



**Sunday Mass Times**  
 ➤ *Bemboka* - 6pm Vigil Mass  
 ➤ *Candelo* - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sat. - 6pm Vigil Mass  
 ➤ *Candelo* - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. - 9.30am Liturgy  
 ➤ *Tathra* - Sundays - 7.45am Mass  
 ➤ *Bega* - Sundays - 9.30am Mass

**Weekdays**  
 Tuesday 5.00pm Bega  
 Wednesday 9.00am Tathra.  
 Thursday 9.15am Bega  
 3rd Thurs. 11.00am Hillgrove House  
 Friday 9.15am Bega  
 4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'  
 Saturday 9.15am Bega

**St. Pat's Choir practices**  
 Thursdays 5.15—6pm  
 Contacts Mary 0428 471 012 or  
 Matt 0429 338 348.

**Words of Wisdom:**  
 The true Christian can nurture a trustful optimism, because he is certain of not walking alone. In sending us Jesus, the eternal Son made man, God has drawn near to each of us. In Christ he has become our traveling companion.  
 - Pope John Paul II

**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**  
*Bega* Saturday 9.40 - 10.10am  
*Bemboka* before vigil Mass  
*Candelo* before vigil Mass  
*Tathra* before Sunday Mass

**ROSARY**  
*Tathra* - 7:20am before Sunday Mass  
*Bega* - 9am before Sunday Mass  
*all are welcome.*

**Sacramental Programme 2023**  
*Baptisms* - 1 month notice required  
*Confirmation* - 28th May  
*Weddings* - by appointment, 6 months notice required.  
*RCLA* - if anyone would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith or knows of someone who would like to become a Catholic, please contact Fr. Adrian.  
 Please contact the Parish Office.

**Sunday Readings Reflection Group**  
 Is taking a break during January Resume Tuesdays in Feb. at 7pm Star of the Sea Tathra.

**Meditation & Contemplative Prayer**  
 Meeting is held on Monday at 7.30pm in the annex of Star of the Sea Church at Tathra.


**MENS' GROUP: 2nd & 4th Thursdays**  
 St Patrick's Church  
 Contact David Grainger: 0409 430 997



Year A 1st January — 29th January 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 Catholic College, Pambula. Mr. Shane Giles 6495 8888

Ph. 6492 1058  
 PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
 Email: Bega@cg.org.au  
 Website: http://cg.org.au/bega/

## Solemnity of the Mary Holy Mother of God

### 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023



In today's gospel there is excitement as the shepherds hurry into Bethlehem to pour out what they have heard and seen to anyone who would listen to them. But at the centre of this movement is Mary, the still point around which it all revolves. She says nothing, but in her heart she treasures and ponders all that is happening.

With Joseph at her side and her child lying in a manger wrapped in the swaddling cloths that bind both king and commoner Mary, the contemplative woman, silently hold in her heart the events of divine conception and human birth, heavenly hosts and hillside shepherds.

Years of seeking to understand lie ahead of her as the first and most faithful of the disciples of Jesus. In her pondering and remembering, Mary is a model for our *lection divina*, our reading of the Word of God and the conversation between that Word and events of our own lives.

As we gaze on this peaceful woman, we can appreciate how appropriate it is that 1 January has been chosen by the church as the day on which we pray for world peace. Like her, we are called to gaze on the child who is the Prince of Peace. It is his reign, not the Pax Romana, not the Pax Americana, nor any other political maneuvering, that will make the words of the responsorial Psalm 67 a reality in our hearts and in our world, so that God's way is known upon earth and all nations will learn God's saving power.

<b>Responsorial Psalm.</b> May God bless us in his mercy	<b>Gospel Acclamation.</b> Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; Now he speaks to us through his Son Alleluia!	<b>Communion Antiphon</b> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.
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**ROSTERS 8th January - 5th February 2023** Please arrange a swap if you are not available

Bemboka Sat 6pm				
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners
8th Jan	E Bevitt	R & H Allen		Green
15th Jan	G Berman	E Bevitt	Volunteer	
22nd Jan	S Berman	G Berman		Berman
29th Jan	J Guthrie	M Guthrie	Volunteer	
5th Feb	E Bevitt	S Berman		

Candelo				
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners
8th Jan	A Haesy	Robert Coman	Volunteer	Kathy Wels & Family
15th Jan	L Thompson	Kevin Dodds		
22nd Jan	J Coman	Merryl Whitby	Volunteer	
29th Jan	R Heffernan	R Coman		
5th Feb	L Thompson	K Dodds	Volunteer	S&D Heffernan

Tathra Sun 7:45am						
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Cleaners	Overhead	Eucharistic Ministers
8th Jan	Marie Oakley	Neil Walker	Volunteer	Oakley Family	Pat Platts	Trish Sly, Les Carey
15th Jan	Trish Sly	G Hergenhan	Volunteer	Marj Bower	Carleen Maley	Les Carey, Denise Miller
22nd Jan	M Hergenhan	Pat Platts	Volunteer	Val Besant, Marg Roberts	Kate D'Arcy	Denise Miller, Mark Oakley
29th Jan	David Grainger	M Hergenhan	Volunteer	D'Arcy Family	Paul Gardiner	Mark Oakley, Trish Sly
5th Feb	Carleen Maley	Bob Weston	Volunteer	Marg T & Lee R	Pat Platts	Trish Sly, Jacinta Battista

Bega Sun 9:30am							
Date	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Counters	Acolyte	Eucharistic Ministers	Nursing Home
8th Jan	Rachel Heffernan	J Scott-Pegum Val Sheehan	Volunteer	Vinnies	Sean McCambridge	B Larkin, D Koenigkamp M Rheinberger, B Burton	
15th Jan	M Henare	Maureen Scott Ayesha Twyford	Volunteer	Col & Kath Murphy	Frank Farrell	L Stewart, M Twyford A Tarlinton, B Tygh	
22nd Jan	T Tomlinson	K Jennings M O'Neill	Volunteer	K Rix & V Northcott	Sean McCambridge	C Tarlinton, K Rix D Koenigkamp, D Grainger	
29th Jan	M Henare	M Russell T Tomlinson	Volunteer	A Woods &	David Grainger	B Larkin, A Tarlinton B Burton, F Farrell	
5th Feb	V Northcott A Woods	V Northcott A Woods	Volunteer	K Johnson & N Bateman	Sean McCambridge	E Caragher, K Rix M Twyford, M Rheinberger	Alex Tarlinton Frank Farrell



**I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parishioners, volunteers and sponsors of Bega Parish.**  
**I wish you all a Blessed 2023 with the Lord's choicest blessing upon your family, relations near and far. May the Lord keep all of you in good health this coming year. Safe travels to all who are on the road.**  
**Fr. Adrian.**

## The Epiphany of the Lord

### 8th January 2023

Reflecting on the journey made by the magi as they arrive at Bethlehem guided by a star, Pope Benedict explains:

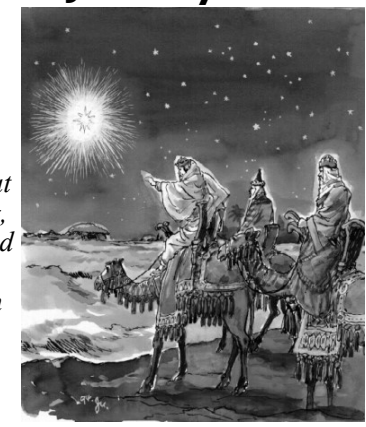
*'Outwardly, their journey was now over. They had reached their goal. But at this point a new journey began for them, an inner pilgrimage which changed their whole lives. They were sure that God existed and that he was a just and gentle God. And perhaps they also knew of the great prophecies of Israel foretelling a King who would be intimately united with God. The new King, to whom they now paid homage, was quite unlike what they were expecting. In this way they had to learn that God is not as we usually imagine him to be. This was where their inner journey began. It started at the very moment when they knelt down before this child and recognized him as the promised King. They had to change their ideas about power, about God and about man, and in so doing so they also had to change themselves. Now they were able to see that God's power is not like that of the powerful of this world. God's ways are not as we imagine them or as we might wish them to be.*

*Now they have to learn to give themselves - no lesser gift would be sufficient for this King. Now they have to learn that their lives must be conformed, to God's own way of being.*

*They must become men of truth, of justice, of goodness, of forgiveness, of mercy.'*

I think we're all in search of many things in our lives and at various stages we can all be uncertain, if not afraid, about the future. Part of being human is the realization that we all need help and guidance but the important question arises, where do we look for help and guidance? It's never easy putting our trust in a God we cannot see. Just like the Magi we all need a light in our lives to guide and protect us. Throughout our journeys we all search for love, acceptance and understanding. Today we're told that a light shines out for the nations as God is seen in the face of a child, revealing himself to all peoples. Only by following the light of his word and sacraments can we hope to find our journey's end as we seek the face of God.

<b>Responsorial Psalm.</b> Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.	<b>Gospel Acclamation.</b> Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord Alleluia!	<b>Communion Antiphon</b> We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.
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# 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

15<sup>th</sup> January 2023



### Being a witness.

John the Baptist is a witness to the light; he is not the light. He is the first of many witnesses to Jesus - a host of people who give testimony to the truth about Jesus. Later in the Gospel Jesus tells his own disciples that when they receive the Spirit of truth, "you too will be my witnesses" (15:27).

And that charge is given to each of us. We have all been baptised in the Spirit; we have all been called to witness to Jesus. We are asked to point away from ourselves to Jesus; we are challenged to lead others to the person of Jesus. The best way to do that is through our own genuine attachment to the Lord. Many people need help to come to Jesus. None of us comes to him alone. If only we had the courage to speak about Jesus to each other. Most people are moved when others share with them what *really matters* in their lives. Perhaps we have lost the courage to say any more what matters to us; perhaps we doubt if anyone will care.

We should take courage to share what we believe. With Cardinal Newman, we know that we believe because we love. In the power of that love, let us share our belief with each other.

*I listen; he is the one who speaks,  
I am enlightened; he is the light,  
I am the ear; he is the Word.*

*St. Augustine.*

### Responsorial Psalm.

Here I am, Lord;  
I come to do your will.

### Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Word of God became flesh & dwelt among us.  
He enabled those who accepted him to become children of God  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

You have prepared a table before me,  
and how precious is the chalice that  
quenches my thirst



# 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023

### The first disciples.

When Mathew writes of the call of the first disciples, there is no suggestion of any hesitation on the part of the four fishermen. Matthew does not tell us why they follow Jesus. His story is simple: Jesus calls them and they follow him. There is no hint about where they are going; there is not detailing of what discipleship will involve. Nothing is promised; nothing is signed. Matthew is clearly not interested in these questions; he is more concerned to show that the disciples are called by Jesus and how their discipleship requires the leaving of everything that occupied them until that moment.

Obviously things did not happen as abruptly as that. The disciples did not leave the security of their homes and jobs on the spur of the moment to follow a stranger they had never seen before. In their accounts Luke and John allow time for the disciples to find out about Jesus before they are called. The absence of any of this detail in Matthew points to the fact that he wants to focus on something more important: the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. With John the Baptist now in prison, the great voice of the wilderness is silenced. It is time for Jesus to begin. Matthew shows that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus is the great light that has dawned; he is the one who begins his mission in Galilee of the Gentiles, a mission to all peoples.

Matthew keeps the focus on Jesus and shows the authority of his word and the power of his healing. Discipleship is centred on Jesus. Because of *who* he is, others will change. Jesus alone is the source of discipleship. Without the person of Jesus, discipleship is meaningless.

### Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is my light  
and my salvation

### Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus Preaches the Good News of the kingdom  
And healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

Look toward the Lord and be radiant:  
Let your faces not be abashed.

### Feast Days

#### January

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Mary, Mother of God
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - St Basil the Great (330-379) & St Gregory Naianzen (329-389), friends, Bishops, Doctors.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - The Most Holy Name of Jesus.
- 7<sup>th</sup> - St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest. (1175-1275)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - The Epiphany of the Lord
- 9<sup>th</sup> - The Baptism of the Lord
- 13<sup>th</sup> - St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church, 315-368
- 17<sup>th</sup> - St Anthony, Abbot. (251-356) Father of Monasticism.
- 20<sup>th</sup> - St Fabian, Pope & Martyr, died 250
- 21<sup>st</sup> - St Agnes. Early Roman Martyr.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - St Vincent, Deacon. First Martyr of Spain.

- 24<sup>th</sup> - St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor. (1567-1622)
  - 25<sup>th</sup> - Conversion of St Paul. The turning point of Paul's life.
  - 26<sup>th</sup> - Australia Day. A day of prayers for Australia.
  - 27<sup>th</sup> - St Timothy & St Titus, Bishops. Disciples & associates of St Paul.
  - 27<sup>th</sup> - St Angela Merici, Virgin, 1474-1540, meeting the needs of women
  - 28<sup>th</sup> - St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor. (1225-1274)
  - 31<sup>st</sup> - St John Bosco, Priest (1815-1888). Worked in youth education.
- February
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Presentation of the Lord.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> - St Ansgar, Bishop, 801-865, opposed slavery
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> - St Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, 4th Century

# 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Beatitudes - Blessing and Persecution



Thus far in his ministry the words of Jesus have been few. Jesus has private interchanges with John before being baptised and with the devil during the temptations. His first public words were brief: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'. The Beatitudes, which begin his famous Sermon on the Mount, are Jesus' first major public teaching. Significantly, he begins with words of blessing: 'Happy are . . .' (nine times). This is in keeping with Matthew's portrayal of Jesus. In the genealogy Matthew began by noting that Jesus was the 'son of Abraham'. When God has first summoned Abraham, God promised that 'All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you'. Thus Jesus, descendant of Abraham, begins his public ministry by announcing blessing. The ultimate blessing - given in the first and eighth beatitudes - is 'the kingdom of heaven'; the other blessings (comfort, mercy, seeing God, etc.) are all particular manifestations of life in the kingdom.

But life in the kingdom has its perils: those who 'thirst for what is right' can expect to be 'persecuted in the cause of right'. Righteousness - living in right relationship with God - is fiercely abhorrent to the kingdom of Satan. But the particular kind of righteousness Matthew preaches would also be resisted by faithful Jews who define righteousness according to Torah. Jesus has a different standard. Literally, the eighth beatitude deals with being persecuted 'for righteousness' sake' while, according to the ninth beatitude, disciples suffer persecution 'for my sake'. The Greek preposition heneka ('for the sake of,' 'because of') is the same in both cases; this creates a parallelism between persecution because of righteousness and persecution because of Jesus. Matthew's point: persecution can be expected for those who define righteousness in terms of Christ rather than the Torah. Persecution is public recognition that disciples have been faithful to Jesus. To be blessed in the kingdom announced by Jesus is to be persecuted in the world that opposes him. But 'blessing' will be victorious, 'for your reward will be great in heaven'.

### Responsorial Psalm:

Happy the poor in spirit;  
The kingdom of heaven is theirs!

### Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad:  
your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

Let your face shine on your servant.  
Save me in your merciful love.  
O Lord, let me never be put to shame,  
for I call on you.



### Parish Notices

**St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal** Very big thank you to all who contributed.

**Thank You** for your generosity at the Christmas Masses.  
*Fr Adrian.*

**Archbishops Christmas Appeal:** Over \$700 has been collected so far. Donations are still being accepted in a marked envelope placed in the 2nd collection.

**Lenten Programme.** This year Ash Wednesday falls on 22nd February. If you would like to purchase 'Triumph'-daily Lenten reflections produced by the Diocese of Wollongong please complete the eform through the link below by 24th January. Cost is \$10. <https://forms.gle/FCLdQzKnYFVTLfWf8>

**Parish Office Hours January.** The Office will be closed for January. Normal Hours will resume Tuesday 31st January. The phone and email will be regularly checked. Thank you for support over the last 12 months. Tanya.

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

**St Patrick's Parish News:** Keep up-to-date with all the latest Parish news:  
☞ Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/stpatricksbega](http://www.facebook.com/stpatricksbega)  
☞ subscribe to the weekly bulletin email: send your request to [bega@cg.org.au](mailto:bega@cg.org.au) ;  
☞ check out our website - <http://cg.org.au/bega>

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Benedict XVI, Ann Kok  
**ANNIVERSARIES** Mick Tygh, Michael Doig, Pam Collins, John Verrell, Eric & Carrie Turnbull

**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!

**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.

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



*The light of the  
Christmas star to you  
The warmth of home &  
hearth to you  
The cheer & goodwill of  
friends to you  
The love of the Son and  
God's peace to you*

