

Responsorial Psalm. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

ROSTERS - 28th/29th March 2020

Please arrange a swap if you are not available

Bemboka Sat 6pm

Commentator E Bevitt
Readers G Berman
Gifts
Cleaners Berman

Candelo Sat 6pm

Commentator J Coman
Readers P O'Callaghan
Gifts Julie Banks
Cleaners - March Nalda & Karen Heffernan

Tathra Sun 7:45am

Commentator Chris Adams
Readers Michael Doig
Gifts Margaret Roberts
Cleaners Helen Buckley & Family
Wardens Les Maley, Peter Mullaney
Audio-Visual Judith Reid
Eucharistic Ministers Judith Reid, Chris Adams

Bega Sun 9:30am

Commentator Volunteer
Readers Volunteer
Gifts Tomlinson Family
Counters Office
Music Matt Heffernan & Choir
Acolyte Frank Farrell
Eucharistic Ministers B Burton, R Healey
M Holzhauser, M Twyford.
Nursing Home

Wise Words:

To live by faith means to put our lives in the hands of God.
Especially in our most difficult moments
- Pope Francis



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

Spiritual
BLINDNESS



4th Lent - Year A

22nd March 2020

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/>

Dear Parishioners

The Archdiocese has updated protocols for the Masses. The obligation to attend Mass is
Suspended and those over 75 years of age are recommended not to attend Mass. Further,
those attending should be seated at least 1.5 metres from one another. The new protocols are
available via the Catholic Voice website www.catholicvoice.org.au/

Due to many things being cancelled and people self-isolating, the Church has sought to make
many services available online. Daily Mass: melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass
www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

The Parish has a Facebook page www.facebook.com/stpatricksbega/ which is updated with
new posts regularly (you don't need to sign-in or have an account to access)

This week we are asking all parishioners to update their details- this is especially important
so that we can reach you via email. Please fill in the cards on the pew and put them in 2nd
collection.

We have suspended all Holy Communion visits to homes and hospitals (*this is because all
our volunteers are in the vulnerable age bracket*) - volunteers will continue instead with
weekly phone calls to the house bound. Housebound parishioners can call the Parish if they
would like Holy Communion.

*I am more than happy to visit any parishioner for Holy Communion, Anointing, Confession,
Last Rites- Day or Night 24hours - just call parish 6492 1058 or me 0401 922 450.*

Importantly, if anyone is in need of any help whatsoever please don't hesitate to call the
Parish Office- food, shopping, toiletries. Let us know what you need and I will put the call
out to make sure you get it! Alternatively contact Community Pantry 2 Peden Street Bega open
Tuesday 12- 2pm & Thursday 11- 2pm - 3:30pm 5:30pm. 0490 843 518

So many people have had their lives hit hard because of the epidemic. Among them are those
in the hospitality and tourist industry (already decimated by the fires), and many others
whose work is in jeopardy. We keep them in our Prayers.

We also pray for those who must keep working and 'go where they would rather not go' (Jn
21:18) even though their health might be at risk- I think of those needing to hold down jobs,
and the medical staff, our teachers, carers. We thank them for their continual service and pray
for God's protection on them.

My heart goes out also to the elderly & weak who have been pushed aside in the scramble for
necessities (Jn 5:7) & finally we pray for the sick and those who have died.
St Therese of Lisieux - do pray for us!

Please pray the Archbishop's Prayer –

peace Fr. Luke

A PRAYER AT A TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.

Heavenly Father,
 We praise and thank you for your loving presence, especially in the Lent/Easter season. We offer heartfelt thanks, dear Lord, particularly for our recent rains.
 Once again, we come to you in our need. As your children we are in need of your healing and protection. Just as we have been recovering from our dangerous bushfire summer, we have now been thrown into a fearful coronavirus (COVID 19) autumn.
 We are tired and frightened. We feel a sense of panic and future uncertainty on a global scale. Be with us now, Loving Master. Without you all is nothing – only empty hearts and a total reliance on our own feeble resources.
 But with you “there is mercy and fullness of Redemption” (Psalm 130/7). With you there is “the loving mercy of the heart of our God (who) will give light to those who sit in darkness, those who dwell in the shadow of death, and guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1/79).
 It seems that so many public gatherings are now postponed or cancelled. There is virus death, the sick, and the anxious. We are spending more time on our own, or with family or friends.
 We pray for the sick and those looking after them. Help us to offer practical help to those who struggle.
 Let us use these times, O Lord, for your greater glory, especially during Lent and Easter. Let us pray more, and truly listen to you more in loving silence, stillness and simplicity.
 Almighty Father, you always journey with us in life’s challenges. Help us to meet you often in the scriptures and our sacraments. Increase in us faith, hope and trust.
 Protect us from this coronavirus. Remove it from our common home. Heal those who are sick and dying.

Mary, Help of Christians, as always we fly to you in our need. Be close to us and point out your Son, Jesus, to us in this pandemic. St Therese of Lisieux and her parents, Saints Louis and Zelig Martin, pray for us.

We make this and all our prayers through Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, AMEN

First Reconciliation: Postponed until further notice.

Easter Services: To be determined closer to the date.

Collections: The collection plate is to be *no longer passed between Parishioners.*



*Congratulations
 Mitchell &
 Sophie Bennett
 Married
 14th
 March*



Easter Penitential Rite

Bemboka Sat. 28th March, after 6pm Mass
Bega Wednesday 1st April 7pm
Tathra Wed 1st April after 9:30 mass
Candelo Sat 4th April after 6pm mass

Stations of the Cross

Candelo - Tues 7pm
Bega - Friday 5:30, Chapel



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 Mavis Kaveney
ANNIVERSARIES Pat & Gabrielle Healey.



32-year-old Sakun lives in a village in central east India. She developed polio as a child & has difficulty walking. After joining a Caritas Australia-funded program, Sakun has learned new skills & gained important mobility. She is more resilient, more confident & more independent.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help uplift vulnerable communities and support the rights of indigenous peoples around the world .

You can also donate on 1800 024 413 or www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.

Feast Days this Week
23rd - St Turibius de Mogrovejo, Bishop. 1538-1606.
25th - The Annunciation of the Lord. Originating in the East during the 6th century & gaining universal observance in the West during the 8th century. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.

Sight, Faith & Worship

As did last Sunday's gospel, this Sunday's gospel tracks the coming-to-faith of an unnamed individual: like the Samaritan woman, the blind man comes to faith in stages. He begins by seeing only 'the man called Jesus', then 'a prophet', a man 'from God', 'the Son of Man', and finally the 'Lord' whom he worships. Both gospels involve water imagery: the Samaritan woman was promised 'living water'; the blind man must 'wash in the Pool of Siloam' - a name meaning 'one who has been sent'. Jesus is the one who has been sent by God. To wash in these waters is to be baptised. Baptism is a spiritual enlightenment by which one comes to 'see' that Jesus is 'Lord' and to 'worship him.' These two gospels are appropriate for the final weeks of the catechumenate: they are a reminder that faith grows gradually, is expressed in baptism, and leads to worship.



The blind man's journey of faith is difficult. The man starts in a darkness that is absolute: blind from birth, he has never seen the light. The end of the journey is Jesus who is 'the light of the world'. While the physical cure is instantaneous (he went & washed & came back able to see) his vision of Jesus grows only gradually. There are 2 features of this growth in faith.
 First, the man faces repeated questioning, harassment, and judgment; yet, the harder he is pressed, the stronger grows his faith. The evangelist is addressing his community which is locked in struggle with the religious authorities (notice the we vs. you language). Faith is hard work.

Second, Jesus is absent for most of the man's struggle: from verses 8-34, the man is on his own. This, too, addresses the experience of the evangelist's community after the resurrection-ascension of Jesus. Only faith can *see* Jesus who has returned to the Father. Recovery of physical sight was easily accomplished; spiritual insight is more difficult. But only spiritual insight attains the goal of faith: worship.