St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News
... in Our Parish

There appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
— Acts 2:3

Pentecost Sunday
May 20, 2018

“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 frsam@stpatssonora.org. God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West, Pastor
On this great feast of Pentecost, we celebrate and honor in a particular way the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Most Holy Trinity. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, used for the Mass during the day, describes how the Holy Spirit, the Advocate Jesus promised to send, first came upon the new-born Church, which was “all in one place together.” We hear, “And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.” Although our Lord’s disciples were already together physically in one location, God wanted a deeper unity between Himself and them, as well as greater unity between themselves. So the Holy Spirit is sent from the Father, descending as “tongues of fire” upon each one of them. Prior to the descent of the Holy Spirit, these men and women shared the amazing experience of our Lord Jesus’ life, death, resurrection and ascension. However, simply sharing the experience of an encounter with Jesus was not enough to truly unite them, making them, as we hear later in the Acts of the Apostles, of “one heart and mind” (Acts 4:32). This natural unity — being in the same physical location and having a common experience — is not sufficient to accomplish God’s desire to make all things new, all things, in our Lord Jesus Christ. The Church needed a more fundamental, spiritual, and supernatural unity to fulfill her mission of preaching and living the new life, the Divine Life now offered in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is needed to bind us together with God and one another in the most intimate way possible. This spiritual unity is manifested by the fact that after they had received the Holy Spirit, the disciples “began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim,” and the listeners from different countries “heard them speaking in his own language.” In sending the Holy Spirit, God makes His people, makes us, truly ONE, uniting us together more closely than just sharing the same physical space or having a common experience.

The Church is much more than just a group of people from different cultures, speaking different languages, and gathered together in the same place sharing a common experience or belief. In our baptism, we are mystically made part of the living body of Christ, the Church, by the Holy Spirit. St. Paul makes the comparison of the Church to a living human body when he writes, “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ.” In our Baptism, we are truly united supernaturally, made one. Each of us has a unique and necessary role in the building up of the Body. When we live out the gift of our Faith by following the teachings of the Church, and love God and one another as God has made us to love, we help build up the whole Body. However, if we sin, or choose to turn from God, we will hurt the entire Body. So to fulfill our function in the Body of Christ, we each have been given the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us. Pentecost is the “baptism” of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ. Similar to when God in the beginning created Adam and “breathed” life into him, God at Pentecost “breathed” His Divine life, the Holy Spirit, into the body of the Church. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us pray to the Holy Spirit to continue to give us the gift of unity in the universal Church and in our parish family.

WINNING!

First, I am so glad to be able to announce that we have reached our Bishop’s Ministry Appeal goal for 2018! Thanks to your generosity, the latest report, from May 9th showed that the Diocese received from our parish one-time payments and pledges totaling $59,176. That means we have reached 107.6% of the goal of $55,013 the Diocese set for us this year. Thank you so much to all of you who contributed! Our participation number is still low at only 17.5% (195 families contributed from our parish, including Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mission). But, believe or not, our participation rate is actually better than most of the other parishes in the Diocese. Nonetheless, we will work on getting that number up, way up, next year. Again, I am so grateful for your generosity, and congratulations — you are winners!

More important than BMA (just kidding, but still really cool!), I am very happy to announce that St. Patrick’s did it again! At last weekend’s Mother Lode Roundup Parade, we once again took 1st place for the best float in our category– Church/Religious Organizations. Just have to say it … “We are awesome!” Thank you to everyone who participated for our parish in this winning effort. I want to especially show my appreciation and heart-felt thanks to those who worked so hard on designing and building our beautiful (and winning!) float. I sincerely thank Kary and David Hubbard, Sandy Pasby, Beatriz Gamboa, Teresa Sweeney, and Barbara Sweeney. Of course, I want to thank the children who rode on our float portraying the theme of our Patron, St. Patrick, driving the snakes, symbolizing sin and false gods, away from the people of Ireland. I thank Samuel Villafana, who played the role of St. Patrick, and I am grateful to all our “Irish peasants” – Nicole and Lily Coffing along with their cousin Aiden, Jackson and William Taylor, and Galilea and her younger sister Stephanie. I thank John Paul Ulibarri for carrying our banner. Everyone did a wonderful and winning job!

In Christ, Fr. Sam West
This Week in our Parish

Sat 5/19 & Sun 5/20 ~ Second Collection for Catholic Communication Campaign

Sun 5/20 ~ Meet & Greet: Religious Ed and Teens

Wed 5/23 ~ Financial Peace University, 6:00 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Rm. 4

Thurs 5/24 ~ OLMC Religious Study, Parish House
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, OLMC Big Oak Flat

Sat 5/26 ~ Altar Duty: Jeanne Kiely, Martha Gandee

Sun 5/27 ~ Meet & Greet: Knights of Columbus

Additional Sessions
OLMC Religious Study:
The Bible and the Virgin Mary
In these final sessions, we will be delving deeper into the mystery of the Rosary.
OLMC Parish House Great Room
4:00-5:30 pm
Thursdays, May 24, 31, and June 7
For more information, please contact:
Warren Belisle @ 209-962-4394

St. Patrick’s was in the Mother Lode Round Up Parade!
Our float depicted St. Patrick in Ireland, and we won first place in our category. Nice job, everyone!
May 12, 2018 ~ Photos by Kary Hubbard

Mini-Retreat
A Day with the Carmelites: Come and Pray

When: Saturday, June 23
8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Where: Our Lady of Fatima Parish
Old Hall, 505 W. Granger Ave.
Modesto, CA 95350

Cost: Free will offering
Guest Speaker: Father Matthew Williams, OCD
The day will include teaching and practice of prayer, focusing on Lectio Divina and fellowship. Lunch will be provided. Sponsored by the Modesto Community of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites.

Pre-registration required by June 10
To register:
Online: www.ocdsmodesto.com/events
Email: modestosecularcarmelites@gmail.com
Mail: Carmelites, PO Box 805, Linden, CA 95326
Phone: 209-639-8975

Lining up for the Parade

Technically, bagpipes are Scottish, but hey, everyone’s an honorary Irishman at St. Patrick’s!
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Tete Arellano
Catherine Bentz
Al Biedrzycki
Beverly Brainard
Carolyn Bruning
Jan Buck
Vern & Jo Froehlich
Mitch & Patti Gerner
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
Joan Holland
A. J. Holmes

Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Kristine Kitamura
Lois Marzocchi
Dorothy McCargar
Maria Negrete
Pat Newton
Barbara North
Lee O’Shaughnessy
Joseph Perez
Mike Schirmer
Clay Sweeney

To add or remove a name from this list or the prayer chain, please contact Sandy Pallante at 532-7625.

Spiritual Direction at Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church

Spiritual Directors are trained companions who join a seeker on his/her spiritual journey and help in the discernment of where God’s spirit is leading.

The following members of St. Patrick’s Catholic Church have been trained as Spiritual Directors through the Institute for Catholic Spirituality & Spiritual Direction, and are available to the faith community.

If interested in learning more, contact any one of the following:
† Cynthia Dragun: (805) 490-6147
† Barbara Fish: (209) 743-8919
† Carol Gabbert: (775) 771-6297
† Connie Jacob: (209) 591-7978
† Christina Welch: (541) 447-7998

Knights of Columbus
St. Patrick’s Council #2165
Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Applebee’s
Crossroads Shopping Center
851 Sanguinetti Rd. Sonora

Pancakes, Bacon, Coffee & Juice
Saturday, June 16
8:00 am to 10:00 am
$8.00 Adults
$5.00 Children under 12
Proceeds from this breakfast go towards the promotion of scholarships for our graduating youth.

Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
Wisdom
Understanding
Counsel
Knowledge
Fortitude
Piety
Fear of the Lord

“The Pentecost of the upper room in Jerusalem was the beginning, a beginning which endures.”
(Pope Francis)

Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!
Psalm 104

Hope For Healing

Has abortion left you feeling empty and alone?

Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats are available for anyone who has struggled with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. This healing weekend is for mothers, fathers, grandparents, and siblings of aborted children. (The retreat and registration are strictly confidential.)

June 29-July 1, 2018—English
Register for retreat: 209/465-5433 or kfuente@stocktondiocese.org

Sept. 21-23, 2018—Spanish
Register for retreat 510/485-2574 or afterthechoice@oakdiocadmin.org

For more information: www.stocktondiocese.org/project-rachel
May 20, 2018

**Mass for the Intentions Week**

**Saturday May 19 ~ Sunday May 27**

**Saturday**
5:00 pm  Alicia Diaz  
Sofia Diaz

**Sunday**
7:30 am  All Parishioners  
Tony Pallante
9:00 am  Deceased members of YLI  
Nuncy & Gloria Patania, 
*Happy Anniversary!*
11:00 am  Joan Oneto-Test  
Cindy Merritt, *Healing*
5:00 pm  Lupe Diaz  
Miguel Bernal  
*Happy Birthday!*

**We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.**

**Monday**
8:00 am  Marcos Balbuena

**Tuesday**
8:00 am  Ken Francek

**Wednesday**
8:00 am  Cate Ritzel, *Happy Birthday!*

**Thursday**
8:00 am  Patricia Mayhill  
Juanita Luppi
11:00 am  Joan Oneto-Test  
Fernando Lopez  
*Happy Birthday!*
5:00 pm  Lupe Diaz  
Fanny and Leonel Ceballos,  
*Happy Birthday!*

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Monday 5/28** ~ Memorial Day Mass at 9:00 am,  
St. Patrick’s Catholic Cemetery  
(No 8:00 am Daily Mass)

**Thursday 6/14** ~ NEW Religious Study begins at  
OLMC, 4:00-5:30 pm, details to follow

**Saturday 6/16** ~ Knights of Columbus Pancake  
Breakfast Fundraiser  
Applebee’s, 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**Sunday 6/24** ~ Parish Picnic! Pinecrest Lake

**Saturday 7/28** ~ Feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne  
will be celebrated at St. Anne’s in Columbia, 9:00 am

For regularly scheduled meetings, please check the Master Calendar at  
www.stpatssonora.org. If you have calendar requests or need to make changes, please email ron@stpatssonora.org.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday May 21 ~ Sunday May 27**

**Monday:**  
Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14;  
Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34

**Tuesday:**  
Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37

**Wednesday:**  
Jas 4:13-17; Ps 49:2-3, 6-11; Mk 9:38-40

**Thursday:**  
Jas 5:1-6; Ps 49:14-20; Mk 9:41-50

**Friday:**  
Jas 5:9-12; Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12;  
Mk 10:1-12

**Saturday:**  
Jas 5:13-20; Ps 141:1-3, 8; Mk 10:13-16

**Sunday:**  
Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22;  
Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday May 20 ~ Saturday May 26**

**Sunday:**  
Pentecost Sunday

**Monday:**  
Seventh Week in Ordinary Time;  
Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

**Tuesday:**  
St. Rita of Cascia

**Friday:**  
St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII;  
St. Mary Magdalene de’ Pazzi

**Saturday:**  
St. Philip Neri

**Weekly Offerings**

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<th>Weekly Goal</th>
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**General Offerings**

| St. Pat’s   | $8,455   | $5,284   | $13,739 |
| OLMC        | $1,251   | $985     | $2,236  |
| E-giving    | $560     | $505     | $1,065  |
| Total       | $10,266  | $6,774   | $17,040 |

**Last Year**: $6,845

**Maintenance Offerings**

| St. Pat’s   | $592     | $202     | $794    |
| OLMC        | $110     | $10      | $120    |
| Total       | $702     | $212     | $914    |

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!