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
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Father Joseph’s Message

Certainty & Uncertainty

We are preparing to celebrate Ash Wednesday as usual on the coming Wednesday, 6 March 2019. The Season of Lent is, once again, an invitation to value the gift of our LIFE given by God.

Do you recall Ash Wednesday 2018? Ironically, last year Ash Wednesday fell on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. I said at the time that it seemed to be a strange juxtaposition—Valentine’s and Ash Wednesday. But Valentine’s Day 2018 was different for another reason. It was the day when a shooting took place at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Seventeen students and staff were fatally shot and seventeen others were wounded in that shooting, surpassing the Columbine High School massacre as the worst high school shooting in the United States. It was a day of enormous heartbreak.

In an online sermon, Father Michael K. Marsh, an Episcopal priest, tells about the first picture that he saw from that horrendous scene. It was a woman with her arms around another woman, two moms crying and waiting for news about their children. We've seen those kinds of pictures before, notes Father Marsh, too many times. This one, however, was different. The thing that caught Father Marsh's attention was a cross. One of the women in the photo had ashes on her forehead in the shape of a cross. Evidently she had attended an Ash Wednesday service earlier in the day.

"She had been marked with a sign of mortality and the fragility of life," writes Fr. Marsh, "the same sign with which you and I will be marked in a few moments, and she now stood among the ashes of uncertainty, fear, death, sorrow, and loss. My guess is that when those ashes were being put on her forehead earlier in the day she never thought she would be standing where she was. Probably none of us would have either. We don't want to consider that possibility, let alone face that reality. And yet, that's the truth. Ash Wednesday holds before us- "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." It was a sobering day, a day we never hope to see repeated.

As we are preparing to enter into the Season of Lent, this Sunday’s Gospel is inviting us 1) not to judge others; 2) Produce good fruit through Prayer, Fasting and Alms giving; 3) to know oneself and become aware of our drawbacks and to help others. Jesus is asking each of us “CAN A BLIND PERSON GUIDE A BLIND PERSON?” (Luke 6:39)

In Christ, Fr. Joseph Lawrence

All are encouraged to attend our Parish Mission for Lent.

March 18-21 (Mon - Thur) 6:30 pm
St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Sonora
Presented by Fr. Bart Hutcherson

Monday "A Man Had 2 Sons" - We will explore the parable of the Prodigal Son, the nature of relationship in our religious tradition, and how our actions, good and evil, affect our relationships with God and with each other.

Tuesday "Tending the Swine" - We will explore the nature of sin and contrition as the beginning of Conversion.

Wednesday "I am not Worthy" - We will explore the nature of forgiveness, mercy, and "The God who is waiting for us."

Thursday "The Good Son" - We will wrap up by returning to the theme of relationships and explore how God's mercy extends to us when we behave like the Older Son in the Story.

Each talk will last 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Fr. Bart Hutcherson, O.P. is a Dominican Friar and priest of the Province of the Holy Name of Jesus in the Western USA. Ordained in 1997, he has spent most of his priesthood in university and parish ministry. Now, as an Itinerant Preacher, he uses story-telling, teaching, retreats, and pilgrimages to share the Gospel with others. His retreats and missions are rooted deeply in his love for the Word of God and a deeply Catholic understanding of Sacred Scripture. He currently resides at St. Albert’s Priory in Oakland, CA. You can learn more about Fr. Bart and his Preaching Ministry at www.FrBart.com.
March 3, 2019

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 3/3 ~ Meet & Greet: Ministers to the Sick

Tuesday 3/5 ~ YLI “Mardi Gras” Minestrone Soup Luncheon, 11:30 - 1:00 Parish Hall, $7 per person

Wednesday 3/6 ~ Ash Wednesday
  See here for Mass Schedule

Thursday 3/7 ~ Youth Group 6:30 pm Steinmetz

Friday 3/8 ~ Stations of the Cross, 5:00 pm OLMC
  6:00 pm, St. Patrick’s

Saturday 3/9 ~ Altar Duty: Barbara Sweeney

Sunday 3/10 ~ Meet & Greet: YLI

Sunday 3/10 ~ Presentation on the Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 12:30 pm

YLI
Patricia #79

Come celebrate “Mardi Gras” (Fat Tuesday, also known as Shrove Tuesday), the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. Minestrone Soup Luncheon Tuesday, March 5 ~ 11:30am - 1:00pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
98 W. Jackson Street ~ Sonora, CA
Lunch includes: Minestrone Soup, Bread, Dessert, Coffee or Tea
Cost: $7.00 per person
All proceeds go to our High School Scholarship program.

Ash Wednesday Services

St. Patrick’s:
† Mass with Distribution of Ashes at 8:00 am & 6:30 pm
† Distribution of Ashes (no Mass) at 12:00 noon
OLMC:
† Mass with Distribution of Ashes at 5:00 pm
  “Behold, NOW is a very acceptable time; Behold, NOW is the day of salvation.”
  2 Corinthians 6:2

All are invited to a Presentation on our pilgrimage to Mexico City and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

† Sunday, March 10 ~ 12:30 pm
  St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
† Our pilgrims will have a slide show and personal stories of their experiences
† Potluck Luncheon to follow - please bring a dish to share

Stations of the Cross
and Lenten Soup Suppers are held every Friday evening during Lent. Please join us for this wonderful tradition as we come together as a community to remember His sacrifice on the Cross, followed by a beautiful time of fellowship in Christ.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Big Oak Flat ~ 5:00 pm
St. Patrick’s, Sonora ~ 6:00 pm

We will be accepting nominations for the Pastoral Council this weekend, March 2-3. To serve on the Pastoral Council, you must be 18 or older, baptized Catholic, and active and registered in our Parish. Please pray about who you’d like to nominate, or if you should nominate yourself!

In the vestibule after Mass, you will find index cards. Please write the name of the person you’d like to nominate, and place the card in the box provided.

Thank you for participating in the nominations!
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Diane Abdelnour  Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Rich Abdelnour, Jr.  Kristine Kitamura
Al Biedrzycki  Judi Maguire
Ingrid Blom  Lois Marzocchi
Jackie Boling  Cindy Merritt
Cheryl Bozzo  Michelle Mullen
Jan Buck  Gary Pizl
Bill Gookin  Mike Schirmer
Ed Hall  Clay Sweeney
A. J. Holmes  Roy Volpetti
Donald C. Kellogg  Mitch & Trish Woods

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

INTO YOUR HANDS, O LORD, we commend the soul of Charles Michael “Mike” Schirmer May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Mary’s Mantle Consecration
Make this your best Lent ever!
We encourage all parishioners to participate in our Lenten retreat for spiritual renewal. There are 46 stars in Mary’s Mantle, and this will be a 46-day journey with a daily reading, meditation, and rosary, all in the privacy of your own home. Receive extraordinary graces by joining in communal prayer for one another, and for our Parish. The retreat will begin on Ash Wednesday, and culminate on April 19, Holy Saturday, with a Consecration to our Holy Mother at Mary’s Garden, adjacent to the Steinmetz House. Members of “At One with the Spirit,” our Spiritual Growth Team, will be outside after all Masses to answer any questions and help you register.

St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon ~ Sunday, March 17th
Following the 11:00 am Mass
Please bring a dessert to share.

Pastoral Council Elections will be held during the Luncheon.

Pastoral Council Update
The Council’s spiritual growth team, At One With The Spirit, is working with Fr. Sam to involve parishioners in a unique and meaningful community consecration to the Blessed Mother, “Mary’s Mantle.” Details are available at all Masses and elsewhere in this Bulletin. Council members are also working with Fr. Sam to include information on the Parish’s website of the many local actions we take as the Body of Christ, and how you can be involved. Look for an expanded website soon.

Five of the nine members on this Pastoral Council are elected by parishioners. Those two-year terms expire this May. Many thanks to Jim Woosley, Charlene Dambacher, Denise Nicolini and Tina Welch for their contributions as members, and especially to Wendell Cushman who is finishing his second term and so will not be returning to the Council. Nominations for potential members are being accepted by Fr. Sam now, and elections will take place at the St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon on March 17th.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 19th
6:30 pm, Parish Hall Room 6.

Attention all Lectors, EMHC, Altar Servers, and Ushers:
if there are any dates you are NOT available to minister during the 2nd Quarter of 2019 (April - May - June), please let Sandra Betti know by Thursday, March 14th. Please call 532-7139, ext. 109, or email your information to sandra@stpatssonora.org, or leave a note in the office. Thank you for your ministry!

Forty Days for Life begins on Monday, March 11. We will stand on the corner of Mono Way and Greenley every Monday in Lent, from 8-9:00 am to 6:00 pm. All participants are asked to stand for one hour. Please choose your hour, and sign up in the Parish Office. For more information, please call Joan Madsen at 209-533-3429.

Liturgical Ministers
if there are any dates you are NOT available to minister during the 2nd Quarter of 2019 (April - May - June), please let Sandra Betti know by Thursday, March 14th. Please call 532-7139, ext. 109, or email your information to sandra@stpatssonora.org, or leave a note in the office. Thank you for your ministry!
Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date
Sunday 3/17 ~ St. Patrick’s Day Lunch and Pastoral Council Elections, 12:00 Parish Hall
Monday-Thursday, 3/18-3/21 ~ Parish Mission Fr. Bart Hutcherson, 6:30-7:30 pm St. Pat’s
Saturday 4/6 ~ Diocese of Stockton Ministry Day
Thursday 4/11 ~ Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton
Thursday 4/18 ~ Holy Thursday
Friday 4/19 ~ Good Friday
Saturday 4/20 ~ Easter Vigil
Sunday 4/21 ~ Easter Sunday
Saturday 5/11 ~ Mother Lode Round-Up Parade

Mass for the Week
Saturday March 2 ~ Sunday March 10
Saturday 5:00 pm William Schrag
Mary Ann Wiederman
OLMC Joseph Mattingly
Sunday 7:30 am Richard Lauterio
Joseph W. Fernandez
9:00 am Jeff Fish
James Ward (90th Birthday)
11:00 am Rita King (Healing)
Angela Barberini (Healing)
5:00 pm Lizbeth Gutierrez
Alicia Sanchez
We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.
Monday 8:00 am All Souls in Purgatory
Mark Hutto
Tuesday 8:00 am Lupe Alcala
Raul Gamboa
Wednesday 8:00 am Margarete & Gijsbert Spilt
Irm Mendonca
Thursday 8:00 am Betsy Ritzel
Meghan Harpole
Friday 8:00 am Alicia Diaz
Sofia Diaz
Saturday 5:00 pm William Schrag
Mary Ann Wiederman
Sunday 7:30 am Richard Lauterio
Bessie Rapoza
9:00 am Margarete & Gijsbert Spilt
Tete Arellano
11:00 am Rita King (Healing)
John Karayannis
5:00 pm Alicia Sanchez
Lizbeth Gutierrez

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday March 3 ~ Saturday March 9
Sunday: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Casimir
Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence, Almsgiving
Thursday: St. Perpetua and St. Felicity
Friday: St. John of God; Abstinence
Saturday: St. Frances of Rome

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday March 4 ~ Sunday March 10
Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;
2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13;
Lk 4:1-13

WEIGHTLY OFFERINGS

Weekly Goal $ 10,000
2-17-19 Week 7 Participation 13%
2-24-19 Week 8 Participation 28%
February Totals

General Offerings
St. Pat’s $3,186 $12,898 $26,002
OLMC $663 $1,727 $4,044
E-giving $405 $886 $3,470
Total $4,254 $15,511 $33,516
LAST YEAR $6,315 $7,228 $29,675

Maintenance Offering
St. Pat’s $80 $233 $1,174
OLMC $10 $0 $100
Total $90 $233 $1,274

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