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 Friends in Jesus Christ,

The readings on this weekend are mainly about prayer – perseverance in prayer in living faith, constancy in prayer and trust in God as we pray. They are also about the Trustworthiness and Justice of God, the type of Justice that reaches out to the poor and the weak, enabling them to fight against injustice.

In the first reading, Moses, after sending Joshua to fight against Amalek, is presented as making tireless intercession with constancy for the victory of Israel’s army. Both Moses and the widow in today’s Gospel story teach us how we should pray with trusting Faith and perseverance. In the second reading, St. Paul instructs Timothy to persevere in his ministry, to proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances and to use it to “correct, reprove and appeal with patience.” By introducing the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow in today’s Gospel, Jesus emphasizes the “necessity of praying always and not losing heart.” Constancy in prayer is Faith in action. Jesus presents the widow in today’s Gospel as a model of the trust and tenacity with which his disciples are to pray. The widow was asking for something which God would certainly want for her – justice.

We need to combine formal prayers with action prayer: It is ideal that we start our prayers by reading from the Bible, especially the Psalms and the Gospels. Formal, memorized and liturgical prayers are also essential for the Christian prayer life. Personal prayer is of great importance in our life of prayer. Talking to God in our own words – praising Him, thanking Him and presenting our needs before Him – transforms our whole life into prayer. We should perfect our prayers by bringing ourselves into God’s presence during our work several times during the day and by offering all that we are, that we have and that we do to God. Along with formal and memorized prayers, this type of prayer life enables us to pray always and pray with constancy and trusting perseverance.

We should not expect to get whatever we pray for. This parable does not suggest that God writes a blank check, guaranteeing whatever we want, whenever we want it in the form we ask for. But we conveniently forget the fact that, often, a loving father has to refuse the request of a child because he knows that what the child asks would hurt rather than help him (e.g., a knife). God is like that. He knows what to give, when to give and how to give it. Only God sees time whole and, therefore, only God knows what is good for us in the long run. That is why Jesus said that we must never be discouraged in prayer. Instead, we have to leave the answer to God’s decision saying, “Thy will be done.” Sincere and persistent prayer makes us ready to accept His will.

On another note, I would like to share with you about a WILDFIRE CRITICAL RECOMMENDATION: Church Mutual recently conducted a wildfire assessment on our premises on 09.03.2019 due to the high wildfire hazards in our area. These assessments are being done in all wildfire high hazard areas to better protect us from the catastrophic effects of wildfires. Each wildfire recommendation is thoroughly examined and inspected by an experienced risk control staff. They have identified some critical wildfire considerations that pose an immediate threat to either life or property. It is important that we take immediate corrective action by the date specified to us. Failure to do this may result in modification or discontinuation of our insurance coverage. So if you see or notice any trees or bushes removed from our property, it is mandatory that we follow the company’s recommendations and we are expected to do the removals within 30 days.

Thank you.

Prayers,

Fr. Banka
**This Week in our Parish**

**Wednesday 10/23** ~ Religious Study at OLMC

**Wednesday 10/23** ~ 6:30 pm Adoration & Reconciliation, St. Patrick’s

Sat 10/26 & Sun 10/27 ~ World Mission Sunday Second Collection

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**NEW Religious Study to begin at OLMC!**

**What:** The Sacraments of the Catholic Church (11 sessions)

**Where:** OLMC Parish House

**When:** Wednesdays starting on October 23, 2019

**Time:** 4:00 – 5:30 PM

**DVD Speaker:** Matthew Leonard

The seven sacraments are the heart of our Catholic faith. But do we really understand them? Do we truly grasp the incredible beauty of these amazing channels of grace and their life-changing power?

**The Bible and the Sacraments** is a dynamic video-based Bible study that explores the deeply scriptural roots of the sacraments. By illuminating the relationship between the Old and New Testaments and their connection to the rites of the Catholic Church, *The Bible and the Sacraments* reveals the sacramental nature of God’s plan for humanity.

**The Bible and the Sacraments** is unlike any other study on the sacraments. Certainly it looks at the basic teaching of the Church as to their meaning and origin, but it goes further. It investigates the deeper mystery of the sacraments as illuminated by Sacred Scripture.

By examining the rich relationship between the Old and New Testaments, it reveals the sacraments as more than mere earthly rituals. They are incredible “powers that come forth from the Body of Christ.” (CCC 1116)

This study will be based on a DVD presentation followed by a group discussion which will require minimal preparation. Please come to watch and discuss the material presented in the video. I want to mention that I want to keep this study stress free for everyone, so even if you do not have time to prepare for the lesson, come and join in with us anyhow!

Please sign up for this class as soon as possible to reserve your study materials!

Contact Warren Belisle at 962-4309 or email: bellale@msn.com for more information

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**40 Days for Life**

We at St. Patrick’s Church participate in **40 Days for Life** on each Monday in October by standing on the corner of Greenley and Mono Way from 9 am to 5 pm, as we give witness to the sanctity of all human life. Please try to give us one hour per week. Sign-up sheets are in the Parish Office.

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**ATTENTION BAKERS!** The Bake Sale Booth for the annual St. Patrick’s Christmas Fair needs your help to stock the booth with yummy goodies. The Fair will be held on Saturday, November 23rd. We are asking that you bring your baked goods to the Parish Hall Friday, November 22nd so we can price and have the booth ready for the 7 am opening of the Fair. If you are bringing cookies, brownies, etc. please pack them in groups of three for sale. Also, if you are making something with nuts, please be sure to mark it clearly that it has nuts. So many people have nut allergies, we want to make sure no one buys something that will cause them a problem. Smaller items, like cookies, brownies, muffins, small loaves, sell very well especially for those looking for a quick treat. Remember: There will be no refrigeration available at the booth itself, so we cannot accept any items that need to be kept cold. Signup sheets are at the Parish Office, or in the back of the Church, or contact YLI member Jan Opie (209-532-5955).

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**The Christmas Fair is right around the corner.** Please stop by the board outside after Mass to take a list of items needed for a basket to be sold at the upcoming fair November 23. Your contribution to this effort is well appreciated and adds to the success of the fair. Monetary donations are also welcome.

Contact Carol Cashen at 213-9991 or Debby Cushman at 533-2756 for further information.
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

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

Jackie Boling
Anna Davidson
Aldo Diaz
Ed Hall
Eileen Hogan
A. J. Holmes
Jeanne Kiely
Bill Kiesling
Rosemarie Lapan
Lois Marzocchi
Nuncy Patania
Mary Russell
Clay Sweeney
Dan Ward
Mitch & Trish Woods

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

Religious Education at St. Patrick’s
Religious Education classes will continue
Wednesday, October 23rd
6:30 pm ~ St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Session #6
Please contact Kathy Casas for more information:
(209)770-5987

All Saints Day, Friday November 1
Masses at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm, St. Patrick’s
Mass at 4:00 pm, OLMC

All Souls Day, Saturday November 2
Mass at 11:00 am, St. Patrick’s Cemetery
Special Blessing at 4:30 pm, OLMC Cemetery

Lantern of Light
Faith-Based Suicide Prevention Ministry

Suicide is recognized as a serious community health problem worldwide. How can further deaths and injuries be prevented? How can we support people to choose life when something prevents them from seeing a way forward? The safeTALK suicide alertness training will teach skills to help make a life-saving connection that will support people to choose life.

When: November 9, 2019 (Saturday)
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Where: St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Parish Hall
Fee: $15 for safeTALK materials and snacks (Scholarships available upon request)
Registration: miwuk.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/276191
For more information or assistance:
Please call Martha Golay @ 209-588-2935

Parent Retreat
Raising our children in the Faith is the most important role we have. To encourage you in your mission as parents, we invite you to a Parent Retreat on Saturday November 16th, from 9 am to 12 noon. Our guest speaker, John Sablan, is a devoted husband, father and Catholic evangelist.

This is a free retreat; all parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, Godparents, and confirmation sponsors are invited. Parents of confirmation students and confirmation sponsors are required to attend. Come be inspired, learn some of the struggles our children and youth face today and how we can more effectively pass on the Catholic Faith to them!!!

Saturday, November 16
9:00 am to Noon
Registration begins at 8:45 am
St. Patrick’s Church, Sonora

World Mission Sunday
Second Collection the weekend of October 26-27

“You formed my inmost being; You knit me in my mother’s womb. I praise You, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works! My very self You know. (Psalm 139:13-14)"

October is Respect Life Month
Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date
Friday 11/1 ~ All Saints Day
Saturday 11/2 ~ All Souls Day
Sunday 11/3 ~ Daylight Saving Time ends
Friday 11/8 ~ Altar Society Fundraiser
  “Western Dinner/Dance” 6:00-9:00 pm
  St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, $20 per person
Saturday 11/9 ~ Suicide Prevention Training
  8:30 am - 12:30 pm, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Saturday 11/23 ~ St. Patrick’s Christmas Fair
Thursday 11/28 ~ Thanksgiving Day
Sunday 12/1 ~ First Sunday of Advent
Monday 12/9 ~ Immaculate Conception
Tuesday 12/24 ~ Christmas Eve
Wednesday 12/25 ~ Christmas Day
Tuesday 12/31 ~ New Year’s Eve

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday October 20 ~ Saturday October 26
Sunday: Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Mission Sunday
Tuesday: St. John Paul II
Wednesday: St. John of Capistrano
Thursday: St. Anthony Mary Claret
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

“Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know Himself.”  St. John Paul II

Weekly Offerings

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General Offering

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LAST YEAR

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<tr>
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Respect Life: St. Pat’s $929; OLMC $247
Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!