Entrance Antiphon. Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,

That in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

Responsorial Psalm Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading Peter 1:3-9

Gospel Acclimation Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; Happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-31

Communion Antiphon Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,

and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia

Spiritual Communion Prayer.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I Embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Envelopes - can be left at the office or in the presbytery mail box.

Electronic

1st Collection - BSB: 062-789 - Acc No: 29248 - Central Presbytery Fund -

Reference: Bega Parish.

2nd Collection - BSB 062-789 - Acc No: 13879 - St Patrick's Bega - Reference: envelope number or 2nd collection.

Preparing for Spiritual Communion.

1 - Prepare your heart for and encounter with Jesus

Create a space where you will be able to pray quietly. Focus on an image of Jesus and light a candle before Him. Make the Sign of the Cross.

- 2 Read or listen the Mass Readings
- 3 Recite the Prayer
- 4 Silence

Remain in silence for some moments, with Jesus in your heart. Allow him to love you and to nourish your soul.

Wise Words:

Whoever does not seek the cross of Christ, doesn't seek the glory of Christ. - St John of the Cross

For Sale:

Bibles - \$16 Sunday Missal -\$32

Children's Mass Book - \$10.

Please contact the office.

Divine Mercy Sunday - Year A

19th April 2020



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

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/

He has truly Risen as He Said!

I hope you all had an experience of the Risen Christ come into your hearts- and in a particular way- also your homes. Many people have shared with me the new ways they have transformed their home into a place of prayer. The Church has often called the family the "Domestic Church". This is true now more than ever.



This Sunday we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. What was traditionally called 'Low Sunday', or Second Sunday of Easter, was renamed by Pope John Paul II in response to the promises attached to this day by revelations had by St Faustina (see www.thedivinemercy.org) This special day of Grace is not a day for an 'inner circle' of believers- but a day of Mercy for the whole world. Please share the Easter message of hope with those you love.

Special Divine Mercy Stream Sunday 19th April 3pm (YouTube Bega Parish Stream)

†Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; †Chaplet of Divine Mercy; †Blessing of the Devine Mercy Image; † Benediction

Car Park Confession are available EVERY SUNDAY 11am – 11:30am. Please use either option 1 (Drive Through) or Option 2 (park and stand).





FYI parish phone lines are playing up and due to be fixed next week. In this week's bulleting is Prime minister Scott Morrison's Easter Message – It's worth a look.

Peace Fr. Luke

In compliance with Government policy to prevent the spread of COVID19 all Churches are now closed.

Administration of the Sacraments is still available in emergencies. Please contact Fr Luke directly.

Project Compassion envelopes and boxes are still being collected by the office. Please contact Fr Luke or Tanya if you are unable to get to Bega.



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

Children's Bulletin. If you would like a copy of the Sunday Children's bulletin emailed to you. Please email the office to be added to the list.

Sunday Readings at Home. A free resource from Brisbane Liturgy for Sunday celebrations in the home. Visit https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/prepare/sundayreadings-and-family-prayer/

CathFamily - is offering free membership to their digital resources to help families stay connected during the Covid19 shutdown. http://cathfamily.org

- † *library* of free resources that celebrates Catholic culture.
- † CathKids is a weekly interactive experience for primary aged children. CathKids has a modest subscription fee but due to the situation with Covid19 we are offering this resource FREE for the next 3 months.

PM Easter Message: Easter in Australia will be different this year, as it will be all around the world. It's still true that we'll be able to gather together in our immediate family, but there won't be the opportunity for that extended family gathering, special times I know, as well as going off to church and our religious services where we can remember the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The coronavirus means this Easter will be different and we will be staying at home. And it's important because we cannot undo the tremendous progress we have made together in recent times. So this Easter we are staying at home. Don't travel. Don't go away. For Christians, not being able to gather does not diminish the hope that we have through this important Easter period. This year, we will live out our faith by doing the right thing. That means staying at home, making sure we're checking on our neighbours and supporting our communities and families, our friends. That's what living our faith is all about. So as we go into this Easter long weekend, whatever your religious views might be, I do wish you a Happy Easter, Australia. I hope it is a time as you come together in your homes, together with your immediate family, that it will be a strong reminder about what's most important. Happy Easter, Australia - Scott Morrison.

Sunday Mass Times

Sunday - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil

Candelo
- Saturdays - 6pm Vigil 1st, 3rd, 5th
- Sundays - 9:30an Grang 2nd, 4th

- Sundays - 7.45am Mass **≻**Tathra

- Sundays - 9.30am Mass ≽Bega

Weekdays

Tuesday 5.30pm Bega

Welfelfer 9.00am Tathra, 5.30pm Bega.

Thursday 9.15th Bega

>3rd Thurs. 11.00am Hillgrown Page

≻Friday 9.15am Bega

4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'

9.15am Bega ➤ Saturday

RECENTLY DECEASED Irene Adams, Edna Irene Howard, Mary Roberson, Nola Sutherland, Sr Leonie McGuire RSJ

ANNIVERSARIES Pat & Gabrielle Healey.

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2020. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please return them to the Parish office or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

21st - St Anselm. Bishop & Doctor of the Church, 1033-1109. Remembered for his theological learning & writings & for organising Church life in England. 23rd - St Adalbert. Bishop & Martyr, 956-997. Remembered for his prayerful-

Days ness, his concern for the poor, & his courage in the face of opposition.

23rd - St George. Martyr, died around 303.

Week 24th - St Fidelis of Sigmaringen. Priest & Martyr, 1578-1622. Remembered for his care of the sick and for his preaching.

25th - ANZAC day.

Unbelieving Thomas

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

The gospel story is usually called the story of 'doubting Thomas.' Indeed, this characterisation of Thomas effects the translation of verse 27: 'Do not doubt, but believe' (NRSV). Read

in this way, the story describes Thomas' movement from doubt to faith and leads us to set up doubt and belief as opposites. This creates two problems. First, doubt is not the opposite of faith and one does not preclude the other. For example, in the Gospel of Matthew the disciples meet the risen Jesus in Galilee just before his ascension. Matthew



says of the disciples, 'When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted'. Apparently, they believed enough to worship Jesus, but some doubts persist. Doubt and faith can co-exist.

The second problem with the traditional reading is this: it misrepresents the theology of the Evangelist. Jesus responds to Thomas' assertion, 'I will not believe' by chiding him, 'do not

be unbelieving, but believe'. In other words, the issue is not that Thomas doubted, but that he did not believe. The story, then, recounts a remarkable transformation from unbelieving to believing. This happens when Thomas 'sees' the risen Jesus.

But now that Jesus has ascended, the opportunity to see Jesus or the signs he performed is no longer possible. Therefore, the Evangelist hopes that the signs he carefully reports in his gospel will help readers 'come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God'. In other words, the belief he hopes to inspire will be based on people reading his words, not on seeing signs. This is reinforced by the words of Jesus: Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed'. According to the Evangelist, readers 'who have not seen' cannot be like Thomas who saw Jesus; but they (and we!) can be like Thomas by believing. Though the way in which people come to believe may be different, the belief is the same: Jesus is 'Lord and . . . God.' And the goal of believing is the same: 'life in his name.'