music Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte David Grainger
Eucharistic Ministers B Tygh, B Burton,
E Caragher, V Coman
Nursing Home

Wise Words: JOY
does not simply
happen to us.
We have to choose
joy and keep
choosing it every
day.
- Henri JM Nouwen



Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation
Bega Saturday, 9.30 - 10.00am
Bemboka before vigil Mass
Candelo before vigil Mass
Tathra before Sunday Mass

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

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
all are welcome.

MENS' GROUP: fortnightly on **Thursdays**
Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997

**St Patrick's Sacramental
programme 2018**
Baptisms—During Mass, 1 month notice
First Reconciliation—7th November
First Eucharist—31st May
Weddings—by appoint, 6 months notice req.
Please contact the Parish Office.

For Sale: Bibles - \$16; Sunday Missal -
\$32; Children's Mass Book - \$10. Contact
the office or place your order in a marked
envelope in the 2nd collection. **Bulletin &
Forms** can be found on the website





3rd Advent —Year C

St. Patrick's Parish

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

16th December 2018

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

This Sunday the passage from Zephaniah echoes language and images read in Baruch last Sunday, both of which writings share such elements with Isaiah. And again the prophet's message accompanies part of Luke's account of John the Baptist. John is often imagined as a somewhat severe or at least as a sombre character, as the abstemious ascetic who dressed rough, slept rough, and ate rough—but that all comes from Matthew. In juxtaposing related prophetic passages with Luke's account of John the Baptist, the Lectionary casts another light upon John. The two earlier prophets have urged us to dress joyously, and to shout for joy in celebrating with God, who is also said to shout for joy and even to dance. Perhaps John is more sober than sombre, heralding



anticipated joy that can be experienced in fullness only in the encounter with the hoped-for course. In our times and ministry, by contract, since joy in Christ has already entered the world we are able to be its heralds by being joyful, as living witnesses of its truth. This finds echo in the second reading, through our translation's "I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord: I repeat, what I want is your happiness" is oddly wordy when compared with a direct translation, one that is very close to that found in an already well-known musical setting: "Rejoice (ye) in the Lord: again I shall say, Rejoice."

Pope Francis reflects on this theme in his exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*. He warns against those Christians whose lives "seem like Lent without Easter", and, certainly, glum people glumly proclaiming mercy and the joy of the Good News are by no means convincing, for they appear unconvinced by their own message: "Consequently, an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!" Indeed, the interpretation of John the Baptist in the musical *Godspell* accords with this, for his singing of "Prepare ye" is anything but a dirge. While the theme of joyful anticipation continues in the 1st & 2nd readings, today's gospel passage reports John teaching a message of right living that is consistent with what is to be developed in other ways by Jesus. And the effect of John's mission von the people cultivates a feeling of expectancy among them. It seems that are infected, in the best sense, by John's enthusiasm. Thus although it is not mentioned in today's gospel pericope, joy, or anticipation of it, perfuses Luke's account.

Luke's fringe dwellers are there too; they are attracted to John, firstly in the tax collectors then in the soldiers. We do not normally think of such as these as being on the fringes, since they are among those who wield considerable strength of the oppressors, but they were themselves tools of ruling powers and thus were in the fringes of the bulk of the population. For them, too, the Good News has come. And indeed the structures and agents of the empire would also provide avenues for the rapid spread of the followers of Jesus bearing the Gospel in Luke's 2nd great journey theme: from Jerusalem to all the world.

Rev Dr Barry Craig



Heartsong Christmas Concert - beautiful, unaccompanied sacred choral music by the choir of St John's Bega, 7pm Monday 17 December - St John's Church Bega entry by donation - all proceeds to Oxfam

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal - donations can still be made this weekend.

Wishing you all a Holy and happy Christmas from Bega St Vincent de Paul.

Caritas Australia Global Gifts. This Christmas we can protect the miracle of motherhood by giving a Caritas Global Gift. We can help provide clean water, food or sustainable livelihoods. In return for making a donation the donor will receive a beautiful card to give to a loved one on whose behalf the contribution was made. Purchase online at www.caritas.org.au/globalgifts or phone 1800 024 413 (order before 12 Dec to ensure the cards reach you before Christmas.)

New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil: 31 December, The Marian Movement of Priests invites parishioners and their friends to the 12th Annual Prayer vigil at St Michael's Church, Kaleen. Start: 8.30pm. *The 1st Cenacle - 8.45pm (Joyful Mysteries), the 2nd Cenacle - 9.45pm (Luminous Mysteries), the 3rd Cenacle - 10.45pm (Glorious Mysteries) with Exposition 8.30pm - 11.45pm followed by Midnight Mass.* Further inquiries phone Judy & Joe Mewburn 6254 6202.



Archbishops Christmas Appeal. Our support will continue for the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in bringing hope and opportunity to those in need in Vanuatu, Myanmar, Zimbabwe, Syria and Pakistan.

Contributions will be made to support Diocesan projects locally, within Wilcannia Forbes Diocese and Broome Diocese, and globally, within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria.

Other endeavours will include support towards: helping the rural parish of St Joseph's, Battambang in Cambodia provide improved and extended education opportunities to students beyond their infant years to primary, secondary and tertiary levels whilst also seeking to improve the self-sufficiency of the parish and their community is envisaged, projects focused on helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province in India, and student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

Sunday Mass Times

- **Bemboka** - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil
- **Candelo** - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil 1st, 3rd, 5th
- Sundays - 9:30am Mass 2nd, 4th
- **Tathra** - Sundays - 7.45am Mass
- **Bega** - Sundays - 9.30am Mass

Weekdays

- 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

RECENTLY DECEASED Patrick Wiley, Gerry McCambridge, Anne Howard, Madge Hergenhan, Bernice (Bernie) Alcock, Sr Mary Crowe RSM, Peg Hergenhan

ANNIVERSARIES McNamara Family, Crowe Family, Api Gladys, Jim Barrett, Max Heffernan, Cec Berman, Maura Collins-Wesley (Oct) Souls in Purgatory

PLEASE PRAY FOR Rhys Summergreene suffering with ill health.

Feast Days this Week

21st - St Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor of the Church. Born at Nijmegen (Netherlands) in 1521. Died in Fribourg (Switzerland) on this day in 1597. A Jesuit priest who spent his time writing and teaching in universities and colleges. Together with his easily understood preaching and the writing of his famous catechisms, his academic life enabled him to restore and strengthen Catholic belief in response to the Reformation. Remembered for his courtesy in debate and for his use of the press in promoting the Catholic revival after the Council of Trent.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

- | | | |
|---------|--------|--|
| Candelo | 6pm | Vigil Mass |
| Bega | 7pm | Outdoor Family Mass
(Nativity & Carols from 6:30) |
| Bega | 9:30pm | Evening Mass |

Christmas Day

- | | | |
|---------|--------|------|
| Tathra | 9am | Mass |
| Bemboka | 9:30am | Mass |



Penitential Services:

Second Rite of Reconciliation:

St Patrick's church Bega
Thursday 20th December 7pm.

Reconciliation available *after* mass at St Joseph's, St Columba's & Star of the Sea.

Saturdays 9:30-10am
St Patrick's



Family Mass. All children are invited to participate in the family mass. Please call the parish office or school to express interest. Children are also invited to come dressed as angels or shepherd.



Flowers, Foliage, Flax for Christmas. Could you please leave at the home of Cecilia Tarlinton, 24 Union St Bega on the morning of Saturday 22nd December. Thank you.

I GUESS I'M SURPRISED THAT JOHN ADDRESSES STUFF AT THEIR WORK. YOU'D THINK HE'D COME UP WITH SOMETHING MORE SPIRITUAL.



ARE YOU SAYING THAT REFLECTING ON YOUR WORK DAY DOESN'T INSTILL IN YOU A NEED FOR REPENTANCE?



NOT THAT SPIRITUAL!

