

Responsorial Psalm. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia, Alleluia
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia

Communion Antiphon I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

ROSTERS - 29th Feb/1st March 2020
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

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

Candelo Sat 6pm
Commentator L Thompson
Readers P O'Callaghan
Gifts Paul & Ann Kelly
Cleaners - Feb Nalda & Karen Heffernan

Tathra Sun 7:45am
Commentator Gerry Collins
Readers Betty O'Brien
Gifts D'Arcy Family
Cleaners Mary Plevy & Christine Ford
Wardens Gerard Hergenhan, Peter Preo
Audio-Visual Paul Gardiner
Eucharistic Ministers Eileen Reckord, M Hergenhan

Bega Sun 9:30am
Commentator L Reeve
Readers Y Sixsmith, R Burgess
Gifts St Vinnies
Counters E Collins, F Sheedy
Music Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte Sean McCambridge
Eucharistic Ministers B Burton, B Tygh
J Taylor, M Twyford
Nursing Home C Tarlinton

Wise Words:
Forgiveness is above all a personal choice, a decision of the heart to go against the natural instinct to pay back evil with evil.
- St John Paul II

i always thought love was shaped like a heart but it's actually like a

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation
Bega Saturday, 9.40 - 10.10am
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: 2nd & 4th Thursdays
St Patrick's Church.
Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997

St Patrick's Sacramental programme 2020
Baptisms—During Mass, 1 month notice
First Reconciliation— 27th March
First Communion—11th June
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

LOVE → **GRIEF HISTORY HOPELESSNESS ANGER HATE HUNGER JEALOUSY SHAME MONEY DESPAIR DEFENSIVENESS STATUS FEAR TRADITION**

7th Sunday - Year A **23rd February 2019**
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 & 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/

We continue where we left off last week. Jesus is offering us a new ethic, a new way of life that goes beyond the bare minimums listed in the Ten Commandments. 'You have learnt how it was said ... but I say to you.' We all know the saying 'An eye for an eye'. In fact, many people appeal to this maxim to justify their actions. We have translated it into modern English: 'Don't get mad. Get even'. Talk about getting the wrong end of the stick! Yes, it is to be found in the ancient Jewish law in Exodus, and even earlier in the law code of Hammurabi, the eighteenth-century BC Babylonian king, but when Jesus quotes these words, it is to reject them, not endorse them. An eye for an eye is not the way that leads to life. As Mahatma Gandhi is reported to have said, 'An eye for an eye ends up making the whole world blind'. In the case of the old 'eye for an eye', it was a matter of being proportionate: of moving from a life for an eye to an eye for an eye. Jesus takes us beyond proportionate response into the world of non-retaliation. God demands perfection from us. It is not the perfection of



being even more legalistic than the scribes and Pharisees, but a perfection that comes from allowing God to enter our lives, to heal every one of our ills, to have our sins removed from east to west. To me this has always been one of the key characteristics of Christianity. Turning the other cheek and going the extra mile are at the heart of what it is to live a Christian life. It is so easy to strike back. We see it in children from infancy. You push me and I will push you, you tease me and I will tease you, you punch me and I will punch you. It is little wonder then that in our grown-up world we find: if you attack me, I will attack you; and if you bomb me, I will bomb you. People who otherwise call themselves Christians engage in this behaviour. Have they heard Jesus' words, 'Love your enemies'? Do they not realise that every person deserves respect because each of us is God's temple, and each of us has God's Spirit dwelling within us?

Augustine of Hippo preached on this text of Matthew (Sermo 386). He said: 'When God admonishes us to love one another, is this all he teaches: that you should love the one who loves you? This mutual love does not satisfy God, for he wants us to attain to loving our enemies'. God is the enemy of sin and yet God loves the sinful person, so much so that Jesus gave his life for sinners. For at the heart of God is a love that is forgiving and merciful. In the Lord's Prayer, the prayer that Jesus himself taught us to pray, we acknowledge that we need God's forgiveness, yet we ask that God forgive us only to the extent that we are prepared to forgive others. We cannot expect the mercy of God to be shown to us unless we are truly transformed by it and allow it to flow through us to others. Our world will not believe in a God who forgives unless they see God's forgiveness at work through the way we forgive. We can be thankful today that our God does forgive. We can be thankful that God does not punish us as we deserve, that God does not take eye for eye or tooth for tooth. We can be thankful that God does not consider us an enemy because of our sins and failings. We can be thankful that God has forgiven us in Christ. We can be thankful that we belong to Christ. *Geoffrey D. Dunn*



We Welcome into our Parish Family:

Bella Rose Britten

Baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit



Save the Date! Relics of St Therese of Lisieux and her parents St Louis & St Zelle will visit our Parish from the evening of March 29th till 1pm the following day. Mass will be celebrated Mon 30th 9:15am

St Patrick's School Masses. ✠ *Ash Wednesday* - 26th February 12:15pm

✠ *Feast of St Patrick* - 17th March 12:15pm



World Day of Prayer 6th March. This year Christians around the world will gather to pray for Zimbabwe. Services: *Star of the Sea Tathra* - 10am; *St Patrick's Bega* - 1pm

St Patrick's School 150th Anniversary - Memorabilia is still available. Bags \$10; Tea towels \$7. Please contact the Parish Office.

Credit Card Givers - Please remember to keep the parish office up-to-date with your credit card details. With the recent fires and evacuations there may have been a need to cancel or re-issue credit cards. Wish to change to credit card giving? The parish offers the ability to make a monthly or quarterly contribution to Planned Giving via a Visa or Master card. Please use the form available at the entrance and return to the Parish office.

Ash Wednesday Masses
26th February

Tathra 9am Mass
Bega 12:15pm School Mass
5:30pm Mass
Candelo 7pm Liturgy
Bemboka 5:30pm Liturgy

First Reconciliation 2020

- Information night** 12th February 6:30pm St Patrick's Church
- Enrolment Mass** Sunday 1st March 9:30am St Patrick's Church.
- Candidate Family Masses** Sun 8th & 15th 5pm St Patrick's
- First Reconciliation** 27th & 28th March, St Patrick's Church.
- Thanksgiving Mass & Morning Tea** 29th March, 9:30am St Pat's

Sunday Mass Times

- *Bemboka* - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil
- *Candelo* - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil 1st, 3rd, 5th - Sundays - 9:30am liturgy 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 Colin Tarlinton

ANNIVERSARIES Denise Mulligan (nee Scanes) Heather Pook, Pam Collins, Eric, Caroline & Neville Turnbull, Alan Hanscombe

23rd - St Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr. Born about the year 69. Died on this day about 155 at Smyrna (Turkey), where he had been the beloved and respected bishop. A disciple of St John the apostle who wrote to the Philippians to strengthen their faith and to defend the Church against heresy. Remembered because of the account of his martyrdom for his fearless acknowledgment of Christ, and honoured as one of the apostolic fathers of the Church.

Feast Days this Week

Legion of Mary Acies - 28 March. The Legion of Mary is holding the Acies at 11am at St Joseph's O,Connor. The Acies event is the Legion of Mary's annual consecration to Jesus through Our Lady, in the pattern of St Louis Marie de Montfort's 'True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin'. Celebrations will include the consecration, rosary and Legion prayers and Holy Mass concelebrated by Legion of Mary spiritual directors. All current, previous and potential members of the Legion of Mary, and anyone with a devotion to Our Lady, are most welcome. Contact: LegionOfMaryCanberra@gmail.com

Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich.... All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://www.palms.org.au) will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au

Bushfire Resource Kit. The Redemptorists of Australia and New Zealand have created a digital resource kit to help you cope with or find information to guide action. We hope these prayers, articles, videos and relief services can, in a small way, help you make sense of these unfolding extreme weather events. www.cssr.org.au/writings - select digital resource kits - click on bushfire resource kit.

CG Youth Website. CG Youth have just launched a new website www.cgyouth.org.au. This includes a calendar for youth and young adults events that will be included in our regular communications to Youth Ministers, school and parish leaders and young adults across the Archdiocese.

