

**Entrance Antiphon** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near

**Responsorial Psalm** Cry out with joy & gladness; For among you is the great & 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 - 21st/22nd December 2024**  
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

**Bemboka Sat 6pm**  
Commentator J Macinante  
Readers H Allen  
Cleaners Berman

**Candelo Sun 9:30am**  
Commentator J Coman  
Readers K Dodds  
Cleaners - Dec Lorraine & Simon Thompson

**Tathra Sun 7:45am**  
Commentator Jacinta Battista  
Readers Gerard Hergenhan  
Cleaners Raewyn Galton  
Audio-Visual Kate D'Arcy  
Eucharistic Ministers Trish Sly, Carleen Maley

**Bega Sun 9:30am**  
Commentator T Tomlinson  
Readers M O'Neill  
Gifts Volunteer  
Counters Col & Kath Murphy  
Music Matt Heffernan  
Acolyte David Grainger  
Eucharistic Ministers C Tarlinton

**For Sale:** Sunday Missal - \$32; Children's Mass Book - \$10. Contact the office or place your order in a marked envelope in the 2nd collection.

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)

**St. Pat's Choir** practices Thurs 5.15—6pm Contacts Mary 0428 471 012 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 - all are welcome.**  
**Tathra** - 7:20am before Sunday Mass  
**Bega** - 9am before Sunday Mass

**MENS' GROUP:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays  
St Patrick's Church.  
Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997

**St Patrick's Sacramental Programme**  
*Baptisms*—During Mass, 1 month notice  
*Confirmation 2025*— TBA  
*Weddings*—by appoint, 6 months notice req. Please contact the Parish Office.

**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: ലിജോയ് 0469 341 965



**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.*

**15th December 2024**

Ph. 64921058  
PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
Email: Bega@cg.org.au  
Website: http://cg.org.au/bega/  
Facebook: St Patricks Bega

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

*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.*

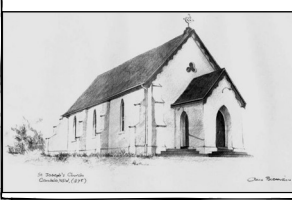
**Witnesses.**

From now until after Christmas we leave Mark's gospel, but nonetheless for today the focus remains on John the Baptist. As in Mark, John's gospel has no story of the birth of Jesus but right from the outset it emphasises the divine origin of Jesus, the light of the world, the Word made flesh. The role of the Baptist is to bear witness to who Jesus really is and that is what we see in the text for today. John always directs the focus away from himself and points to the one who is coming, and once again the quotation from Is 40 is heard. The level of expectation is high, as can be seen from the questions being put to John but his only interest is pointing the way to Jesus and that makes him a perfect role model for Advent.



In the gospel John the Baptist describes Jesus as 'standing among you, unknown to you'. In John's time this was because Jesus had not yet begun his ministry, but in our own day these words have a particular relevance. We live by faith in Jesus the crucified and risen Lord present in our world. In preparing for Christmas we want to renew our awareness of that presence and to help others be aware of it. In Advent we, like John, are called to be witnesses to the light he brings. In small but important ways we can bring light into the lives of those around us. Simple acts of kindness, sharing our time, talents or resources with those in need, is the only way Christ's light will shine for many people this Christmas. In our time, through the gift of the Spirit, the Word becomes flesh in us. *Sean Goan*

**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.

**Parish Email.** There have been some technical issues with the Archdiocese email system. Currently not all emails are being received. Please contact the parish office or Fr Adrian directly by phone for essential matters. Thanks

**Help Please:** In relation to the upcoming St Joseph's Church 150<sup>th</sup> celebration, could anyone with memories, photographs or articles of the Church and the old Convent please contact Tanya or John Coman (0439262722). The information will be copied and the originals returned.

**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)

**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>

**Christmas Nativity.** All parish children are invited to participate in our Christmas eve mass as part of our Nativity Gospel. If interested please contact the parish office.

**Pambula Parish Jubilee of Families Pilgrimage** 9th May to 4th June 2025. Accompanied by Fr George. For more information contact the office for a copy of the information flyer or visit [www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2539](http://www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2539)

**Vocations Discernment Dinners** Second Thursday of the month. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To RSVP please contact vocations director Fr Emil [emil.milat@cg.org.au](mailto:emil.milat@cg.org.au).

**Aid to the Church in Need** Christmas Catalogue now available at the church entrance.

**Christmas Gifts from Palms!** Whether it be a gift directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese gifts for your loved one's home! Go to [palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop](http://palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop)

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Gregory Giles, Maria Townsend, John McManus  
**ANNIVERSARIES** Rina Sheehan, Ken Lehman, Ann Farrell, Pat Trigurtha,

**Feasts**  
**21<sup>st</sup> - St Peter Canisius**, Priest & Doctor of the Church 1521-1597. 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.



**Minute Meditations - Unwrapping**

When my daughters, nieces, and nephews were younger, we would play a game during Christmas in which we would sit in a circle and pass a package that had been wrapped with multiple layers of colourful Christmas paper. As in musical chairs, we listened to cheerful Christmas music as we passed the package. When the music stopped, the person holding the package unwrapped a layer of paper until a different colour of Christmas wrapping paper showed through. With laughter and smiles, we unwrapped until the small gift in the centre was finally found. The unwrapping shaped the joy. It was the being together and waiting for the centre gift to emerge that gave rise to the joy. Advent is a slow unwrapping.

How can you enjoy this present moment in Advent? How can you be present to God's intentional unwrapping of your life right now? How can you slow down and savour the joy of now rather than waiting to experience joy later? God is with you, creating you and unwrapping you. - by Stephanie Clouatre Davis, OPA



**You're Invited - after mass**  
 ✦ Tathra - Breakfast 2nd Sunday of the Month  
 ✦ Bega - Morning Tea last Sunday of the Month  
**All Welcome. Please bring a friend.**

**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**  
Bega Saturday, 9.40 - 10am  
Bemboka before vigil Mass  
Candelo before vigil Mass  
Tathra before Sunday Mass

**Fr Adrian Contact:** Mobile: 0411 676 064  
 Email: [Adrian.Chan@cg.org.au](mailto:Adrian.Chan@cg.org.au)

**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  
 - 4th Sunday- 9:30am Family Mass

**Weekdays**  
 ➤ Tuesday 5.00pm Bega Chapel  
 ➤ Wednesday 9.00am Tathra.  
 ➤ Thursday 9.15am Bega Chapel  
 ➤ Hillgrove House 3rd Thursday 3pm  
 ➤ Friday 9.15am Bega Chapel  
 4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'  
 ➤ Saturday 9.15am Bega Church

**Christmas Mass Times 2024**  
 Monday 23rd  
 Bega 4:00pm Syro Malabar  
 ബേഗ വൈകിട്ട് 4:00 സീറോ  
 മലബാർ  
 Christmas Eve  
 Bega 5:30pm Carols  
 6:00pm Family Vigil  
 Candelo 9pm  
 Christmas Day  
 Tathra 7:45am  
 Bemboka 10:00am



**Wise Words:**  
 The soul of the one who serves God always swims in joy, always keeps holiday, & is in the mood for singing.  
 - St John of the Cross