The GOOD News . . . in Our Parish

This is the day the Lord has made

He is risen, Alleluia!

April 1, 2018
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

“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
Our Lord Jesus has Risen! Alleluia, Alleluia! He has truly risen! Alleluia, Alleluia! A most blessed and joyous Easter to you all!

This year, Easter Sunday falls on the first day of April. Many of us know April 1st as “April Fools’ Day.” In doing a little research, I discovered, although historians are not sure about the exact origin of “April Fools’ Day” (which is also called “All Fools’ Day”), there is speculation it started in the 16th Century (around the year 1582) when the country of France switched the day used to calculate the start of a new year. Some people were slow to get the news or to make the change. So they didn’t recognize the new year began on January 1st rather than starting in the last week of March through April 1st as it did under the old calendar. These slow adopters of the new calendar were made fun of and had tricks played on them. The jokes included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as “poisson d’avril” (April fish), said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person. I guess today it would be a little like making fun of people who forget to change their clocks for Daylight Savings and show up late. No one likes to play the fool or be the “butt of a joke.” We all want to know what is happening around us or at least act like we know. We especially do not want to look foolish in front of others.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the most profound and earth-shattering event that has ever happened or could ever happen in the world. In our Lord’s Resurrection, something much more happened than a change in how we count time. Although His Resurrection even changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, “the first day of the week” known as the “Lord’s Day,” it changed much more. It changed us fundamentally, who we are as human persons, our human nature. It is possible to argue that God becoming human was the “biggest” event ever in human history. It is mind-blowing to think God became one of us. But for the Incarnation (God becoming human) to really matter, the Resurrection would have had to actually happen because without Jesus truly rising from the dead, our frail human nature would still be subject to death and corruption forever. But because of the Resurrection, we now can share in God’s immortality, sharing in His eternal peace and happiness. So since this really big thing happened 2000 years ago, wouldn’t we look like fools if we did not know it? It would be even more foolish if we heard about it, said we believed it, but still did not live as if the Resurrection ever happened.

Now I am not suggesting you play tricks on your naive non-Christian friends or family members who do not believe in the Resurrection. What we can do is show them the joy and the profound change we have in our own lives as a result of living the Resurrection.

Our Lord Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead is certainly not an April Fools’ joke! He was dead but now He lives! How do we know? Well, of course, for us to know for sure, we need the gift of Faith. But we can also use human reason to confirm what we know by Faith. All we do is look at how those who publicly attested to His Resurrection, His disciples and Apostles, behaved before and after the Resurrection. When our Lord is arrested and crucified, all but a few fled in sheer terror at the possibility they too may have to face a horribly cruel death on a cross. They were hiding “for fear of the Jews.” But after they encounter the Risen Lord Jesus, touch Him and eat with Him, they have a complete 180-degree change. The Apostles fearlessly stand in public, in the Temple area and synagogues, and boldly proclaim things like what we hear Peter say in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles: “They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.” In fact, Peter, our first Pope appointed by Jesus Himself, would remain faithful to his witness of Jesus’ Resurrection until the end of his earthly life. After being so afraid, going as far as denying our Lord Jesus three times, Peter himself was crucified, upside down no less, in the city of Rome. Actually, ten of 12 Apostles, 11 if you count St. Paul, were killed, martyred, because of their witness to the Risen Jesus as true God and Lord. They believed completely because they saw Jesus risen from the dead. It would be a supreme act of foolishness to give up one’s life for a falsehood or lie. On the other hand, if the Resurrection is true, it would probably be just as foolish to deny it because we would be giving up the possibility of everlasting life.

We certainly don’t want to play the fool by living as if the Resurrection never happened. So to not be foolish and really experience the gift of new life we have in Jesus’ Resurrection, we remain faithful to Him by following His commandments. This also means remaining faithful to the teachings of His Church. To live the Resurrection, we do everything we can to actively grow in our relationship with Him so that we can enjoy the fruits of Eternal Life. Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, we pray we will be wise always, “think of what is above,” and not be foolish, but fully live the gift of our Lord’s Resurrection!

In Christ, Fr. Sam West
This Week in our Parish

Sun 4/1 ~ Easter Sunday, Masses at 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am St. Patrick’s; 7:30, 9:00 am OLMC; 1:00 pm St. Anne’s (Columbia)

Mon 4/2 ~ Parish Office Closed

Mon 4/2 ~ Altar and Rosary Society Meeting, 1:00 pm Parish Hall

Wed 4/4 ~ Teens! Steinmetz House 6:30 pm

Wed 4/4 ~ Financial Peace University, 6:00 pm St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Rm. 4

Sat 4/7 ~ Altar Duty: Eleanor Lauterio

Sat 4/7 & Sun 4/8 ~ Parish Services Collection

Sun 4/8 ~ Meet & Greet: YLI

Sun 4/8 ~ Divine Mercy Sunday, see schedule below

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 8, 2018

Pope John Paul II declared the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy was given to St. Faustina by Jesus. He told her to have the Novena of Divine Mercy prayed starting on Good Friday and culminating on Divine Mercy Sunday.

At St. Patrick’s on Divine Mercy Sunday, the festivities start at 1:45 pm with a DVD and refreshments in the Parish Hall. English in rooms 4/5 and Spanish in room 1. We will then go to the church at 3:00 pm to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song with alternating English and Spanish verses followed by a benediction.

For further information please contact: Cecilia Woosley@536-4020 or Deb Cushman@533-2756.

St. Patrick’s Altar & Rosary Society will hold a meeting on Monday, April 2, at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall. This is an important planning session, so please plan on attending!

Finance Peace University

Starts Wed, April 4
6:00 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Room #4

Dave Ramsey says, “Debt is normal. . .be weird!”
St. Patrick’s first-ever Financial Peace University course will cover these topics and more as we learn time-tested ways to manage finances, and edify personal relationships:

† Super Saving
† Relating with Money in Marriage and Family Relationships
† Cash Flow Planning
† Dumping Debt
† Responsible Purchasing and Marketing Psychology
† Insurance
† Retirement and College Planning
† Real Estate and Mortgages
† “The Great Misunderstanding” - Stewardship and Cheerful Giving

This course is presented in a DVD-based format, followed by rousing small-group discussion.

Not sure if this is for you? The first class on April 4th is free! Come, check out the course, then decide!
Childcare: provided. Snacks: possible.
Entertaining humor: guaranteed!

For more info:
Nathan and Annika Graveline ~ (209)588-1780.
To register:
www.fpucentral.com/classes/1059095/registration

Spiritual Growth ~ "Queen of Heaven: Mary’s Battle for Souls"
Begins Saturday, April 21, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
This series gives us the intriguing story of Mary, this gentle and perfect mother, and her battle for our souls with Lucifer, the fallen angel. It also delves into the deeper meaning of her annunciation, her sorrows and her “dark night of the soul.” We learn why she is our Queen, and the Mother of our Church.

This series will run for four weeks, finishing right around Mother’s Day. What better way to honor our Blessed Mother!

For more information, please contact Cynthia Dragun @ 209-984-5726. Email: atonewiththespirit@gmail.com
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

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

Leanne Abbe-Alcioti  Fred Kahl
Tete Arellano  Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Catherine Bentz  Kristine Kitamura
Al Biedrzycki  Lois Marzocchi
Carolyn Bruning  Dorothy McCargar
Jan Buck  Letty Molinari
Margaret Corotto  Pat Newton
Vern & Jo Froehlich  Lee O'Shaughnessy
Joe Gamboa  Tony Pallante
Mitch & Patti Gerner  Joseph Perez
Bill Gookin  Mike Schirmer
Ed Hall  Monica Steele
Joan Holland  Clay & Barbara Sweeney
A. J. Holmes

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

OLMC Parish Services

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Services is an organization within the parish which provides assistance to our community. We are guided by the wisdom of the Spirit to follow our Catholic tradition of caring for those in need by providing for the physical and financial needs of our parishioners and the community. The phone number to call to request assistance or information is (209)532-7139 Ext. 111 and is on the front page of the church bulletin. This phone number is monitored by our Core Group.

Parish Services picks up the food donated each week at Mass and delivers it to the EV Free Church who distributes it to people in need in the Groveland – Big Oak Flat Area. We have made cash donations to the Baptist Church, the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the EV Free Church for their food distribution programs.

We could use one or two more volunteers on our Core Group. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please call the number above and a member will return your call.

If you would be available to prepare food for the sick or for funerals, do light home repairs and/or yard work, or provide social visits, please fill out a form which is available at the Parish Service box at the back of the church and put it in the box.

Thank you for your past support!

Bishop Myron Cotta
Newly installed Bishop of the Diocese of Stockton
Installation Mass ~ March 15, 2018
Welcome, Bishop Cotta!

YLI Patricia #79
Join us for a fun afternoon!
Saturday April 14, 2018
Tostada Bar Luncheon & Bunco!

St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
127 W. Jackson St., Sonora CA
Doors open at 11:30 am - $15 per person
All adults welcome
Advance tickets or reservations suggested
For more information, please call Vicki @532-6010

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, and Ushers:

Your 2nd Quarter (April - May - June) 2018 Ministry Mass Schedules are ready to be picked up. You will find them in the basket in the vestibule after Mass, alphabetical by last name. They are also available on our website.

Go to www.stpatssonora.org, click on “More,” click on “Ministry Schedules,” and scroll to your schedule. Thank you all for your ministry!
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Saturday March 31 ~ Sunday April 8

Easter Vigil 8:00 pm  No Intentions
Easter 7:00 am  All Parishioners
         Juanita Maria Crooms ✧
         Lupe Diaz ✧
         9:00 am  Alicia Sanchez ✧
         Brent Jamar ✧
         11:00 am  Dick Tasto ✧
         1:00 pm  Lenny Wilder ✧
         Miguel Bernal ✧
         Fred Kahl, Healing

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

Monday 8:00 am  Joseph Perez, Healing
Tuesday 8:00 am  David Sandval ✧
                 Reggie Diaz, Jr., Happy Birthday!
Wednesday 8:00 am  Joseph Ratti, Protection
Thursday 8:00 am  No Intentions
Friday 8:00 am  No Intentions
Saturday 5:00 pm  Ken Francek ✧
                   OLMC 5:00 pm  William Van Ausdal ✧
Sunday 7:30 am  All Parishioners
                 Joseph B. Fernandez ✧
                 9:00 am  Hezzy Arellano ✧
                 Nuncy Patania, Happy Birthday!
                 11:00 am  George & Cynthia Chesel ✧
                 Joe Hart ✧
                 5:00 pm  Lupe Diaz ✧
                 Michael Johnston ✧

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday April 2 ~ Sunday April 8

Monday:  Acts 2:14, 22-23; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48
Friday:  Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21; Mk 16:9-15
         1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday April 1 ~ Saturday April 7

Sunday:  Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Monday:  Monday within the Octave of Easter
Tuesday:  Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
Wednesday: Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
Thursday:  Thursday within the Octave of Easter;
         First Friday; Julian Calendar Good Friday
Friday:   Friday within the Octave of Easter;
         First Friday; Julian Calendar Good Friday
Saturday: Saturday within the Octave of Easter;
         First Saturday

Weekly Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal</th>
<th>3-18-18</th>
<th>3-25-18</th>
<th>March Totals to Date</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<td>General Offerings</td>
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<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$5,335</td>
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| Maintenance Offerings |         |         |                     |
| St. Pat’s    | $210    | $590    | $1,509              |
| OLMC        | $20     | $0      | $130                |
| Total       | $230    | $590    | $1,639              |

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

For regularly scheduled meetings, please check the Master Calendar at www.stpatssonora.org. If you have calendar requests or need to make changes, please email ron@stpatssonora.org.

JESUS CHRIST is risen today,
For the solace of ALL people.  Alleluia!
(Surrexit Christus hodie, 14th Cent.)

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date
Saturday 4/14 ~ YLI Bunco and Tostada Bar
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, 11:30 am ~ $15 per person
Wednesday 4/18 ~ Confirmation Mass
6:00 pm, St. Patrick’s
Saturday 4/21 ~ Spiritual Growth Session, “Queen of Heaven,” Parish Hall 10:00 am - 12:00 noon
Saturday 4/28 & Sunday 4/29 ~ Second Collection Catholic Home Missions Appeal
Sunday 6/24 ~ Parish Picnic! Pinecrest Lake