

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

**Responsorial Psalm** Lord, come and save us.


**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 - 17th/18th December 2022** **Please arrange a swap if you are not available**

<b>Bemboka Sat 6pm</b>	
<i>Commentator</i>	S Berman
<i>Readers</i>	G Bevitt
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	
<b>Candelo Sun 6pm</b>	
<i>Commentator</i>	I Thompson
<i>Readers</i>	M Whitby
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners - Dec</i>	Simon & Lorraine Thompson
<b>Tathra Sun 7:45am</b>	
<i>Commentator</i>	Pat Platts
<i>Readers</i>	Trish Sly
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	Marj Bower
<i>Audio-Visual</i>	Pat Platts
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Denise Miller, Mark Oakley
<b>Bega Sun 9:30am</b>	
<i>Commentator</i>	M Henare
<i>Readers</i>	M Russell, T Tomlinson
<i>Gifts</i>	Volunteer
<i>Counters</i>	K Johnson & N Bateman
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan
<i>Acolyte</i>	Frank Farrell
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	A Tarlinton, D Koenigkamp M Twyford, B Tygh

**Wise Words:** Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, & also to verify our longing for God, to look forward & prepare ourselves for Christ's return. - 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 2022**  
*Baptisms*—During Mass, 1 month notice  
*Reconciliation*—22nd June  
*First Communion* - 18th September  
*Weddings*—by appoint, 6 months notice req.

**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

**Being the Good News**



**3rd Advent - 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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Facebook: St Patricks Bega

## **Messiah**



The Missal's entrance antiphon, that long ago gave today its epithet, Gaudete Sunday, and it sets the scene to receive the first reading that launches into the same message of joyful preparation already noted on the previous Sundays of Advent. It now comes even more forcefully (translated slightly differently here): let the wilderness be glad, rejoice and bloom; let it bloom plentifully, rejoice exceedingly and ring out – God is coming to save! Hearing this, and seeing our trees and summer plants in bloom, how can anyone think flowers out of place in churches where we celebrate the coming Saviour, both as the eternal judge to come and the babe already born? Being delightfully mindful of God's saving deeds in the past, as Isaiah's people were of the great exodus from Egypt and we are of the newborn Christ-child and his resurrection, this reading calls all to a joyful anticipation of



what is to be, the foretaste now of the not yet. This therefore does not deny the current reality of difficulties encountered and the problems we face, but the hope it conveys encourages the burdened as if lightening the load. There is a wise psychology at work in this mode, for people find it easier to change when they see and want what is to be gained than when they are ground down by reminders of what will go wrong if they don't; when faced with a need to make a major change in life people find working towards a pleasing goal is psychologically easier and more productive than working to avoid punishment.

The responsorial Psalm echoes some of the first reading as its antiphon introduces the cry that soon becomes predominant in Advent: Come Lord! Why should anyone beg what they dread to come? No, it is the earnest desire for the salvation the Lord brings that stirs the call to him to come. The psalm also shares the image of the blind gaining sight that will be heard again in the gospel, and it adds more of these positives: the hungry are fed, prisoners are freed, the bowed down are lifted up. John the Baptist is with us again this Sunday, but now he is in prison, and he asks confirmation that Jesus is the one who is to come. The message sent back to him is, like Isaiah's to the exiles, the consolation of good news, but rather than these good things being still to come they are now being made present. However, we still find ourselves in between the now and not yet; salvation has come in Christ, and yet it is still being brought to fulfilment, and anything coming to fulfilment still has obstacles to surpass.

However, our summer's heat can also be draining, even frightening when accompanied by the real danger of fire in some parts of the country and of catastrophic storms in others. The message in the Missal's Communion antiphon seeks to encourage the faint of heart, those tiring with the struggle. But, in as much as our own profligacy has contributed to the current dangers, we must also remember last Sunday's message does not say "Continue as you are; God will sort it out" but rather "Prepare the way", a call to action. Instead of acting simply from fear, or being overwhelmed by it, it would be better for us to acknowledge the presence of God already here manifest in the wonderful work that is creation; delighting in and loving God's gift as God does surely is a stronger impetus to change, for love of God.



**Vinnies News:** ✦ *Christmas Appeal:* Envelopes available at the church entrance. All money used to support those in need in our local community. Thank you for your support.

**St Patrick's Primary News. VOLUNTEERS:** Would you like to volunteer at St Patrick's School to listen to children read or help in the school canteen? It is as simple as applying for a volunteer Working With Children Check, and completing a short school based volunteer induction, and then we would welcome you with open arms!



**ENROLING NOW:** Limited places for 2023 are available in year levels across the school. At St Patrick's primary school, all are welcome.

**A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:** *That Catholic Shop* - Christmas orders from Aid to the Church in Need's online store – That Catholic Shop – can still be made all the way up to 19 December! Choose from our broad range of religious gifts and receive free shipping for orders over \$100. Peruse our Christmas range at [www.thatcatholicshop.com](http://www.thatcatholicshop.com)



**But a Star Sings Hallelujah.** Christmas family concert, Tathra Uniting Church, Sunday December 11th 2pm. Music by local musicians and the 'Tathra Singers' including the contemporary carols of Douglas Simper.

**Australia Catholic Bishops - Advent Appeal for Ukraine.** Supporting the work of Mudra Sprava, a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. Their three focus areas: Evacuation of people from frontline territories; Food packages and Shelter. Donations can be made via the QR code or in an envelope via 2nd collection labelled 'ACBC Ukraine appeal'.



**Message from Palms Australia:** You've got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts. In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad. Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

### You're Invited

- ✦ *Tathra* - Breakfast every 2nd Sunday of the Month after Mass. 11th December
  - ✦ *Bega* - Morning Tea last Sunday of the Month after Mass Bega. 18th Dec
- 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

### Weekdays

- Tuesday 5.00pm Bega Church
- Wednesday 9.00am Tathra.
- Thursday 9.15am Bega Church
- *Hillgrove House 3rd Thursday 11am*
- Friday 9.15am Bega Church  
4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'
- Saturday 9.15am Bega Church

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Ann Kok, Sr Margaret Smith, Betty Douglass, Ron Alexander

**ANNIVERSARIES** Mick Tygh, Patricia Tregurtha, Jack & Marie McNamara, Curtis McNamara, Rina Sheehan.

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

### Feast Days

**11<sup>th</sup> - St Damasus I**, Pope, 305-384. Remembered for his commissioning of St Jerome's Latin translation of the Bible and promoting the cult of the Roman martyrs.

**12<sup>th</sup> - Our Lady of Guadalupe.** Patron of all the Americas.

**13<sup>th</sup> - St Lucy**, Virgin & Martyr. Died in the persecution of the emperor Diocletian in 304. Named in Eucharistic Prayer I & remembered as a youth, radiant with Christian faith and courage.

**14<sup>th</sup> - St John of the Cross**, Priest & Doctor of the Church, 1542-1591. Remembered for his mystical writings, which combine theology and poetry to describe the spiritual journey through darkness to union with God.



**God's Word 2023** - orders now available for collection. \$20 payable upon collection. Payment via cash or 2 taps of the TapNGo. Please mark the collection sheet with Payment method. Thanks.

**Planned Building Maintenance:** The parish over the next few years will be undertaking maintenance of the various buildings under our charge for Bega, Tathra, Candelo and Bemboka. Please pray for these projects. Thank you.

**Christmas Penitential Rite.** Fr Adrian is available for individual confessions before and after all masses during Advent (time permitting). Also on Saturdays in St Patrick's from 9:40am.

*Dear friends,* as you know our first collection for sustaining the priest in this parish is in deficit for the last few years. Thus we would like to recommend to you leaving a gift in a part of your will to the first collection. There's a spiritual power to the bequest as experienced by St Teresa of Jesus. Please contact Father Adrian for more information. *Thank you for your consideration.*

*For readers please pause 10 seconds in between readings for respectful silence thank you.*

### Christmas Mass Times 2022

*Christmas Eve*

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

Candelo 9:00pm

*Christmas Day*

Tathra 7:45am

Bemboka 10.00am



Three Wise Women  
Would have asked directions  
Arrived on time  
Helped deliver the baby  
Brought practical gifts  
Cleaned the stable  
Made a casserole  
and there would be  
Peace on earth!

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