



**Sunday Mass Times**  
 ➤ **Bemboka** - 6pm Vigil Mass  
 ➤ **Candelo** - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass  
 ➤ **Candelo** - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. - 9.30am Mass or Liturgy  
 ➤ **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

**Syro-Malabar Mass** 4th Wed of the Month 5pm Bega. Contact Lijoy 0469 341 965  
**സീറോ-മലബാർ കുർബാന**  
 മാസത്തിലെ 4 ബുധനാഴ്ച വൈകുന്നേരം 5 മണിക്ക് ബേഗ. ബന്ധപ്പെടുക:

**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**  
**Bega** Saturday, 9.40 - 10.10am  
**Bemboka** before vigil Mass  
**Candelo** before vigil Mass  
**Tathra** before Sunday Mass

**ROSARY**  
**Tathra** - 7:20am before Sunday Mass  
**Bega** - 9am before Sunday Mass  
*all are welcome.*

**Sacramental Programme 2025**  
*Baptisms*—During Mass, 1 month notice  
*Confirmation* — 8th June  
*Weddings*—by appointment, 6 months notice required.  
*RCIA*—If anyone would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith or knows of someone who would like to become a Catholic, please contact Fr. Adrain.  
*Please contact the Parish Office.*

**Sunday Readings Reflection Group**  
 Is taking a break during January Resume Tuesdays in Feb. at 7pm Star of the Sea Tathra.

**Meditation & Contemplative Prayer**  
 Meeting is held on Monday at 7.30pm in the annex of Star of the Sea Church at Tathra.

**St. Pat's Choir** practices Thursdays 5.15—6pm  
 Contacts Mary 0428 471 012 or Matt 0429 338 348.

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



**Words of Wisdom**  
 Consult not your fears but your hopes & your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried & Failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.  
 - Pope John XXIII

Year C
29th December 2024 — 26th January 2025

# St. Patrick's Parish

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Adrian Chan  
**Parish Administration:** Mrs. Tanya Tomlinson,  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 9-2 *Bulletin Deadline: Thurs 10:30am*  
**Safeguarding:** Mrs. Emma Grant, [Bega.Safeguarding@cg.org.au](mailto:Bega.Safeguarding@cg.org.au)  
**St. Patrick's Primary School, Bega:** Mrs. Jo Scott-Pegum 6492 5500 [Office.Bega@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Office.Bega@cg.catholic.edu.au)  
**Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula:** Mr. Shane Giles 6495 8888 [lccc@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lccc@cg.catholic.edu.au)

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 Website: <http://cg.org.au/bega/>  
 Facebook: St Patricks Bega

*We acknowledge the Yuin People, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon & cared for this land for thousands of years. We pay our respect to Elders past, present & emerging. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of the Bega Valley.*

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024



The Feast of the Holy Family is an important reminder of what Christmas is really about. We give thanks for the gift of our families. It's where we first encountered love and affection, where we discovered what it means to be supported and accepted for who we are regardless of successes or failures. It's where we first learned about our faith and experienced God's love for us through our parents, brothers and sisters. While we all have regrets, today we pray for healing and a renewal of hope in family life. As we prepare to usher in the New Year we build on the good and move on from the painful and damaging experiences. This is only possible if we make the time & the space to welcome God into the heart of our families.

**Responsorial Psalm.**  
 How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation.**  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Open our heart, O Lord,  
 To listen to the words of your Son.  
 Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
 Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



### ROSTERS 5th January - 2nd February 2024

Please arrange a swap if you are not available



**I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parishioners, volunteers and sponsors of Bega Parish.**  
**I wish you all a Blessed 2025 with the Lord's choicest blessing upon your family, relations near and far. May the Lord keep all of you in good health this coming year.**  
**Safe travels to all who are on the road.**  
**Fr. Adrian.**

Bemboka Sat 6pm			
Date	Commentator	Readers	Cleaners
5th Jan	G Green	E Bevitt	Allen Bevitt
12th Jan	S Berman	J Macinante	Allen Bevitt
19th Jan	G Bevitt	G Berman	
26th Jan	G Green	H Woollett	Green
2nd Feb	H Allen	E Bevitt	

Candelo			
Date	Commentator	Readers	Cleaners
5th Jan	L Thompson	J Coman	Kathy Wels & Family
12th Jan	Ann Haesity	R Coman	Kathy Wels & Family
19th Jan	L Thompson	K Dodds	
26th Jan	Ann Haesity	R Coman	
2nd Feb	L Thompson	K Dodds	S&D Heffernan

Tathra Sun 7:45am					
Date	Commentator	Readers	Cleaners	Overhead	Eucharistic Ministers
5th Jan	Pat Platts	Gerry Collins	Marj Bower	Paul Gardiner	Pat Platts, Trish Sly
12th Jan	Betty O'Brien	Paul Gardiner	Trish Sly & Marg Roberts	Pat Platts	Trish Sly, Denise Miller
19th Jan	Trish Sly	G Hergenhan	Margaret T & Lee R	Carleen Maley	Denise Miller, Carleen Maley
26th Jan	Raewyn Galton	Pat Platts	E Corcoran & J Battista	Trish Sly	Carleen Maley, Pat Platts
2nd Feb	David Grainger	Raewyn Galton	Pat Platts	Paul Gardiner	Pat Platts, Trish Sly

Bega Sun 9:30am						
Date	Commentator	Readers	Counters	Acolyte	Eucharistic Ministers	Nursing Home
5th Jan	A Woods	Ayesha Twyford	K Rix & V Northcott	David Grainger	F Farrell, B Burton	D Koenigkamp
12th Jan	T Tomlinson	M Russell	S & W Giles	Frank Farrell	Bev Larkin	P Gardiner
19th Jan	Mel Ferris	T Tomlinson	Danni & Mary	Sean McCambridge	C Tarlinton	
26th Jan	A Frantz	V Northcott	Tomlinson & Farrell	David Grainger	D Koenigkamp	
2nd Feb	Mel Ferris	A Woods	Col & Kath Murphy	Sean McCambridge	A Tarlinton, Bev Larkin	Alex Tarlinton

## The Epiphany of the Lord

### 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Reflecting on the journey made by the magi as they arrive at Bethlehem guided by a star, Pope Benedict explains:  
*'Outwardly, their journey was now over. They had reached their goal. But at this point a new journey began for them, an inner pilgrimage which changed their whole lives. They were sure that God existed and that he was a just and gentle God. And perhaps they also knew of the great prophecies of Israel foretelling a King who would be intimately united with God. The new King, to whom they now paid homage, was quite unlike what they were expecting. In this way they had to learn that God is not as we usually imagine him to be. This was where their inner journey began. It started at the very moment when they knelt down before this child and recognized him as the promised King. They had to change their ideas about power, about God and about man, and in so doing so they also had to change themselves. Now they were able to see that God's power is not like that of the powerful of this world. God's ways are not as we imagine them or as we might wish them to be.*



*Now they have to learn to give themselves - no lesser gift would be sufficient for this King. Now they have to learn that their lives must be conformed, to God's own way of being.*

*They must become men of truth, of justice, of goodness, of forgiveness, of mercy.'*

I think we're all in search of many things in our lives and at various stages we can all be uncertain, if not afraid, about the future. Part of being human is the realization that we all need help and guidance but the important question arises, where do we look for help and guidance? It's never easy putting our trust in a God we cannot see. Just like the Magi we all need a light in our lives to guide and protect us. Throughout our journeys we all search for love, acceptance and understanding. Today we're told that a light shines out for the nations as God is seen in the face of a child, revealing himself to all peoples. Only by following the light of his word and sacraments can we hope to find our journey's end as we seek the face of God.

**Responsorial Psalm.**  
 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Gospel Acclamation.**  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord  
 Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
 We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

# The Baptism of the Lord



We rarely think of Jesus as a beginner, just as we rarely think of Jesus needing help. But in today's feast we celebrate those two things: Jesus makes a big beginning to his ministry, and he receives help in the power of the Holy Spirit.

All the Gospels agree that John the Baptist was very important in the life of Jesus. It is the towering, fearless figure of John that stands between the hidden life of Jesus and his public ministry. Before Jesus goes to John he is known by the local people simply as the son of a carpenter, who stays in the small town of Nazareth. After his time with John, Jesus becomes widely known as the wandering preacher with a unique prophetic mission. Clearly, something happened to Jesus while he was with John. He underwent a change that gave his life a new direction.

While he is with John, Jesus makes his big beginning. As Peter says in the second reading, "Jesus of Nazareth began in Galilee after John had been preaching baptism." John was a very important turning-point in the life of Jesus - so important that Jesus says of him later: "of all the children born of women, there is no one greater than John" (Lk.7:28). And in the fourth Gospel we are told that the first disciples of Jesus are ex-disciples of John.

In fact John was so important that some people in the first century thought that *he* was the Messiah - as Luke tells us in

today's Gospel. One of the reasons they thought that was because like many people Jesus went to John to be baptised. Perhaps that is why Luke has the Baptist in prison before he tells the story of Jesus' baptism: to assure his readers of the supremacy of Jesus!

In today's Gospel we heard how after his baptism Jesus is at prayer. The opening of the heavens is a signal for the descent of the Spirit. You can see the Old Testament backdrop for this scene in Isaiah when he writes: (63:15-19).

*Look down from the heavens and regard us.....  
Lord do not hold back, for you are our Father.  
O that you would rend the heavens and come down...*

Now Luke celebrates the time when God no longer holds back but rends the heavens to signal the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus is anointed for his prophetic mission by the Holy Spirit, the great enabler, the one who helps people to achieve God's plan. So Jesus is not alone when he makes his great beginning. He begins his journey in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the love of the Father. He starts out on a difficult road that will eventually lead to an appointment with death.

As we celebrate Jesus' great public beginning, we look at our own beginnings. And if some of them look a bit shabby now or half-hearted, we take consolation from the Gospel challenge to begin *again*. There probably won't be any doves or voices from heaven, but as Gospel people we make our beginnings like Jesus. We are not alone. We make them in the power of the Spirit and in the love of the Father. So, let us take courage to face our own road.

**Responsorial Psalm.**  
O, bless the Lord,  
my soul!

**Gospel Acclamation.**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
Behold the One of whom John  
said: I have seen & testified that  
this is the Son of God.



# 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



In a culture that prized the virtue of hospitality, to run out of wine would have made their wedding the talk of the country. But 'She' was sensitive to their need; his 'Hour' was precipitated & the couple did certainly live that day happy ever after.

The cynics say Marriage is the triumph of hope over experience but the Church says it is a Holy Sacrament that invites a man and a woman to mirror the love of Christ for his Church. Isaiah saw it all when he wrote, 'As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.'

As such it is a hope for the world. The world needs marriage for the simple reason that the world always is in need of love, a love that is faithful, a love that is true. But love is a fragile plant needing the rich soil of care and the gentle rains of fidelity. And the garden of love is not complete without precious petals from the flower of forgiveness.

FOCCUS, the Catholic marriage care service, calls their marriage preparation programme, 'Marriage: a journey not a Destination'. The sacrament of marriage reminds us that this journey is best walked in the presence of the Lord who, as St. John says, is Love itself (1John4:8). The 17th century metaphysical poet Richard Crashaw caught the spirit of the miracle at Cana when he wrote, 'The conscious water saw its God and blushed.' In the goodness of God may the wine of love be as abundant as the wine at the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee so long ago.

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Proclaim his marvelous  
deeds to all the nations

**Gospel Acclamation.**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with the gospel  
To share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
You have prepared a table  
before me, and how precious  
is the chalice that quenches  
my thirst

# 12th January 2025

# 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus points to himself as the fulfilment of ancient prophecy of Isaiah, 'that the Spirit of the Lord is upon him to proclaim the good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, the blind new sight and set the downtrodden free', as all eyes were fixed on him. The evangelist narrated this to tell the audience that the Coming of the Kingdom of God is also accompanied by all these signs. A sign of the Lord's favour and Jesus is the one that will actualise the Kingdom of God among us.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

**Gospel Acclamation.**  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
The lord sent me to bring Good News  
to the poor and freedom to prisoners  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
Look toward the Lord  
and be radiant: Let your  
faces not be abashed.



**RECENTLY DECEASED** Gregory Giles, Maria Townsend

**ANNIVERSARIES** Pam Collins, Eric & Carrie Turnbull, Alan, James & Gladys Hanscombe, Mick Tygh, Rina Sheehan

## Parish Notices

**Weekday Masses:** Please note there will be no weekday masses from the 26th December to the 25th January. Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 28th 5pm.

**Parish Office Hours January.** The office will be open from 9-12 on the 31st Dec. The office will then be closed until the 28th January. Emails will be checked periodically. Thank you for support over the last 12 months. Tanya

**The Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for 2024** was collected at the Christmas Masses and will be split between works in Australia & abroad. Thank you for your generosity.

**RCIA:** if you are interested in becoming a Catholic please contact Father Adrian at [Adrian.chan@cg.org.au](mailto:Adrian.chan@cg.org.au)

**Caritas Australia Vanuatu Earthquake Relief.** Thousands of people have been severely impacted by the earthquake in Vanuatu. Please help provide emergency shelter, food & other essentials, psychosocial support to those who are experiencing hardship: [caritas.org.au/Vanuatu](http://caritas.org.au/Vanuatu) or phone 1800 024 413

**Save the Date!** Chamber Philharmonia Cologne plays Vivaldi, Bach & Sarasate. Tuesday, 21st January 2025 at 8 pm in St. Patrick's Church in Bega. Advance Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CXAQQ>

**Jubilee of Families European Pilgrimage:** May 2025. Join Pambula Parish and Fr George Ogah on Pilgrimage. In this dedicated jubilee year, be inspired to encounter the pathways of some of the Church's greatest saints. 19 May-4 June, 2025. Contact [pambula@cg.org.au](mailto:pambula@cg.org.au) for more information



## St Joseph's Church Sesquicentenary

St Joseph's Church was opened by Reverend Dr. Rodger Bede Vaughan on Sunday 31st January 1875 (Visions for a Valley, p48). The Candelo community will have a celebration for the anniversary on Sunday the 16th February 2025 with a mass at 10am followed by a community gathering in the church hall. More details to follow closer to the event.

- CONFIRMATION 2025**  
Parent information night:  
Wednesday 26th Feb, 6pm
- Enrolment Mass  
Sunday 4th May 9:30am
- Retreat  
6th June, 9:30-2:30
- Confirmation Mass  
Sunday 8th June, 9:30am



# 26th January 2025

## Feast Days

- December**  
29<sup>th</sup> - St Thomas Becket  
31<sup>st</sup> - St Sylvester I, Pope.
- January**  
1<sup>st</sup> - Mary, Mother of God  
2<sup>nd</sup> - St Basil the Great & St Gregory Naianzen  
3<sup>rd</sup> - The Most Holy Name of Jesus.  
7<sup>th</sup> - St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest.  
13<sup>th</sup> - St Hilary, Bishop, Doctor  
17<sup>th</sup> - St Anthony, Abbot.  
20<sup>th</sup> - St Fabian, Pope, Martyr  
20<sup>th</sup> - St Sebastian, Martyr  
21<sup>st</sup> - St Agnes.  
22<sup>nd</sup> - St Vincent, Deacon.  
24<sup>th</sup> - St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor.  
25<sup>th</sup> - Conversion of St Paul.  
26<sup>th</sup> - Australia Day.  
27<sup>th</sup> - St Timothy & St Titus, Bishops.  
27<sup>th</sup> - St Angela Merici,  
28<sup>th</sup> - St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor.  
31<sup>st</sup> - St John Bosco, Priest



St Patrick's Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the rights and dignity of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families & carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all our thinking and actions. Parishioners are encouraged to communicate concerns by emailing Fr Adrian, the Parish Office, the Parish Safeguarding Officer or directly to IPSS ([ipss@cg.org.au](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au))