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
Father Sam's Message

In this week’s Gospel, Jesus tells us, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” (John 15:1-8)

As in a number of other passages of the New Testament, this poetic proclamation from our Lord Jesus reminds us of the most necessary condition for our eternal happiness: an intimate relationship with Jesus, Himself. He says we can only have real happiness, and in His words “bear much fruit,” if we remain with Him and He in us. Here Jesus is telling us we need to remain with Him not in a superficial way, but to be with Him as close as a branch is to its vine. A branch does not simply “touch” the vine; it is connected physically, receiving all of its nutrients, thus its life, from the vine. This means a real, physical relationship with the Risen Lord is ESSENTIAL for our eternal happiness and eternal life. Without this type of relationship with Him, we “do nothing.” In other words, we are not really living if we ever separate ourselves from Jesus. Undoubtedly, committing sin separates us from Jesus and, as a result, we are unable to bear the heavenly fruit He wants for us and others. When we spend our time and energy in worldly pursuits and material things, rather than in a relationship with our Lord Jesus and living as His disciples, our lives become fruitless and sterile. Without remaining in Him, our lives do not have any meaning and we “wither.”

We heard this same point of the absolute necessity of Jesus for our happiness clearly in last week’s 1st reading from the Acts of the Apostles. If you recall in that reading, Peter is explaining to the Jewish leaders how a lame man was healed in the name of the Risen Lord. Our first Pope tells his audience, “there is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved.”

So, how do we remain with Jesus, as close as a branch remains on a vine, so as to bear the fruit of His goodness? Well, the first and most important way we do this is through the Sacraments of the Catholic Church! In Baptism, we were “grafted” into Christ. We were changed, actually reborn, to become part of our Risen Lord, being made true members of His Body. In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we not only touch the Risen Lord, as He told His Apostles to do when He first appeared to them after His resurrection, but we also have Him physically in us! His Body and Blood in us!

Two Sundays ago, the 15 children who received Holy Communion for the very first time now are able to remain in Jesus and Jesus in them in a way they were not able to do before. We are so grateful to God for these dear children and congratulate them with great joy. We pray each time they, and all of us who had our first Holy Communion many decades ago, receive the Holy Eucharist, we will always recognize our Risen Lord’s Real Presence and continuously grow in an intimate relationship with Him.

Also, we give thanks to the Lord God for the 27 youth, and one adult, who received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, April 18th. I sincerely thank our new Bishop, Myron J. Cotta, for coming to our humble parish to administer this beautiful Sacrament. We pray for these young people that they always remain open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and through these supernatural gifts they received they continue to grow in their intimacy with our Lord Jesus.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and our Patron St. Patrick, let us ask the Merciful Father to open our hearts more and more to the sanctifying graces we receive in the Sacraments, and through these Heavenly gifts remain in Christ and He in us, so we will always bear the fruit of God’s love, mercy, peace, and happiness for ourselves and others.

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

Sat 4/28 & Sun 4/29 ~ Second Collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Sun 4/29 ~ Meet & Greet: Altar Society

Wed 5/2 ~ Financial Peace University, 6:00 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Rm. 4

Wed 5/2 ~ Teens! Steinmetz House, 6:00 pm

Thurs 5/3 ~ OLMC Religious Study, Parish House
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, OLMC Big Oak Flat

Sat 5/5 ~ Alternate Duty: Peggy Patin, Carmalita Fleck

Sat 5/5 ~ Spiritual Growth Session, “Queen of Heaven”, 10:00 - 12:00 St. Patrick’s Parish Hall

Sat 5/5 & Sun 5/6 ~ Bake Sale after all Masses

Sat 5/5 & Sun 5/6 ~ Parish Services Collection

Sun 5/6 ~ Meet & Greet: Ministers to the Sick

Sun 5/6 ~ Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Mass at 3:00 pm followed by Potluck in the Parish Hall

EXTENDED!
OLMC Religious Study:
The Bible and the Virgin Mary
OLMC Parish House Great Room
4:00 - 5:30 pm
Thursdays: May 3, 10, 17, 23
For more information, please contact:
Warren Belisle @ 209-962-4394

Spiritual Growth ~ "Queen of Heaven: Mary’s Battle for Souls"
Continues on Saturday, May 5
If you missed a session, come anyway!
There’s plenty to learn, and something new at each session!
10:00 am - 12:00 pm, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
This series gives us the intriguing story of Mary, this gentle and perfect mother, and her battle for our souls with Lucifer, the fallen angel.
This series will run for four weeks, (no session on May 12 due to the Mother Lode Round-up Parade) finishing on May 19, which is Pentecost Vigil.
For more information, please contact Cynthia Dragun @ 209-984-5726. Email: atonewiththespirit@gmail.com

The Feast of St. Joseph the Worker
La Fiesta de San Jose el Obrero

Sunday, May 6th ~ Domingo, 6 Mayo
3:00 pm Mass ~ 3:00 pm Misa

Potluck in the Parish Hall after the Mass
Potluck despues de Misa en el Salon

Please bring a dish to share
Estamos pidiendo por favor que traigan un platillo para compartir

For more information ~ Mas info
Call Salvador @559-9841 or Gerardo @984-4381

St. Patrick’s Altar & Rosary Society

Luncheon and Bingo!

Monday, May 7th ~ Parish Hall
Doors open at 11:30 am
Lunch at 12:00, followed by Bingo
Lunch: $6.00 per person
Bingo: 3-card game $1.00
Tickets: Available now by calling Marge Nath @ 532-2229 or Deb Cushman @533-2756, or you may purchase tickets on April 29th after all Masses in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome! Black Out is for $100!

SPRITUAL GROWTH TEAM
BAKE SALE!

Saturday, May 5 & Sunday, May 6
After all Masses
Parish Hall ~ St. Patrick’s

We are asking all our talented bakers to volunteer to create and donate baked and/or homemade goods. It would be helpful if items were individually wrapped for sale. You can drop-off your baked goods in the Parish Hall on either Saturday May 5th before the 5:00 pm Mass, or the morning of Sunday May 6th. All proceeds support future retreats and spiritual growth sessions.

If you have questions or need assistance in delivering your baked goods, please contact Cynthia Dragun @ 209-984-5726.
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

| Leanne Abbe-Alcioti | A. J. Holmes |
| Tete Arellano | Bill & Rolene Kiesling |
| Catherine Bentz | Kristine Kitamura |
| Al Biedrzycki | Lois Marzocchi |
| Beverly Brainard | Dorothy McCargar |
| Carolyn Bruning | Letty Molinari |
| Jan Buck | Pat Newton |
| Margaret Corotto | Barbara North |
| Vern & Jo Froehlich | Lee O’Shaughnessy |
| Mitch & Patti Gerner | Joseph Perez |
| Bill Gookin | Mike Schirmer |
| Ed Hall | Clay Sweeney |
| Joan Holland | |

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

New Divine Mercy Cenacle

A “cenacle” is a study and prayer group. We study St. Faustina’s Diary, the catechism of the Catholic Church, and the Bible using the Divine Mercy Cenacle book as our guide. We end the class by praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by fellowship. Come join us for the book one class! We meet the second and fourth Monday at 11:00 am in classroom 1, in the Parish Hall. Please come join us or just check it out. We would love to have you take part in this vibrant group.

For more information: Cecilia Woosley @ 536-4020 or Deb Cushman @ 533-2756

Congratulations to all our Confirmandi!

Madison Alberto
Alejandro Barajas
Jesus Barajas
Edwin Casillas
Jacob Cassaretto
Joshua DeKnoblough
Daniel Farias
Jeremiah Fowler
Lizhte Garcia
Cooper Gookin
Joshua Hovatter
Danielle Insilan
Jenna Kroeze
John Lloyd
Emily McClintock
James Navarro
George Pineda
Jose Julian Ramos
Thomas Righele
Edwin Daniel Robles
Joselyn Rosas
Luis Rosas
Laiken Skinner
Mackenzie Skinner
Aliou Tippett
Mary Autumn Tippett
Leon Tippett
Esmeralda Uriosteugi

Come join the parade!

St. Patrick’s is participating in this year’s Mother Lode Round-Up Parade on Saturday, May 12th. Represent your ministry or group by signing up in the parish office.

Wear your St. Patrick’s T-shirt, jacket or sweatshirt representing your group, and show Sonora what a vibrant parish we have!

Confirmation Mass with Bishop Myron J. Cotta
April 18, 2018
**Mass for the Intentions of the Week**

**Saturday April 28 ~ Sunday May 6**

**Saturday**
- 5:00 pm Rose Heller
- Kerry & Judy Wilder, *Healing*

**Sunday**
- 7:30 am All Parishioners
- Tony Pallante
- 9:00 am Mitch & Patti Gerner, *Healing*
- TeTe Arellano, *Healing*
- 11:00 am Dorothy Maechler
- Tony Pallante
- 5:00 pm Lupe Diaz
- Florencio & Maria Diaz

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

**Monday**
- 8:00 am Terri Julian Gray
- Shirley Prewitt Moffitt

**Tuesday**
- 8:00 am Felicia Engholm, *Healing*

**Wednesday**
- 8:00 am Tony Pallante

**Thursday**
- 8:00 am Ken Francek

**Friday**
- 8:00 am Ray & Ruth England

**Saturday**
- 5:00 pm Tony Pallante

**Sunday**
- 7:30 am All Parishioners
- Tony Pallante
- 9:00 am Ruth Ann McGee
- 11:00 am George & Cynthia Chesel
- Mary Sampson, *Healing*
- 5:00 pm Lupe Diaz
- Michael Johnston

**Weekly Offerings**

**Weekly Goal**
- April 29, 2018
- **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
- **10,000**

**4-15-18**
- **Week 15**
- **10,000**

**4-22-18**
- **Week 16**
- **10,000**

**April Totals To Date**
- **Total**
- **10,000**

**General Offerings**
- St. Pat’s
  - **$5,439**
  - **$4,494**
  - **$16,531**
- OLMC
  - **$971**
  - **$1,196**
  - **$3,696**
- E-giving
  - **$805**
  - **$390**
  - **$1,445**
- Total
  - **$7,215**
  - **$6,080**
  - **$21,672**

**LAST YEAR**
- **$8,111**
- **$18,337**
- **$35,148**

**Maintenance Offerings**
- St. Pat’s
  - **$48**
  - **$45**
  - **$335**
- OLMC
  - **$50**
  - **$10**
  - **$75**
- Total
  - **$98**
  - **$55**
  - **$410**

**Easter (Additional):** **$225**
**Confirmation:** **$1,383**

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Monday 5/7**
- Altar & Rosary Society Luncheon & Bingo, Parish Hall; doors open 11:30 am

**Saturday 5/12**
- Mother Lode Round-Up Parade

**Sunday 5/13**
- Mother’s Day

**Saturday 5/19**
- St. Patrick’s will celebrate the extended form of the Pentecost Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm

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

**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 am

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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday April 30 ~ Sunday May 6**

**Monday:**
- Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-19; Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday:**
- Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a or (for the Memorial) Gn 1:26 -- 2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58

**Wednesday:**
- Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:**
- 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

**Friday:**
- Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:**
- Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

**Sunday:**
- Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-19

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday April 29 ~ Saturday May 5**

**Sunday:**
- Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Monday:**
- St. Pius V

**Tuesday:**
- St. Joseph the Worker

**Wednesday:**
- St. Athanasius

**Thursday:**
- St. Philip and St. James;
- National Day of Prayer

**Friday:**
- First Friday

**Saturday:**
- First Saturday;
- Cinco de Mayo

**Weekend Events ~ Save the Date**

**Monday 5/7**
- Action & Rosary Society Luncheon & Bingo, Parish Hall; doors open 11:30 am

**Saturday 5/12**
- Mother Lode Round-Up Parade

**Sunday 5/13**
- Mother’s Day

**Saturday 5/19**
- St. Patrick’s will celebrate the extended form of the Pentecost Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm

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