St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

On that day,
a shoot shall sprout
from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots
a bud shall blossom.

Isaiah 11:1


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December 8, 2019

“The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.”

On behalf of St. Patrick’s Parish, I joyfully welcome you. Our hope is all who come to
St. Patrick’s will know the love of Christ. By God’s mercy, and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and our patron St. Patrick, you will truly encounter the risen Lord and experience the Joy of the Gospel.

If you would like more information about our parish, please visit our website at
www.StPatsSonora.org. If you are new to the area, we encourage you to request a new
member packet. I would like to meet all of you. I am available for appointments.
Please call me at (209) 532-7139 ext. 112 or email frbanka@stpatssonora.org. God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Yesobu Banka, Parish Administrator
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

This weekend’s theme is: “Prepare the way for the Lord.” John the Baptist was the voice of God. His message held out a threat and a promise at the same time. He calls the Pharisees and Sadducees a brood of vipers. He warns the people as he calls for a radical conversion. The Greek word metanoia means in the Biblical context a “change of heart” and mind. It is necessary to recognize and experience this transformative change of heart, especially spiritual conversion, in order to enter God’s Kingdom.

In the first reading, in a prophetic vision, Isaiah describes the end of time. Christ, the ultimate end of all creation, will establish peace between God and man. And in the second reading, St. Paul speaks of Jews and Gentiles and people of all nations coming together in harmony and peace to glorify God because He is God of all.

John’s aim was to motivate us to observe the celebration of the coming of the Lord in the right way… Preparing ourselves for Christmas means preparing the way for the Lord in our hearts. If we ourselves do not possess the Spirit of the Lord, how can we give it to others? We must go beyond the outward preparations and bring the peace and joy of Christmas to our family and to our community. The infant born in Bethlehem changed the world. So we too have a mission to change ourselves and then reach out to others. The season of Advent is also known as the season of preparation for the coming of the Lord. Let us offer a personal welcome to Christ as we pray: “O God, open our hearts and remove the things that prevent us from receiving You into our hearts.”

I am so happy for our new doors which look beautiful. As I announced last Sunday, we will have a blessing of the doors on Sunday, December 15, at the 11 am Mass. Fr. Sam is very happy to join us to celebrate Mass and bless the doors. A reception in the hall will follow. Kindly make time to be present for this wonderful celebration of the blessing of the new doors.

On a final note, I look forward to playing soccer with our Confirmation class this Sunday from 1:00-2:00 pm at the Sonora High School field. Hope to see you there!

Thank You.

In the Merciful Christ,
Fr. Banka
### This Week in our Parish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 12/8</td>
<td>Fiesta for Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mass at 3:00 pm, Fiesta in the Parish Hall after Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 12/9</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception Masses at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm St. Patrick’s; 4:00 pm OLMC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12/10</td>
<td>Advent Penance Service St. Patrick’s 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12/13</td>
<td>Advent Penance Service OLMC 4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 12/14 &amp; Sunday 12/15</td>
<td>Second Collection Retirement Fund for Religious</td>
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### Advent Penance Services in the Mother Lode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Dec 9</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s, Angels Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday Dec 10</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s, Sonora</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Dec 11</td>
<td>St. Andrew’s, San Andreas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday Dec 12</td>
<td>All Saints, Twain Harte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday Dec 13</td>
<td>Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Big Oak Flat</td>
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### La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
La fiesta de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, en la Iglesia Católica de San Patricio, se celebrará el domingo 8 de diciembre con una misa a las 3:00 p.m. Después de la misa, habrá un potluck y fiesta en el salón de la parroquia. Habrá mariachi, comida y camaradería. Todos son bienvenidos – por favor, traiga un platillo para compartir.

### Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Sunday, December 8**
- Mass at 3:00 PM
- Potluck and Mariachi will follow in the Parish Hall!
- Everyone is welcome - please bring a dish to share.

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### The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
"That the most Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin."  
*Pope Pius IX, "Ineffabilis Deus"*

**Monday, December 9**
- St. Patrick’s Catholic Church
- Masses at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mass at 4:00 pm

### Share the spirit of Christmas
**Adopt-A-Family**

If you would like to share the Joy of Christ’s birth with those in need, you have a chance this Advent season to “Adopt a Family.” If you would like to adopt a family, or if you know of any families in need in our Parish, please call the Parish Office at 209-532-7139 and leave a message for Deacon Mike.

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### St. Patrick’s Parish Christmas Giving Tree

*Giving Tree* is on the wall in the Church vestibule and ready for you to give a Christmas gift wrapped in joy and filled with love. This year we partner with the Foothill Pregnancy Center to help the children of those in need. Please stop by the Giving Tree after Mass and choose your ornament tag. Purchase your gift and return it to the Parish Office with the ornament tag attached. Do not wrap the gift.

Your love will help many infants, siblings, and parents. Imagine the face of a child receiving an unexpected gift this Christmas, or parents receiving some badly needed necessities for their newborn. You can make that happen.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 209-532-7139.

God bless you for your help in this Advent season!
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Jackie Boling
RaeAnn Bozzo
Anna Davidson
Aldo Diaz
Claudia Day Fossum
Diane Goodspeed
Ed Hall
Eileen Hogan
A. J. Holmes
Jeanne Kiely
Rosemarie Lapan
Ashlie Lotz
Lois Marzocchi
Rosie Napier
Jan Opie
Gloria Patania
Nuncy Patania
Chuck & Pat Pesha
Juan Pulido
Mary Russell
Connie Scott
Clay Sweeney
Dan Ward

To add or remove a name from this list, please contact the Parish Office at 209-532-7139.

Advent Blessing of the Home

In preparation for the Advent season, Fr. Banka and Fr. Joseph would like to extend to our parishioners an opportunity to have a Blessing of the Home. They encourage you to invite your family and friends to this Blessing, as you gather together to say prayers, sing songs, and hear reflections on Advent.

Please call the Parish Office to set up a time, and either one of our Priests or our Deacon will come to your home for the Blessing.

The winners of St. Patrick’s Altar Society Silent Whist Raffle were:

Bernie Frost
Helena Mayhan
Hilda Gomes
Theresa Quinn-George
Jerry Lynn
Lynn Howell
Kathleen Breland
Margaret Grolle

Congratulations to all!

November meeting Update:
St. Patrick’s Pastoral Council began to consider how it can best advise Fr. Banka on our Pastoral Council Statutes: Proclaiming God’s word, celebrating the sacraments, caring for the faithful, promoting the mission of the Church to the world, and being a good steward of parish resources.

Two specific actions are being considered for the near future: 1.) Naming three additional council members from Our Lady of Mount Carmel mission to focus on the needs of that part of the parish, and 2.) Holding an open house in January to introduce current Council members, review the past year’s Council efforts, and to hear from parishioners about their concerns, needs and recommendations to further the Parish’s growth into a joy-filled community of Christ.

All Council meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held December 17th, at 6:30 pm in Room 6 of the Parish Hall in Sonora.

Encounter has moved to Friday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for Families
Worship and Praise Music
Friday evenings 6:30-7:30 pm
St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Sonora
All are Welcome!

As we enter the holy season of Advent, let us remember those less fortunate, especially as the weather grows colder. The St. Patrick’s Food Pantry is in need of donations. Any contribution of food is welcome, but what the Pantry needs most right now is: pasta, pasta sauce, soups (canned or packaged), jelly/jam (small jars), and boxed dinners such as Rice-A-Roni, Mac & Cheese. You can put the items in the large basket inside the Church during Mass, drop them off in the Parish Office, or call Sandy Tannhauser @ 532-3899.
December 8, 2019

The Second Sunday of Advent

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date
Saturday December 7 ~ Sunday December 15
Saturday 5:00 pm Jack McCoy
Bill & Pam Stout (Healing)
Sunday 7:30 am Adolfo Negrete
9:00 am Tete Arellano
Stevenson Family
11:00 am Pierrette Loiseau
Carol Ann Cervec
5:00 pm Lupe Diaz
Alicia Sanchez
We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.
Monday 8:00 am Kad Clifton (Healing)
6:30 pm No Intentions
Tuesday 8:00 am Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday 8:00 am Kaya Jean Rossum
(Happy Birthday!)
Thursday 8:00 am Alicia and Sophia Diaz
L最主要的
Friday 8:00 am Joe Broglio
Saturday 5:00 pm Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 7:30 am John Alonzo
9:00 am Deceased Members of the YLI
Adolfo Negrete
11:00 am Joan Holland
Lawrence Rodrigues
5:00 pm Lizbeth Gutierrez

Monday 12/15 ~ Blessing of the new Church doors!
After the 11:00 am Mass, St. Patrick’s

Tuesday 12/17 ~ Mass at Skyline, 10:00 am

Tuesday 12/17 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting,
6:30 pm, Parish Hall Rm. 6

Tuesday 12/24 ~ Christmas Eve, OLMC Mass at
4:00 pm; St. Patrick’s 5:00 pm and Midnight

Wednesday 12/25 ~ Christmas Day Mass 9:00 am
OLMC; 10:00 am St. Patrick’s; Noon St. Anne’s

Tuesday 12/31 ~ New Year’s Eve,
Adoration 11:00 pm ~ Mass at Midnight
St. Patrick’s

Wednesday 1/1/2020 ~ New Year’s Day
Mass at 9:00 am, St. Patrick’s
Mass at 9:00 am, OLMC

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday December 9 ~ Sunday December 15
Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;
Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2a, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;
Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10;
Mt 11:2-11

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday December 8 ~ Saturday December 14
Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
Monday: Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday: International Human Rights Day
Wednesday: St. Damasus I
Thursday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Friday: St. Lucy
Saturday: St. John of the Cross

Weekly Offerings

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<th>Week 11-24-19</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>12-1-19</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<td>General Offering</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$5,832</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-giving</td>
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<td>LAST YEAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$582</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
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<td>$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>$757</td>
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Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

Thanksgiving: St. Pat’s $771; OLMC $105