

Entrance Antiphon Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Responsorial Psalm The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
Whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

ROSTERS - 25th/26th March 2023
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

Bemboka Sat 6pm	
<i>Commentator</i>	G Bevitt
<i>Readers</i>	E Bevitt
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	Bevitt
Candelo Sun 9:30am	
<i>Commentator</i>	Ann Haesey
<i>Readers</i>	K Dodds
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners - Mar</i>	Nalda & Roger Heffernan
Tathra Sun 7:45am	
<i>Commentator</i>	Trish Sly
<i>Readers</i>	Gerard Hergenhan
<i>Gifts</i>	
<i>Cleaners</i>	Oakley Family
<i>Audio-Visual</i>	Carleen Maley
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Pat Platts, Les Carey
Bega Sun 9:30am	
<i>Commentator</i>	Family Mass
<i>Readers</i>	Family Mass
<i>Gifts</i>	Family Mass
<i>Counters</i>	K Johnston & N Bateman
<i>Music</i>	Matt Heffernan
<i>Acolyte</i>	Frank Farrell
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	L Stewart, A Tarlinton B Burton, M Twyford

Wise Words:
Lent is about becoming,
doing, and changing
whatever it is that is
blocking the fullness of
life in us right now.
- Sr Joan Chittister,
OSB

**I
ONCE
WAS BLIND
BUT NOW I SEE**

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

insight



4th Lent - Year A

19th March 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*
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
Website: <http://cg.org.au/bega/>
Facebook: St Patricks Bega

Darkness & Light



Symbolically, blindness is darkness and sight is light. The author of the letter to the Christians in Ephesus tells us that we once lived in darkness but now we live in the light of the Lord. We all know the expression 'to see the light'. It refers to the sudden, complete understanding of something that is usually the complete opposite of what we believed before. Ultimately it derives from the stories about the encounter between Jesus and blind people: today's story from John's Gospel, the blind man from Bethsaida in Mark 8, and blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10 (with parallels in Luke 18 and Matthew 20).

He gives them sight, but they receive more than that. They are given insight, insight into who Jesus really is. Their physical disability is a metaphor for a spiritual truth. As blind people they stumble around, unable to find their way. When they see they gain freedom and wholeness. Of course, the reality is that many blind people are not that helpless and can learn to manage quite well. However, the metaphor remains: to be blind is to be aimless and lost.

So today we have Jesus say that he is the light of the world. He gives purpose and meaning and direction to our lives. He brings healing and wholeness to broken lives. This is why light is an important symbol in our Easter season and initiation liturgy. The paschal candle is the light shining in the darkness. At baptism we are each given a candle lighted from that paschal candle to represent the insight that we have gained: no longer do we walk with tiny steps and arms outstretched feeling our way, not sure where we are going. By becoming a follower we walk with bold steps in the right direction.



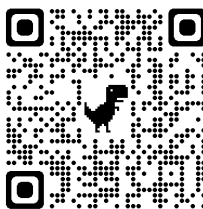
'Seeing is believing', goes the old expression, first recorded by John Clarke in 1639, but once again deriving from the Gospel of John, in particular from John 20:29, where Jesus comes to Thomas after the resurrection. Clarke, however, missed the point. It is all well and good for Thomas to believe in the risen Jesus because he saw him, but the rest of that verse goes on, 'blest are they who have not seen and have believed'. The stories of Jesus and the blind men tell us this as well. Even before they can see they believe what Jesus promises them. Jesus tells the man born blind to go, wash, and he trusts what Jesus says, and then he sees (see the connection between water and light, font and paschal candle!). He believes and then he sees; he does not see first and believe second.

Is it possible for us to see Jesus today, like the man born blind did and like Thomas did? The answer must be yes. We can see Jesus in those who are his disciples. Augustine of Hippo said as much when he preached on this gospel story: *Are we to think, brothers and sisters, that he was here then and is not here any longer? ... It is now that faith is working by love; and if we are working now, then this is the day; Christ is here. Hear his promise and do not think he is absent ... He himself has said, 'And know that I am with you always, until the end of the world'.*

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>



Multicultural Mass: 16th April 11am, St Christopher's. You are warmly invited to the Archdiocese's annual Multicultural Mass at – one full of colour, song, and dance. Australia's multicultural heritage is one of the country's great treasures, so come along and join our African, Anglo-Indian, Filipino, Indonesian, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese Catholic communities as we all walk together

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>



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!

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

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 Days

20th - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary, cared for Mary and the child Jesus.

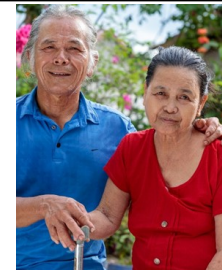
23rd - St Turibius de Mogrovejo, Bishop, 1538-1606. Remembered for his determined opposition to ecclesiastical abuses and to colonial exploitation, for his pastoral care and evangelisation of the indigenous peoples in their own languages, and for his visitation of the vast diocese

25th - The Annunciation of the Lord. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ

Project Compassion 2023 Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke. .

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. This then is our Christian mission. Just as in baptism our candle is lighted from the paschal candle, who is Jesus, so our light must be the light of Christ shining in the darkness of our world. Our task is to be Jesus for others. In our Eucharist today we thank God for the gift of Jesus, who has washed us and given us sight and insight. We thank God for the light that gives us true meaning and direction. We thank God for this season of preparation for initiation and renewal. We thank God for all those people who have shared their light and faith with us. We say yes to the call to live in that light and to be that light for those whom we meet.

Geoff Dunn

Holy Week 3rd to 9th April

Monday	3rd	Mass of the Chrism 5pm St Christopher Canberra
Thursday	6th	Mass of the Lords Supper 6pm Bega , adoration until 10pm
Friday	7th	Stations of the Cross 10am Tathra Passion of the Lord & Veneration 3pm - Bega
Saturday	8th	Easter Vigil 6pm - Bega
Sunday	9th	Easter Sunday 7:45am - Tathra; 10am - Bemboka

"Fasting" doesn't mean eating fast food!

