St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

Mass Times:
M-F  8:00 am
Sat  5:00 pm
Sun  7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
5:00 pm
Spanish
Reconciliation
Sat  4:00 pm
Wed  6:30 pm
Or by appt.

Our Lady of
Mt. Carmel
Mission Church
11700 Catholic Cemetery Rd.
Big Oak Flat, CA

Mass Times:
Sat  5:00 pm
Sun  9:00 am
Reconciliation:
Sat  4:30 pm

Staff
Fr. Sam West, Pastor
Fr. Joseph Lawrence,
Parochial Vicar
Mike Kubasek, Deacon
Ron Ivey, Business Manager
Marie Dahlstrand,
Coordinator of Liturgy
Sandra Betti, Music Director
Kathy Casas, Religious Education
Katie McClintock,
Youth Ministry Leader
Gail Andrus, Receptionist
Jan DePaoli, Administrative Asst.
Emergency Intercessions “8”

Contact Us
Office:  116 W. Bradford St.,
Sonora, California  95370
Hours:  Mon-Thurs:  8:30-4:00
Fridays:  Closed
Phone:  209-532-7139
FAX:  209-817-8879
Web:  www.StPatsSonora.org
Email:  StPats@StPatsSonora.org
Bulletin:  GoodNews@StPatsSonora.org
Parish Services:
Sonora:  209-532-7139 Ext. 107
Big Oak Flat:  209-532-7139 Ext. 111

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

Volume 7, Number 34
As I have mentioned before, the Gospel for this week is particularly special to me in my own vocation journey as a priest. During ten years in the seminary, there were more than a few times when things got really tough for me, and I thought about just leaving. When those thoughts came, I would think almost immediately of St. Peter’s response to Jesus in today’s Gospel - “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” By God’s grace, I realized in these moments of discouragement and weakness there is no other place truly on earth or any other person to whom I could go to have the needs of my heart fulfilled. We can only know true lasting happiness, which is what the Gospel calls “eternal life,” when we remain faithful to Jesus through the unavoidable troubling and even shocking circumstances we will experience in our earthly pilgrimage.

In the Gospel when Jesus clearly and repeatedly tells His audience they must “eat His Flesh and Drink His Blood,” most could not accept what He was saying they needed to do to have eternal life. To them, Jesus was asking them to believe in the impossible. They said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” They were not able to trust our Lord. Sadly, their response was to leave Him and “many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him.”

Both personally and as a Church, we encounter obstacles and situations that at first seem impossible to overcome. We can become very discouraged when trying to follow the path God has chosen for us. For us who have, at times, been tempted to leave the path on which our Lord has called us, we are reminded that there is nothing better, nothing more assured of making us happy and receiving eternal life, than to follow His will even when we don’t understand or are even “shocked” by what He is asking of us. It is very probable Peter was just as “shocked” as the rest of those who heard our Lord’s teaching. Although at that time they may have not understood what Jesus was saying, Peter and the other 11 Apostles who remained still trusted that whatever Jesus was asking them to believe was true and necessary for eternal life. In my own experience, I am very happy I, with God’s grace, decided to continue following the Lord’s will for me. I am so blessed to be a priest and to be serving as your Pastor.

In addition to our own personal struggle to continue following our Lord by remaining faithful to the vocation He has chosen for our happiness, we also can struggle to stay with the Lord when we experience or hear of sins committed by other members of the Church. Even when completely shocked and heartbroken by truly diabolical acts committed by some priests and bishops, we are still called to remain faithful to Jesus by remaining active in His Church. Within the last few weeks, all of us have experienced horror and shame on hearing of the latest revelation from Pennsylvania of years of sexual abuse of children which, in some cases, were covered up by bishops. We should never allow the sins of others, no matter how grave and disgusting, to separate us from Christ and His Body, the Church. If we are ever tempted to no longer practice our faith or stop attending Mass, we can recall these words, “To whom shall we go Lord? You have the words of eternal life.” There is no other place or worship community we can go in order to truly receive Jesus, the Bread of Life, to eat the Body and drink the Blood of Christ. Only in the Catholic Church will we find the true Presence of Christ, the Son of the living God, in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist! The Catholic Church is the only way we can fully have Jesus and His words of eternal life.

Let us pray through the intercession of the Virgin Mary and our faithful patron, St. Patrick, to never leave or abandon our Lord, especially when things get tough, but to always choose to trust Him and abandon ourselves to His Will in all circumstances.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West

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**Spiritual Direction at Saint Patrick’s**

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 Dragan: (805) 490-6147
† Barbara Fish: (209) 743-8919
† Carol Gabbert: (775) 771-6297
† Connie Jacob: (209) 591-7978
† Christina Welch: (541) 447-7998
**This Week in our Parish**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 8/26</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: Knights of Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8/28</td>
<td>RCIA Inquiry period continues, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall Rm. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8/29</td>
<td>Grieving with Great Hope Workshop, 6:00-8:00 pm Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 9/1</td>
<td>Altar Duty: Marge Clennon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 9/1 &amp; Sunday 9/2</td>
<td>Parish Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 9/2</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: Ministers to the Sick</td>
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**Cupboard Organizers Unite!**

**Thursday, August 30th**

It's that time again when the classrooms in the Hall and the Steinmetz House need to be made ready for a new year of Religious Ed. Extra hands are needed to do this! **We will start after the 8:00 am Mass and end by noon.**

Join us for a few laughs and blessings, as we make ready the rooms for our precious children’s education.

Just show up or contact Kathy Casas @ 770-5987.

**Christmas in August?**

While cleaning out your closets, attics, and garages, remember our Christmas Fair! You can bring donations to the office now, no need to wait! We’d love to have household items, crafts, religious items, Christmas decorations, etc. (no clothing, please). We especially need jewelry right now! Please donate clean, sellable items.

If you have any questions, or would like to help with this year’s Christmas Fair, please call Teresa @ 209-206-1062. Our first planning committee meeting & potluck will be Wednesday, September 5th, at 5:30 pm.

It’s time to begin collecting baskets to be made up for sale at the Christmas Fair. If you have any good size baskets you’d like to contribute, please drop them off at the office or call Debby Cushman at 533-2756.

St. Patrick’s Parish Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 1st, 2018

**The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**A NEW Religious Study at OLMC! Begins**

**September 6th**

Sessions will run on Thursdays

4:00 - 5:30 pm

OLMC Parish House

Big Oak Flat

DVD Speaker Thomas Smith begins by discussing the three overarching themes within the messages of the prophets, and shows how they all point to Jesus. He further explains how the prophets are speaking not only to the people of Israel, but to us directly.

Everyone is invited to attend this “minimal homework” study. The Prophets: Messenger of God’s Mercy is a Catholic Bible study that will draw you closer to your heavenly Bridegroom. If we consider that God is the Divine Bridegroom and the Church is His Bride, then the prophets can be seen as “spiritual marriage counselors.” They afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted, calling us to return to our covenant relationship with God. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness. Even today, their prophetic words speak to us, as they draw us closer to our heavenly Bridegroom, and show us how to share Him with others.

In this new Religious Study, you will:

† Discover who the prophets were, what their message was, and why they are important to us.
† See how God is constantly calling you to a deeper relationship with Him.
† Discover the areas in your life that prevent you from drawing closer to God.
† Understand how the central message of the prophets is one of love, proclaiming the mercy of God for His children.
† See how their powerful words speak to us today, shedding light on our faith and our lives.
† Discover the ways you are called to be the voice of God to others.

Please sign up for this class as soon as possible so I can send you your Session 1 handout.

Contact Warren Belisle at 962-4309 or email: bellale@msn.com for more information.
**Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Bentz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al Biedrzycki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken &amp; Jackie Bolling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil Fish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vern &amp; Jo Froehlich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ed Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shirley Hamblin</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. J. Holmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald C. Kellogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Rolene Kiesling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristine Kitamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Macauley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Murtagh</td>
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<td>Juan Pinela</td>
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<td>Bob Porcella</td>
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<td>Juan Pulido</td>
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<td>Mike Schirmer</td>
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<td>Dolores Schlichtmann</td>
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<td>Clay Sweeney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitch Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean Wobbe</td>
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</table>

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

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### Is the Lord Calling You?

Each year He calls forth those He has chosen to formally pass on our faith to the next generation. It is the responsibility of parents, accepted at the baptism of their child, to instruct them, but the responsibility of the church to assist parents in that role.

**We need teachers who can bring God’s message of love to students of a variety of ages.**

If you would like to join us on **Wednesday evenings** OR **Sunday mornings** and help with the faith formation of our young people, please contact the Parish Office or Kathy Casas, Director of Religious Ed, @ 532-7139 or 770-5987.

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### Liturgical Ministers

Attention all Lectors, EMHC, Altar Servers, and Ushers:

If there are any dates you are NOT available to minister during the 4th Quarter of 2018 (October - November - December), please let Sandra Betti know by **Friday, September 7th**. 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!

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### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2018 ~ We celebrated a beautiful Mass for our Blessed Mother!

- Our statue of the Blessed Virgin
- St. Patrick’s Sanctuary, prepared for Mass

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### Religious Education Classes Begin...

**Kindergarten and First Grade**

Sundays 10:15 through 11:00 Family Mass
Includes Liturgy of the Word for Children

**Begins Sunday, September 16th**
Downstairs in the Parish Hall

**2nd Grade through Confirmation**

**Begins Wednesday, September 12th**
6:30-7:30 pm - Parish Hall

**PRE-REGISTRATION is helpful!**

Forms are in the church vestibule, hall, and office.

Baptismal certificates are necessary unless baptized at St. Patrick’s.

Please return the forms to the Parish Office or mail to:
St. Patrick’s Church
116 W. Bradford St.
Sonora, CA 95370

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### YLI Patricia #79

**Baked Potato Bar Luncheon/ Bunco Games**

Saturday, Sept 15
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Doors open at 11:30 am
All Adults welcome!

$15 per person

Advance tickets or reservations suggested
For more information, call Vicki @ 532-6010

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### It’s Good to Play Bunco

You’re Invited!
**Mass for the Week**

**Saturday August 25 ~ Sunday September 2**

**Saturday**
- 5:00 pm  Leslie Sadalik
- 7:30 am  Tete Arellano
- 9:00 am  Tete Arellano
- 11:00 am Keith & Teresa Modglin
- 5:00 pm  Lupe Díaz
- 11:00 pm  No Intentions

**Sunday**
- 7:30 am  The Potter Family
- 9:00 am  Adolfo Negrete
- 11:00 am  No Intentions
- 5:00 pm  Alicia Sanchez

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

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Wednesday 9/5 ~ 2018 Christmas Fair planning**

**Thursday 9/6 ~ OLMC: New religious study begins!**

**Wednesday 9/12 ~ Religious Ed Classes begin**

**Saturday 9/15 ~ YLI Potato Bar Luncheon and Bunco, 11:30 am, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall**

**Sunday 9/16 ~ Religious Ed Classes begin K - 1st**

**Tuesday 9/18 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting, 6:30 pm Room #6, Parish Hall**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday August 27 ~ Sunday September 2**

**Monday:**
- 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22

**Tuesday:**
- 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26

**Wednesday:**
- 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mk 6:17-29

**Thursday:**
- 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

**Friday:**
- 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday:**
- 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30

**Sunday:**
- Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday August 26 ~ Saturday September 1**

**Sunday:**
- Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:**
- St. Monica

**Tuesday:**
- St. Augustine

**Wednesday:**
- The Passion of St. John the Baptist

**Saturday:**
- Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday; World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

**Weekly Offerings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weekly Goal $10,000</th>
<th>8-12-18 Week 32 Participation 22%</th>
<th>8-19-18 Week 33 Participation 24%</th>
<th>August Totals YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Offerings</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$5,517</td>
<td>$4,889</td>
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<td>$17,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$1,334</td>
<td>$972</td>
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<td>$3,605</td>
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<tr>
<td>E-giving</td>
<td>$405</td>
<td>$180</td>
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<td>$1,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$7,256</td>
<td>$6,041</td>
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<td>$21,808</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAST YEAR</strong></td>
<td>$8,930</td>
<td>$7,167</td>
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<td>$22,773</td>
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<td><strong>Maintenance Offerings</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$705</td>
<td>$210</td>
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<td>$1,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
<td>$110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$720</td>
<td>$215</td>
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<td>$1,445</td>
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Assumption:  St. Pat’s $1,136   OLMC $417

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!