St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

JULY 15 2018

Blessed be God
who chose us in Christ,
before the foundation
of the world, to be
holy and without
blemish before him.
Ephesians 1:3, 4

St. Patrick’s Parish
127 Jackson St., Sonora, CA

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

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“"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 28
Father Sam's Message

In this week’s Second Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians, we are encouraged to recall how blessed we are. We are so, so very blessed to have been chosen by God in Christ, “before the foundation of the world.” Through our Lord Jesus, God has “destined us for adoption.” We are truly called and chosen to be God’s children. Since we are chosen by God, each of us is given “every spiritual blessing in the heavens.” We are reminded God has already given and always gives us everything we need to reach our destiny “to be holy and without blemish before him.” The challenge we take away from this reading is to now fully live out our divine calling, our blessedness, and fulfill our purpose that “we might exist for the praise of his glory.” We can only do so in a generous response to “the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved,” in Jesus Christ. The Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, perfectly exemplifies the heavenly blessing of our calling as a chosen disciple of Christ and a child of God expressed so elegantly in Paul’s letter. In her total “YES” to God’s plan to bring the fullness of His Love into the world in His beloved, the humble Virgin is our best example of how we are to respond to “the riches of grace” that our Merciful God generously “lavishes upon us.” By God’s “riches of grace lavished upon” her, the Virgin Mary was immaculately conceived, without original sin, in her mother’s womb. So we can truly say she is “holy and without blemish.” This state of holiness also happened for us, albeit in a different way, after our birth in our baptism. Through this Sacrament, we received the same “riches of grace,” being cleansed from the stain of all sin. And if we do sin after our baptism, we have the Sacrament of Confession. After Mary’s fiat, her YES to God, she proclaims in her Magnificat, “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and spirit rejoices in God my Savior” (Luke 1:46-47). In Her response to God’s grace, the fullness of grace in receiving Jesus Christ, Mary experiences fully what St. Paul talks about when he says, “We might exist for the praise of his glory.” So we, too, are to proclaim God’s greatness and rejoice in Him. This is done in authentically living out our Faith with the help and example of our Blessed Mother.

This Monday, July 16th, the Church celebrates a feast for our Blessed Mother under her title as Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. This is a special feast for our whole parish since our mission in Big Oak Flat/Groveland is dedicated in honor of Mary under this old title, which can be traced back to hermits who used to live on the renowned and blessed Mount Carmel. This pious and austere community prayed in expectation of the advent of a Virgin-Mother who would bring salvation to mankind, much like the holy prophet Elijah who ascended Mount Carmel to pray to God for the salvation of Israel which was suffering a terrible drought at that time.

On the top of Carmel, Elijah had the vision, “Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising out of the sea” (1 Kings 18:44), which coincided with the end of the drought, and is thought to be a symbol prefiguring the Virgin Mary whose Son would be the Messiah and Savior (1 Kings 18:42-45). This holy mountain is located between Tyre and Caesarea, stretches about 15 miles across Palestine, and is about 20 miles from Nazareth. The word “Carmel” in Hebrew means, “Garden, a beautiful hill, a choice orchard, a high cultivated ground.” Carmel (Karmel, Greek) more precisely means “Garden of God.” The holy mountain is a place where one is alone with God, yet also bears spiritual fruit for the world. Our Blessed Mother, our Lady of Mount Carmel, leads her children by the hand up the mountain to union with God. Not only does she show the way to Our Lord, but she herself leads us and forms us in the way of the Lord.

When we speak of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, it is important to mention the widely-practiced Catholic devotion of wearing a “scapular,” which is two small square pieces of brown cloth worn over the shoulders. It is a miniature of the actual brown scapular – the sleeveless outer garment falling from the shoulders – that is part of the habit worn by the Carmelites. In a private revelation, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Blessed Mother, gave the scapular to St. Simon Stock on July 16th, 1251. All the baptized may receive the scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Through enrollment in the Scapular, one acknowledges that he or she is called by God to be united in the spiritual family of Carmel, consecrated in love to the Virgin Mary. The Scapular of Mount Carmel is a sign of a maternal relationship with the Mother of God. Those who are clothed with the Scapular and entrust themselves to the Virgin Mary, entrust themselves to her protection, have recourse to her maternal intercession, and are mindful of the primacy of the spiritual life. The Scapular is a sign of consecration to Our Lady and signifies the spiritual graces and favor offered by Mary in the economy of redemption that she will actively intercede for those who are clothed with it. It represents the spiritual maternity of Mary and an acceptance of the duties necessary as children of Mary.

Our Lady Mt. Carmel helps us, her children, to orient our lives to God through prayer, nourishment of the interior life, worthy and frequent reception of the sacraments, and works of mercy. Her heart is a garden of virtues where her children, firmly planted, learn to grow in virtue: humility, silence, trust, obedience, faith, hope and love. Through the maternal care of Mary, her children grow in love and this love leads to union with God and the zeal for the salvation of souls. Love is the “heart” of Carmel, as Our Lady said at Fatima, “in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” It is the heart that loves, and her triumph will be a triumph of love, in which she unites her children with Our Lord for eternity.

In Christ, Fr. Samuel West
Sonora Men's Fellowship is now accepting registrations for the 2018 Catholic Men's Fellowship Fall Retreat - “The Magnificent Seven: Men of Virtue.”

The Seven Virtues Perfect our Seven Principles
Prudence - Justice - Fortitude - Temperance
Faith - Hope - Charity

“Virtues are gifts from God that lead us to live in a close relationship with Him. Virtues are like habits. They need to be practiced; they can be lost if they are neglected.”

Stephen Valgos, Catholic Evangelist and teacher, will lead our Retreat and share his wisdom of the teachings of the Church leading us to a better understanding of how “The Seven Virtues Perfect our Seven Principles,” and tip the scales of the moral life toward good and away from evil. Fr. Mike Lacey, former Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, San Lorenzo, CA will celebrate Mass for our Retreat.

Accept this invitation to join other men for a weekend of reflective spirituality. Get away from the pressures and activities of daily life for a refreshing weekend of renewal. Regain, deepen and strengthen your spiritual perspective.

Retreat Dates:
Friday - Sunday ~ August 17 - 19, 2018
Beginning 5:00 pm Friday, concluding at noon on Sunday

Retreat Cost: $185 per person donation for lodging and all meals. We encourage father/son participation, half price for second registration.

To register, visit www.catholicmen.org
Make checks payable to 2018 CMF Fall Retreat
Mail to: 10905 Kelso Ct. Sonora, CA 95370
Retreat Location:
OLD OAK RANCH
15250 Old Oak Ranch Rd.
Sonora, California 95370

Bishop Emeritus Stephen E. Blaire requests the pleasure of your company at the

Cupcakes, Canapés, and Cocktails
Art Event!
Benefiting the Education of the Seminarians of the Stockton Diocese

The Bishop’s treasured collection of paintings, sculpture, carvings, and icons will be up for bid in this silent auction. Cocktails, wine, and sweet and savory hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Date: Thursday July 26th, 2018
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Place: Guadalupe Hall, Church of the Presentation
1515 W. Benjamin Holt Drive, Stockton, CA
$25 per person

Please make checks payable to Diocese of Stockton
Send checks to:
Bishop’s Art Event
777 North Pershing Ave.
Suite 1A
Stockton, CA 95203
For more information, please call Fabienne Johnson at 209-612-7539.
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Gus Allegri
Tete Arellano
Catherine Bentz
Al Biedrzycki
Beverly Brainard
Carolyn Bruning
Jan Buck
Phil Fish
Vern & Jo Froehlich
Mitch & Patti Gerner
Susan Goodspeed
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
Cecilia Hallock
Joan Holland
A. J. Holmes
Jeanne Kiely
Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Kristine Kitamura
Lois Marzocchi
Dorothy McCargar
Joseph Murtagh
Pat Newton
Barbara North
Lee O'Shaughnessy
Joseph Perez
Juan Pinela
Juan Pulido
Jackie Sample
Mike Schirmer
Clay Sweeney
Judy Wilder
Mitch Woods
Jean Wobbe

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

Diocease of Stockton
Vocations Discernment Meeting

Are you feeling God’s call to the Priesthood? Do you know someone who might be feeling the call? The Stockton Diocese will hold a Vocations Discernment Meeting on Sunday July 22 at 5:00 pm, at the Cathedral of the Annunciation Parish House, 425 W. Magnolia St., Stockton. A light meal will be offered. Please RSVP to Fr. Cesar at 209-463-1305 Or email: vocationsdirector@stocktondiocese.org

OUR MISSION
“This is the mission of the Church: the Church that heals, that cares for people. I sometimes describe the Church as a field hospital. True, there are many wounded, how many wounded! How many people who need their wounds to be healed! This is the mission of the Church: to heal the wounded hearts, to open doors, to free people, to say that God is good, God forgives all, that God is our Father, God is tender, that God is always waiting for us … ”

Pope Francis
Mass at Casa Santa Marta  Feb 2, 2015

Feast of St. Anne and St. Joachim

The Feast Day is July 26th, but we will celebrate with a special Mass on Saturday, July 28th
St. Anne’s Catholic Church
Columbia, CA
Mass at 9:00 am
Bishop Emeritus Stephen Blaire, presiding

The Knights of Columbus Color Guard, in full regalia, will be in attendance at the Mass.

A reception will follow at Angelo’s Hall in Columbia State Park, with a potluck brunch. Sign-up sheets for the Potluck are located in the Parish Hall after Mass.

For more information, please call the Parish Office at 532-7139.

Grieving with Great HOPE

Grieving with Great HOPE is a five week grief support workshop series that offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. If you have lost a spouse, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grandchild, a parent, another family member or a friend, you are encouraged to attend. Presenters will include Cathi Ruiz and Martha Golay, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement apostolate.

Wednesdays: August 1, 8, 22, 29, 6-8 pm;
Thursday, August 16, 6-8 pm
St. Patrick’s Catholic Church
127 Jackson Street, Sonora

Contact Steve and Martha Golay for registration details and a registration form at 209-588-2935, or email golaymartha@yahoo.com

There is a $15 fee for the workshop, which will be collected at the first meeting. Advanced registration by July 27, 2018
For regularly scheduled meetings, please check the Master Calendar at www.stpatssonora.org. If you have calendar requests or need to make changes to your current calendared items, please email ron@stpatssonora.org.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday July 16 ~ Sunday July 22**

**Monday:**
- Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 -- 11:1

**Tuesday:**
- Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

**Wednesday:**
- Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27

**Thursday:**
- Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30

**Friday:**
- Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8

**Saturday:**
- Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

**Sunday:**
- Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday July 15 ~ Saturday July 21**

**Sunday:**
- Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:**
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**Wednesday:**
- St. Camillus de Lellis

**Friday:**
- St. Apollinaris

**Saturday:**
- St. Lawrence of Brindisi; Blessed Virgin Mary

“In EVERYTHING, be it a thing sensed, or a thing known, GOD Himself is hidden within.”

*St. Bonaventure*

**Weekly Offerings**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal</th>
<th>7-1-18 Week 26</th>
<th>7-8-18 Week 27</th>
<th>July Totals YTD</th>
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**General Offerings**

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<td>St. Pat’s</td>
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<td>OLMC</td>
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<td>E-giving</td>
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<td>$7,797</td>
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**LAST YEAR**

|                  | 7,026         | 10,115        | 17,141          |

**Maintenance Offerings**

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<th>7-1-18 Week 26</th>
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<td>OLMC</td>
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4th of July at St. Anne’s: $75

Parish Services: St. Pat’s $493, OLMC $119

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!