St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

**First Sunday of Lent**

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

*Luke 4:1-2*

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](http://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

---

**Mass Times:**

- **St. Patrick’s Church**
  - M-F: 8:00 am
  - Sat: 5:00 pm
  - Sun: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm
  - Spanish: 5:00 pm
  - Reconciliation: Sat 4:00 pm, Wed 6:30 pm, or by appt.

- **Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mission Church**
  - 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
Angela Cordes, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
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](http://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

Volume 8, Number 10
Lent is a time to consider and experience our absolute need of God’s grace for our salvation and eternal happiness. The more we realize and live out our complete dependence on God, the more we grow in our relationship with Him. We will trust God more and have a greater experience of His love. Our gratitude for what He has done, and continuously does, for each of us will be deepened. In this First Sunday in Lent, we hear in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus’ temptation in the desert. During Lent, the Holy Spirit leads us as well on this journey “into the desert for forty days.” God gives us this time in the “desert” to help free us from self-centered desires and self-reliance that hold us back from more fully trusting God’s merciful plan for us.

Although our Lord Jesus did not need to grow in His relationship with God the Father, He obeyed the Holy Spirit, letting Himself be led into the desert to “be tempted by the devil.” Our Lord shows us we, too, need to be led by the Holy Spirit if we want to grow in our relationship with God. Without following the lead of the Holy Spirit, we, on our own, could never overcome the obstacles – our sins, doubts, fears, “dryness,” etc. – to knowing and loving God. We do not have the power on our own to change ourselves. But what we can do is let God change us. Through the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we become more open and allow God to do His work of salvation – healing and forgiveness – in us. To grow in the spiritual life, in our relationship with God, we absolutely need the help of His unfailing grace.

In this Gospel scene, our Lord reveals how much we need Him. He is the only One who can give us victory over the inevitable temptations and trials we face. In the temptations, the devil attempts to twist natural human desires, using them to rebel or reject the Father’s will. The temptations are about not trusting God’s will, not trusting His Mercy, and trusting only in ourselves. We will, in one way or another, experience temptations against trust and acceptance of God’s will throughout our earthly pilgrimage. We are tempted to fulfill our natural human desires in ways that are opposed to God’s plan. The urges of our body, the want of glorification, and the desire of personal security are all God-given and therefore are good. However, because of excessive self-love and an extreme self-reliance, we can often attempt to fulfill our natural desires on our own, without God, by rejecting His commandments.

We use things, or even other people, to meet our needs. We set God aside, not believing that He is really the only One who can bring us true fulfillment and happiness. In response to the first temptation, Jesus tells the devil, “One does not live on bread alone.” We are reminded that only our Creator, our Merciful God, can give us the fullness of life we desire. We can only experience real life, God’s life, by fully trusting God and serving Him alone. Jesus says, “You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.”

We resist these temptations when we hear, accept, and act on God’s will for us. Jesus counters the devil’s temptations by calling on God’s Word, Sacred Scripture, to show us the only way to overcome sin and ultimately death is a complete submission to the will of the Father. Through the Lenten practices of prayer, penance, and almsgiving, we allow God to redirect or change our desires so that they are directed completely to His will and not to our own self-centered will. By His grace and remaining close to our Lord in His Passion and Death, we come to a greater trust and reliance on Him.

In her complete submission to the will of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary says “YES” to become the Mother of God. She is a model for us in how we are to respond to the lead of Holy Spirit in the season of Lent. The Virgin allowed the Holy Spirit to fill her and, through her, bring the fullness of God’s love and joy in His Only-Begotten Son into the world. As we pray in the “Hail Mary,” Mary, by God’s mercy, is “full of grace.” Lent is a time when we seek His needed grace even more intensely.

Through our Mother’s intercession and example, we pray our spiritual practices will be fruitful for us. We pray for a greater awareness of how much we need God’s grace to overcome our sins that prevent us from growing in our relationship with Jesus. We continue to seek her maternal guidance as we enter the “desert,” allowing the Holy Spirit to lead and change us so we can grow in the trust of God’s Holy will, His will for our salvation.
March 10, 2019

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 3/10 ~ Meet & Greet: YLI

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

Thursday 3/14 ~ Youth Group 6:30 pm Steinmetz

Friday 3/15 ~ Stations of the Cross, 5:00 pm OLMC 6:00 pm, St. Patrick’s

Saturday 3/16 ~ Altar Duty: Marcia Watts, Carmella Peller

Sunday 3/17 ~ No Meet & Greet

Sunday 3/17 ~ St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon, 12:30 pm Parish Hall

Forty Days for Life begins this 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.

Important Dates for RCIA

Sun, March 10: Rite of Sending
Sun, March 17: Penitential Rite for Candidates
Sun, March 24: 1st Scrutiny
Sun, March 31: 2nd Scrutiny
Sun, April 7: 3rd Scrutiny

All rites will take place during the 11:00 am Mass

We will continue to accept nominations for the Pastoral Council this weekend, March 9-10, and the elections will be on Sunday, March 17. 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!

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

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.

Liturgical Ministers

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

Join us in praying a Novena to our Patron Saint, St. Patrick. The Novena begins on March 9, ending on March 17. We have provided a handout you can take home that has the daily prayer and intention for each day. If you didn’t get one, you can pick one up in the Parish Office. “Glorious St. Patrick, you are honored as one of the greatest evangelizers, and true defenders of our faith.”
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  Clay Sweeney
Ed Hall  Roy Volpetti
A. J. Holmes  Mitch & Trish Woods
Donald C. Kellogg

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

Join us for a special event in honor of our Patron

St. Patrick's Day
Traditional Irish 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.

A new Religious Study begins on Thursday, March 21 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Big Oak Flat.

“Fulfilled - Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism”
This study will explore how in the Old Testament, God began laying a foundation for the beautiful traditions of the Catholic Faith. Classes are from 4:00-5:30 pm on Thursdays, in the OLMC Parish House.
Please come to watch and discuss the material presented in the video and in the handout. An optional book ($11) by Sonja Corbitt is available.

Please sign up for this class as soon as possible, so you can receive your Session 1 handout.
For more information and to sign up, please contact Warren Belisle at 962-4309 or email: bellale@msn.com

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend the souls of
Mary Elaine Baxter
Evelyn Brom
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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 10, 2019

**The First Sunday of Lent**

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**March 10, 2019**

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Monday** - **Thursday, 3/18 - 3/21 ~ Parish Mission**
Fr. Bart Hutcherson, 6:30 - 7:30 pm St. Patrick’s

**Friday, 3/22 ~ Daytime Stations of the Cross, 10:00 am, St. Patrick’s**

**Wednesday, 4/3 ~ Lenten Penance Service, 6:30 pm St. Patrick’s**

**Monday, 4/8 ~ Lenten Penance Service, 4:00 pm OLMC**

**Thursday, 4/11 ~ Chrism Mass, Stockton Cathedral**

**Friday, 4/12 ~ Daytime Penance Service, 10:00 am St. Patrick’s**

**Thursday, 4/18 ~ Holy Thursday**

**Friday, 4/19 ~ Good Friday**

**Saturday, 4/20 ~ Easter Vigil**

**Sunday, 4/21 ~ Easter Sunday**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday March 11 ~ Sunday March 17**

**Monday:**
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday:**
Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:**
Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:**
Est C.12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:**
1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

**Saturday:**
Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

**Sunday:**
Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 -- 4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday March 10 ~ Saturday March 16**

**Sunday:**
First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending; Daylight Saving Time begins; Girl Scouting Sunday

**Monday:**
Julian Calendar Lent begins

**Friday:**
Abstinence

**Weekly Offerings**

**Weekly Goal $10,000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8 Participation</th>
<th>February Totals</th>
<th>3-3-19 Week 9 Participation 31%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Offerings</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$12,898</td>
<td>$26,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$1,727</td>
<td>$4,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-giving</td>
<td>$886</td>
<td>$3,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$15,511</td>
<td>$33,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAST YEAR</td>
<td>$7,228</td>
<td>$29,675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maintenance Offering**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9 Participation</th>
<th>3-3-19 Week 9 Participation 31%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$233</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parish Services: St. Pat’s $498, OLMC $83

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!