

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

**Responsorial Psalm** My soul rejoices in my God.

**Gospel Acclimation** 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 - 23rd/24th December 2023**  
Please arrange a swap if you are not available  
Christmas - Please refer to your roster.

#### Bemboka Sat 6pm

Commentator G Berman  
Readers S Berman  
Cleaners Allen

#### Candelo Sun 9:30am - Liturgy

Commentator J Coman  
Readers K Dodds  
Cleaners - Dec Lorraine & Simon Thompson

#### Tathra Sun 7:45am - if required

Commentator Trish Sly  
Readers Gerry Collins  
Cleaners Team effort for Christmas  
Audio-Visual Pat Platts  
Eucharistic Ministers Trish Sly, Denise Miller

#### Bega Sun 9:30am

Commentator Volunteer  
Readers Volunteer  
Gifts Volunteer  
Counters Office  
Music Matt Heffernan  
Acolyte David Grainger  
Eucharistic Ministers B Larkin

#### Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation

Bega Saturday, 9.40 - 10am  
Bemboka before vigil Mass  
Candelo before vigil Mass  
Tathra before Sunday Mass

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  
*Reconciliation*—26th May 2024  
*First Communion* - 25th August 2024  
*Weddings*—by appoint, 6 months notice req.  
Please contact the Parish Office.

**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. **Bulletin & Forms** can be found on the website



2nd Advent - Year B

10th December 2023

# St. Patrick's Parish

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

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 (LCCC), Pambula. Mr. Shane Giles 6495 8888

Ph. 64921058  
PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
Email: [Bega@cg.org.au](mailto:Bega@cg.org.au)  
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.*

## A Witness to Speak for the Light.



Probably you or I would not have been drawn to the preaching of John the Baptist.

We can sometimes be surprised at how

popular John the Baptist was in his own time. The Jewish historian Josephus tells us that John the Baptist's ministry was a stunning success. Untold numbers of people from all over the area came to be baptised by him in the river Jordan. He was a celebrity of his time.

Yes he does not display the characteristics that we sometimes come to expect of a popular celebrity. John the Baptist's life looms large in contrast to our modern celebrities. His goal was not to draw attention to himself. His greatest desire was to glorify Jesus. Leonard Bernstein once said that the hardest instrument to play is second fiddle. John willingly took on the part of second fiddle. John was a humble man. He is truly humble acknowledging his own role as one who points the way, who speaks as a witness for the light. John the Baptist, in spite of his own popularity, sought to direct attention not to himself but to Jesus. That kind of humility is a rare commodity.

He was also a man of great courage preaching his message fearlessly even



when it made the civil and religious establishment uncomfortable to listen to his word. He paid the ultimate price for that courage in the manner of his death. Here is the cost of true discipleship.

He was committed to bearing witness to the light. A witness is someone who speaks from their experience and share it with others. In the example of the Baptist is the path to greatness - a path that you and I would do well to follow. Humility. Courage. And commitment to bear witness to the light of God.

**Note for readers** please pause 20 seconds in between readings for respectful silence - thank you.

**God's Word 2024** is now available for collection. Missed out? There are 2 spares - please contact the office.

**Parish Office Closure.** The Parish Office will be closed in January. Re-opening January 30th 9am. Emails will be checked periodically. For urgent matters please phone Fr Adrian.

**2024 Sacramental Programme.** To enrol children in year 3 and above in the sacraments of Reconciliation & Communion please use the link or QR: <https://forms.gle/BNbWYy1s4xEZ71VY7>



**Vinnies Store.** The Bega Vinnies stores is closed until further notice. Unfortunately they cannot take donations until they reopen. They apologise for the inconvenience and hope to be open again soon.

**Ministry to the Newly Married.** Are you recently married (in the past 2 years) or about to be married? Join a mentoring program for couples in the first 5 years of their marriage. Details: Ralph & Angela 0401 994 081 OR Helena and Richard on 0405 440 463 or [contact@newlymarried.org](mailto:contact@newlymarried.org). More information is available at <https://bit.ly/MinistryNewlyMarried>. Register for 2024 before 12 Jan.

**That Catholic Shop Christmas Gifts.** Christmas catalogues are available at the church entrance. All proceeds support the work of Aid to the Church in Need.

**Caritas Australia Global Gifts for Christmas.** Make a donation to Caritas on behalf of another person. See the poster in the entrance for more details.

**Christmas Collection.** This year 2 collections will be taken at the Christmas Masses. The first is for our priests including the Christmas offering envelopes. The 2nd Collection is for the Archbishops Christmas appeal. This is used to support refugees; the church in need include in Ukraine and the Holy Land; and the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria; Tamarassery, India; and Gizo, Solomon Islands

### You're Invited

✦ *Tathra* - Breakfast every 2nd Sunday of the Month after Mass.

✦ *Bega* - Morning Tea last Sunday of the Month after Mass Bega.

**All Welcome. Please bring a friend.**

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Alan Hart, Vincent Ford, Les Maley, Frank Dorris

**ANNIVERSARIES** Rita Heffernan, John Beatty, Kevin Wilds, Mick Tygh

**PRAYERS** Hugo D'Arcy and his family  
Noah Smith - operation in Sydney

### Feasts Days

**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.

**23<sup>rd</sup> - St John of Kanty**, Priest 1390-1473. Remembered for his excellent teaching, for the austerity of his personal life, and for the generosity of his almsgiving.

### Wise Words:

Joy seems to me a step beyond happiness -- happiness is a sort of atmosphere you can live in sometimes, when you're lucky. Joy is a light that fills you with hope and faith and love. - *Adela Rogers St. Johns*



**Family Mass.** All children are invited to participate in the family mass by coming dressed as angels or shepherds.



### Christmas Mass Times 2023

*4th Sunday of Advent - 24th*

Bemboka 6pm **23rd** Vigil Mass  
Bega 9:30am Sunday Mass  
Candelo 9:30am Liturgy

Please note there is no Mass at Tathra this day

*Christmas Eve - 24th*

Bega 5:30pm Carols  
6:00pm Family Vigil

Bemboka 9:00pm

*Christmas Day - 25th*

Tathra 7:45am  
Candelo 10.00am

