Dear Parishioners & Visitors

us to make room for

silence, to hear the

voice of love

- Pope Francis

I thank everyone for their presence here today. Mass can be 'out of the ordinary' for everyone. I thank you for your effort to be here. Out of the ordinary is where the Shepherds were when they were asked by an angel to approach the Child Jesus in the Manger. May our presence here today be that same pilgrimage of Hope.

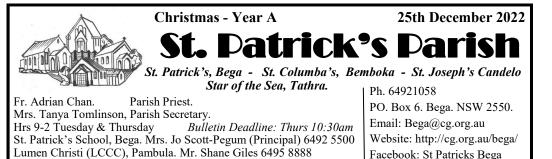
Let us not forget those who are unable to join us for health reasons, may they not loose hope in their isolation.

In the midst of so much suffering and chaos, let us pray that we never loose Hope. The Virtue of Hope is the knowledge that in the end God is in Charge. Let us ever more place our trust in him. Jesus I trust in you *Fr. Adrian.* 

ROSTERS - 31st Dec 2022/ 1st Jan 2023 Please arrange a swap if you are not available	Sacrament of Penance/ReconciliationBegaSaturday,9.40 - 10am
Bemboka Sat 6pmCommentatorG GreenReadersS Berman	Bembokabefore vigil MassCandelobefore vigil MassTathrabefore Sunday Mass
Gifts Cleaners	St. Pat's Choir practices Thurs 5.15— 6pm Contacts Mary 0428 471 012 or
Candelo Sat 6pmCommentatorL ThompsonReadersJ ComanGiftsCleaners - JanKathy Wels & Family	Matt 0429 338 348.Meditation & Contemplative PrayerMeeting is held on Monday at 7.30pm in the annex of Star of the Sea Church at Tathra.
Tathra Sun 7:45amCommentatorPat PlattsReadersPaul Gardiner	<b>Sunday Readings Reflection Group</b> Tuesday at 7pm Star of the Sea Tathra. All Welcome.
Gifts         Cleaners       Mary Plevey         Audio-Visual       Trish Sly         Eucharistic Ministers       Pat Platts, Trish Sly	ROSARY Tathra - 7:20am before Sunday Mass Bega - 9am before Sunday Mass all are welcome.
Bega Sun 9:30amCommentatorV Northcott, A WoodsReadersV Northcott, A WoodsGiftsVolunteerCommunicationS & W Ciller	MENS' GROUP: 2nd & 4th Thursdays St Patrick's Church. Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997
Counters       S & W Giles         Music       Matt Heffernan         Acolyte       Frank Farrell         Eucharistic Ministers       E Caragher, G Tygh         A Tarlinton, F Farrell       Nursing Home         D Koenigkamp, P Gardiner	<u>St Patrick's Sacramental</u> <u>programme 2023</u> Baptisms—During Mass, 1 month notice Confirmation—28th May Weddings—by appoint, 6 months notice req. Please contact the Parish Office.
Christmas celebrations are often full of sound. It would be good for	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



## When Walking Together ... at Christmas

Despite COVID 19 still present in the community, in comparison to recent years we are able to enjoy this Christmas and New Year time in relative freedom from drastic restrictions. We can meet each other face to face and



not simply on a computer screen. We can cultivate deeper friendships.



So let us focus anew on the Christmas story.

Regardless of religion or the lack of it, people are generally happy to walk together at Christmas and reflect on their lives in the light of the coming of Jesus, the babe of Bethlehem.

Walking together and reflecting on this "Silent Night, Holy Night", gives us an opportunity to deepen inner silence in our chaotic lives. We can permit ourselves to be still for a moment in our change of era. A response can be made in simplicity in contrast to life's confusions.

I trust that such reflections can make us more graceful and peaceful. Hope is given. A star leads us.

Humble shepherds help us to reflect on the lost, lonely and least around us. We are given motivation to offer practical assistance.

By walking together at Christmas, we realise afresh that we are not alone. We dismiss the temptation from self-appointed ideological elites that life is merely about "my choice" and "my Rights". We start to talk also about "our responsibilities and duties" to family and society's poor and oppressed.

Walking together means that this time is not simply "the festive season". We are not reduced merely to eating and shopping. It is also "the Christmas season". It is when "God-is-with-us" (Emmanuel) in Jesus. There is joy and laughter. There is song and hope. There is transcendence and radiance.

Let us pray for peace in our world, especially in Ukraine. May we do all we can to make peace flourish as we walk locally under God's "Star of Wonder".

May Jesus bless and protect you all at this Christmas time!

### Archbishop Christopher Prowse

Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn Apostolic Administrator, Military Ordinariate of Australia



# We Welcome into our Parish Family: Norway Carmel Shoesmith

Baptised in the name of the Father, & the Son & the Holy Spirit

**Christmas Mass Collections**. Two collections will be taken up at Christmas masses. <u>First Collection:</u> for the upkeep of Priests.

<u>Second Collection:</u> Split: 50% for the upkeep of the parish; 50% for the *Archbishop's Christmas Appeal*. The Archbishop's Appeal will be used to support initiatives such as the ecumenical Christmas Bowl appeal and its work in Australia, Africa, Asia and Oceania. Thank you for your generosity.

**Parish Office Hours School Holiday.** Open normal hours during December. Closed Public Holidays and from 1st January. Resuming normal hours 31st January. Email and phone will be regularly checked during the closure. Thank you for your support over the last 12 months. *Blessings Tanya*.

**St Patrick's Parish News**: Keep up-to-date with all the latest Parish news: **\***Facebook page - <u>www.facebook.com/stpatricksbega</u>

\$ subscribe to the weekly bulletin email: send your request to bega@cg.org.au;
\$ check out our website - http://cg.org.au/bega

**Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Canberra Goulburn:** We would like to invite the Aboriginal people from your Parish to a *Conversation on Caring for Creation/ Our Common Home*. Saturday 21st January, 10:15- 3:30. Bemboka. For more information and to RSVP: 0422 066 080. There is no charge to people attending. Thank you! Sally FitzGerald, Muruwari woman, Co-ordinator, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry for the Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese!

**Vocations Dinner for single men.** 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs of the Month - Holy Hour and dinner for single men who are open to the calling to the priesthood and want to explore this further. Contact Father Trenton van Reesch: <u>cathedral@cg.org.au</u>

### You're Invited

*# Tathra* - Breakfast every 2nd Sunday of the Month after Mass. 8th January
 *# Bega* - Morning Tea last Sunday of the Month after Mass Bega. 29th January
 All Welcome. Please bring a friend.

Fr Adrian Contact: Mobile: 0411 676 064	Weekdays
Email: Adrian.Chan@cg.org.au	►Tuesday 5.00pm Bega Church
Sunday Mass Times	▶Wednesday 9.00am Tathra.
▶ <u>Bemboka</u> - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil	➤Thursday 9.15am Bega Church
► <u>Candelo</u> - Saturdays - 6pm Vigil 1st, 3rd, 5th	▶ Hillgrove House 3rd Thursday 11am
- Sundays - 9:30am liturgy 2nd, 4th	➤Friday 9.15am Bega Church
▶ <u><i>Tathra</i></u> - Sundays - 7.45am Mass	4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy
▶ <u>Bega</u> - Sundays - 9.30am Mass	Saturday 9.15am Bega Church

#### RECENTLY DECEASED Ann Kok, Sr Margaret Smith

ANNIVERSARIES Mick Tygh, Michael Doig, Pam Collins

**PRAYERS** Anne Smith & her children Henry & Malory (Sue Gardiner's Daughter). Jenny Ryan and June O'Farrell - Ill health.

<ul> <li>26<sup>th</sup> - St Stephen, The First Martyr. Died in Jerusalem about 35. Remember for preaching with wisdom and the Spirit, as one "full of grace and power" who "did great wonders and signs among the people" (Acts 6:8-10).</li> <li>27<sup>th</sup> - St John, Apostle and Evangelist. Remembered for his contemplative reflection on the life and death of Jesus and for his emphasis on Christian love.</li> <li>28<sup>th</sup> - The Holy Innocents. In remembering them, the Church laments the suffering and death of children everywhere and honours all who die in innocence 29<sup>th</sup> - St Thomas Becket, Bishop &amp; Martyr, 1118-1170. Remembered for the courage of his Christian convictions.</li> </ul>	
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Catholic Voice. Christmas Edition now available in the church entrance.

**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.

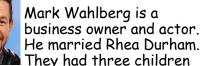
*Dear friends*, as you know our first collection for sustaining the priest in this parish is in deficit for the last few years. Thus we would like to recommend to you leaving a gift in a part of your will to the first collection. There's a spiritual power to the bequest as experienced by St Teresa of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

### Modern Day Catholics



during the first seven years of their relationship, and married on August 1, 2009, at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Beverly Hills.

Wahlberg is Catholic, and has described his religion as "the most important part" of his life; he often goes to Mass twice on Sundays