

Entrance Antiphon My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Responsorial Psalm If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart.

Gospel Acclamation Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal lives.

ROSTERS - 18th/19th March 2023
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

Bemboka Sat 6pm	
<i>Commentator</i>	J Guthrie
<i>Readers</i>	M Guthrie
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	s
Candelo Sat 6pm	
<i>Commentator</i>	L Thompson
<i>Readers</i>	Merryl Whitbys
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners - Mar</i>	Nalda & Roger Heffernan
Tathra Sun 7:45am	
<i>Commentator</i>	Jacinta Battista
<i>Readers</i>	Pat Platts
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	Raewyn Galton
<i>Audio-Visual</i>	Trish Sly
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Carleen Maley, Pat Plattss
Bega Sun 9:30am	
<i>Commentator</i>	V Northcott, A Woods
<i>Readers</i>	V Northcott, A Woods
<i>Gifts</i>	Volunteer
<i>Counters</i>	A Woods
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan
<i>Acolyte</i>	David Grainger
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	D Koenigkamp, B Larkin K Rix, B Tygh

Wise Words:
Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his sword, in the sacraments and in our neighbour.
- Pope Francis



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

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
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 2023
Baptisms—During Mass, 1 month notice
Confirmation—28th May
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

encounter



3rs Lent - Year A

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*
St. Patrick's School, Bega. Mrs. Jo Scott-Pegum (Principal) 6492 5500
Lumen Christi (LCCC), Pambula. Mr. Shane Giles 6495 8888

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

Death & Glory



We all know how refreshing a glass of cold water is on a hot day. We also know these days, because it is on so many television shows, that water has a lot of health benefits as well. It maintains our fluid balance, helps control our kilojoule intake, gives energy to our muscles, keeps our skin clear, our kidneys functioning properly, prevents cramp and muscle ache, promotes clearer thinking, etc. Water is key to life.

Yet, fizzy soft drinks are more popular than water. Tea and coffee and alcohol are always popular thirst quenchers, and we know that they all have negative consequences when we consume them. Not everything we drink is good for us. Today's scriptural passages speak of the human thirst for life and how that thirst is met.

The people of Israel, we are told, after they had fled Egypt, wandered in the desert for 40 years before they reached their ancestral home, the Promised Land. There are at least two things going on in this Exodus account just proclaimed. On the one hand, the people are thirsty; in fact they are tormented by thirst in the desert. God provides life-giving water for them. On the other hand, the people complain and grumble about being thirsty in the desert. As the psalm said, at Meribah and Massah their hearts hardened in the desert and they put God to the test. Even though God had liberated them from slavery in Egypt, this was not enough: they wanted more. I think we can say it is okay to want more, but the people of Israel questioned the gift of freedom God had given them through Moses. When they said they would have been better off staying in Egypt rather than being led by God through the desert, they were rejecting, or at least doubting, the gift of new life God was offering.



The Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, or the well of Shechem, also wants more out of life. In her dialogue with Jesus she begins to realise that she is thirsty for meaning in her life, thirsty for fulfilment, thirsty for satisfaction, and that she had not yet found it. The story, found only in John's Gospel, tells us she had been married and divorced many times; she had drunk the fizzy soft drink, the tea and coffee, the alcohol of life, but had not discovered the one thing that would benefit her: living water. Marriage can be a way of finding fulfilment and a way of finding God, but it had not worked that way for her. But rather than grumble about the failures of her life, this woman—this foreign woman, let us not forget—remained opened to promise. When Jesus offers her living water, she is ready to say yes to that.

Not only was the Samaritan woman thirsty, but Jesus was thirsty too. This is the part of the story we probably do not think much about, but St Augustine of Hippo did when he preached on this passage about 1600 years ago. He said, 'Yet in asking her for a drink, he was really thirsting for that woman's faith'.

Continued inside

Stay Connected!

- ✦ Subscribe to the Parish bulletin email: Complete the Parishioner details eform - QR code or Link <https://forms.gle/dp9xKH7E3V5gE5KJ8>
- ✦ Facebook page - www.facebook.com/stpatricksbega
- ✦ check out our website - <http://cg.org.au/bega>



Feast of St Patrick School Mass. Friday 17th, 12:35pm St Patrick' Bega

The NSW Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network: bring comfort in crisis. Our chaplains are only called out when requested to by state or local governments or agencies requiring our support. Emergencies include: Bushfires and house and unit block fires; Floods; Storms and other weather events; Large scale fatal accidents; Terrorist attacks and criminal violence; and Emergency Evacuations. If you are interested in joining the network, please contact the parish office for more information and the application form. There is a requirement of 2 days training in Canberra on 27-28 April.

Archbishop Christopher invites us to read Pope Francis address to the conference participants of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. Particularly relevant in our 'Year of Walking Together'. <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2023/february/documents/20230218-convegno.html>

Palms Australia. Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. WEB: www.palms.org.au

Lenten Penitential Rite: Lenten confessions are available Sat 9:40-10am Bega. Also before or after mass. Please see Fr Adrian

Stations of the Cross

Candelo - Tues 7pm in lent, with reflection, followed by a cuppa



You're Invited

- ✦ *Tathra* - Breakfast every 2nd Sunday of the Month after Mass. 12 March
 - ✦ *Bega* - Morning Tea 4th Sunday of the Month after Mass Bega. 26th March
- All Welcome. Please bring a friend.**

Fr Adrian Contact: Mobile: 0411 676 064
Email: 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 Angus Collins (Eddie Collins Grandson), Janette Collins

ANNIVERSARIES Denise Mary Mulligan, John Roberts Senior

PRAYERS Anne Smith & her children Henry & Malory (Sue Gardiner's Daughter).

Jenny Ryan and June O'Farrell - Ill health.

Hugo D'Arcy and his family

Feasts

17th - St Patrick, Bishop 4th-5th Century. Faced hardship as a missionary bishop in Ireland, and opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. Yet worked to conciliate, to evangelise, and to educate local chieftains and their families.

Remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, & for his fearless preaching of the gospel to those who had enslaved him in his youth.

18th - St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, 315-386.

Remembered especially for the illuminating baptismal catechesis he gave in the new Constantinian basilica of the Holy Sepulchre

Project Compassion 2023 Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**

You can also donate on 1800 024 413 or caritas.org.au/project-compassion



Front page Cont. Augustine continued, 'He asks for a drink and he promises a drink. He is in need & wants to receive; he is rich & wants to satisfy the needs of others'.

What God is offering this woman through Jesus, according to Augustine, is the Holy Spirit. He asks her for her faith and she offers it to him by recognising him as the messiah. She runs to share this discovery with the rest of her village. Faith is not just for personal benefit: it is to be shared. As Augustine reminds us, 'She is a symbol of the Church not yet justified, but about to be justified, for this is the drift of their conversation'. She is also a symbol of those preparing for initiation. Jesus asks them to give him their faith and in return he gives them his body and blood as nourishment for a life that is full of meaning and satisfaction.

We are thankful today for the God who has given us living water in baptism to quench our thirst and give our lives true purpose, we are thankful for Jesus who breaks down all the barriers that divide us and reaches out to us in our need, we are thankful for the Spirit who fills us with faith.

Geoff Dunn

