

**Entrance Antiphon** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, & the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**Responsorial Psalm** Justice shall flourish in his time, & fullness of peace for ever.

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**ROSTERS - 13th/14th December 2025**  
Please arrange a swap if you are not available

**Bemboka Sat 6pm**  
Commentator  
Readers  
Cleaners

**Candelo Sun 9:30am**  
Commentator Ann Hahesy  
Readers R Coman  
Cleaners - Dec Lorraine & Simon Thompson

**Tathra Sun 7:45am**  
Commentator Jacinta Battista  
Readers Eileen Corcoran  
Cleaners Oakley Family  
Audio-Visual Paul Gardiner  
Eucharistic Ministers Mark Oakley, Trish Sly

**Bega Sun 9:30am**  
Commentator Ayar Frantz  
Readers T Tomlinson  
Gifts Volunteer  
Music Matt Heffernan  
Acolyte Frank Farrell  
Eucharistic Ministers B Burton



**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.

St Patrick's Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the rights and dignity of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families & carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all our thinking and actions. Parishioners are encouraged to communicate concerns by emailing Fr Adrian, the Parish Office, the Parish Safeguarding Officer or directly to IPSS (ipss@cg.org.au)

**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 - all are welcome.**  
**Tathra** - 7:15am before Sunday Mass  
**Bega** - 9am before Sunday Mass

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

**St Patrick's Sacramental Programme**  
*Baptisms*—During Mass, 1 month notice  
*Confirmation 2025*—8th June 2025  
*Weddings*—by appoint, 6 months notice req. Please contact the Parish Office.

**Syro-Malabar Mass** 4th Wed of the Month 5pm Bega. Contact Lijoy 0469 341 965  
**സീറോ-മലബാർ കുർബാന**  
മാസത്തിലെ 4 ബുധനാഴ്ച  
വൈകുന്നേരം 5 മണിക്ക് ബേഗ.  
ബന്ധപ്പെടുക: ലിജോയ് 0469 341 965



**2nd Advent - Year A**

# St. Patrick's Parish

*St. Patrick's, Bega - St. Columba's, Bemboka - St. Joseph's Candelo Star of the Sea, Tathra.*

**7th December 2025**

Ph. 64921058  
PO. Box 6. Bega. NSW 2550.  
Email: Bega@cg.org.au  
Website: http://cg.org.au/bega/  
Facebook: St Patricks Bega

Fr. Adrian Chan. Parish Priest.  
Mrs. Tanya Tomlinson, Parish Secretary.  
Hrs 9-2 Tuesday & Thursday *Bulletin Deadline: Thurs 10:30am*  
Safeguarding, Mrs. Emma Grant, [Bega.Safeguarding@cg.org.au](mailto:Bega.Safeguarding@cg.org.au)  
St. Patrick's School, Bega. Mrs. Jo Scott-Pegum (Principal) 6492 5500  
Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula. Mr. Shane Giles 6495 8888

*We acknowledge the Djirringanj People, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon & cared for this land for thousands of years. We pay our respect to Elders past, present & emerging. We acknowledge & respect their continuing culture & the contribution they make to the life of the Bega Valley.*

**The Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

The First Reading is the source for the Christian tradition about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. There are seven of them: pietas, fortitude or courage, fear of the Lord, wisdom, understanding, counsel, and knowledge. The last six are all listed in this Reading. The first one, *pietas*, is the spiritual virtue described in the verse about taking care of the poor and afflicted.



Every one without exception is the beloved child of our Father. There is a version of all these virtues that you can get all by yourself. You can practice being brave, for example, and your practice will build a kind of habit in you. There is also a kind of courage that the Lord can put into a person. The apostle Peter wasn't a particularly brave person, as you can see in his denial of the Lord, but the Lord gave him such courage when he had to face the Jewish authorities after Christ's resurrection that they marvelled at him.

But the gifts of the Holy Spirit are different from both these kinds of virtues, the acquired ones and the ones God infuses. You can see the difference clearly if you look at *pietas*. In Roman times, pietas was a virtue having to do with fathers and sons. A son owed his father reverence, and a father owed his son care. There is also pietas towards your community or country. This is still a virtue having to do with fathers. The idea is that every citizen owes reverence and care toward his fatherland. In Christian times, pietas, as a virtue infused by God, had to do with taking care of your own, your own parents, your own children, your own community, your own country. Paul says that if any person does not take care of his own, he is worse than an infidel. But that pietas is still not the same as the pietas that is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Pietas that is a gift, is the love of God as our Father in heaven, and it includes the recognition that every human being who crosses our path - every one without exception - is the beloved child of our Father. And so every human being - the sinful, the annoyingly stupid, the derelict, the afflicted - is one of our own. And this is pietas as a gift of the Holy Spirit.

And all the gifts of the Holy Spirit are like this. If we do not refuse them, they kindle in us the fire of love for God and for his people.

*Eleonore Stump*



**Christmas Family Mass:** All children & youth are invited to participate in the family mass at Christmas. Please see Fr Adrian or the office if you wish to participate. All young children are invited to come dressed as shepherds & angels.

**Eucharistic Ministers Training:** Fr Adrain invites all Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes to attend a training session on 23rd December at 11am in the Presbytery. Please RSVP [Adrian.Chan@cg.org.au](mailto:Adrian.Chan@cg.org.au) or [Bega@cg.org.au](mailto:Bega@cg.org.au) Thanks.



**St Patrick's School News:** ✠ *Thanksgiving Mass* Friday 12th Dec 9:15am  
 ✠ *Nativity Play* - All invited to the Nativity performance on Monday 15th December at 2:30pm in the school hall. This should go for approximately 30 minutes. We would love it if you could be there!  
 ✠ *Enrolling Now* - All grades including kinder 2026. For further details and to book an appointment contact the school office 6492 5500.

**Bulletin Email** - due to IT issues the weekly bulletin email is currently not working. The bulletin is available on the parish website from 2pm Thursdays.



**Vinnie's Christmas Appeal:** Please Help People in our Valley facing poverty this Christmas. Your donation this Christmas will assistance Family, not going hungry and keeping the light on. We thank you for your support as always. Merry Christmas.

**Position Vacant** - Parish Secretary Pambula. Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. For more information please email the Parish Office [pambula@cg.org.au](mailto:pambula@cg.org.au) Applications close 12 Dec 2025

**You're Invited - after mass**

- ✠ *Tathra* - Breakfast 2nd Sunday of the Month
  - ✠ *Bega* - Morning Tea last Sunday of the Month
- All Welcome. Please bring a friend.**

**Christmas Mass Times 2025**

- ★ *Monday 22nd*
- Bega 5pm Syro Malabar  
ബേഗാ വൈകിട്ട് അഞ്ചിന് സീറോ മലബാർ ആചാരം
- ★ *Christmas Eve*
- Bega 5:30pm Carols  
6:00pm Family Vigil
- Bemboka 9pm
- ★ *Christmas Day*
- Tathra 7:45am
- Candelo 10:00am



**Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**

- Bega* Saturday, 9.40 - 10am
- Bemboka* before vigil Mass
- Candelo* before vigil Mass
- Tathra* before Sunday Mass

**Weekdays**

- Tuesday 5.00pm Bega Chapel
- Wednesday 9.00am Tathra.
- 8-9am Tathra 'Holy Hour'
- Thursday 9.15am Bega Chapel
- *Hillgrove House 3rd Thursday 3pm*
- Friday 9.15am Bega Chapel
- 4:30-5:30pm Bega 'Holy Hour of Mercy'
- Saturday 9.15am Bega Church

**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  
- 4th Sunday- 9:30am Family Mass

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Colin Murphy, Michael Caragher

**ANNIVERSARIES** Ken Lehman, Ann Farrell, Pat Trigurtha, Jack & Marie McNamara

**PRAYERS** Alex Tarlinton, Rachel Healey

**Feasts Days this Week**

- 7<sup>th</sup> - **St Ambrose**, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 340-374. Upheld orthodoxy against the Arians and won many Christian converts. Encouraged monasticism and defended the independence of the Church against secular authority.
- 8<sup>th</sup> - **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9<sup>th</sup> - **St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin** 1474-1548. He is revered as the father of Catholicism in Mexico and Latin America
- 10<sup>th</sup> - **Our Lady of Loreto**
- 11<sup>th</sup> - **St Damasus I**, Pope 305-384. Son of a priest. Elected bishop of Rome amid violent rivalry. Active in opposing fourth century heresies. Commissioned St Jerome to prepare a new Latin translation of the Bible.
- 12<sup>th</sup> - **Our Lady of Guadalupe**. Under the name of Guadalupe, the Virgin Mary is recognised as the patron of all the Americas.
- 13<sup>th</sup> - **St Lucy**, Virgin & Martyr died 304. Widely venerated from the earliest times, her memorial has long been kept on this day. Probably because her name is suggestive of light, her intercession has been sought for eyesight problems.

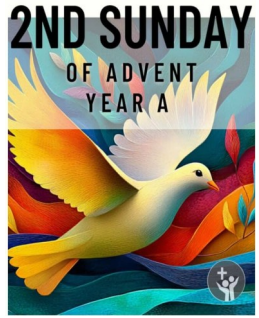


**Pause + Pray - The Dwelling of the Lord**

**Reflect:** In Isaiah 66:1-2, God tells the people of Israel the kind of dwelling he approves of: the lowly, and the afflicted. How often do we read words like this and immediately try to decipher some kind of spiritual metaphor? As if there is no way God could be speaking of actual poverty, actual affliction. Yet, every Christmas we celebrate the birth of a God who chose to come into the world, vulnerable, homeless, a refugee. His family was forced to flee across borders to escape persecution. A helpless baby lying in a manger, that is the dwelling God chose; the dwelling God approves.

**Pray:** Child Jesus, child of the homeless, child of the refugee, child of hunger, child of poverty, child of humility, child of affliction, child so lowly, open my eyes, humble my heart, make me more like you.

**Act** Think of one way that you have encountered God today in the needs of another. In the hunger of a homeless person, the outstretched hand of a beggar, or in the helpless arms of a newborn baby? Take a moment to thank God for the gift of love, and for the chance to meet him face to face in the lowly and the afflicted.  
 - by Herman Sutter



**Spirituality of Synodality  
 Spiritual Accompaniment.**

We all need companions on the journey. Friends in faith who listen, encourage, and walk with us help us grow closer to Christ and to each other.  
**Reflection:** Who has been a spiritual companion to me, and how can I accompany others?  
**Prayer:** Jesus, bless my friendships in faith and draw us closer to You.

**Wise Words:**

Instead of speaking saintly words, we must act them.  
 - St Jerome  
 Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure.  
 - St John Paul II