St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

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

Jesus said, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:13-14
The Samaritan woman comes to a very old well, Jacob’s well, and represents the old life and a practice of worshipping God which is no longer sufficient. In His love and mercy, Our Lord has come to give her and us something completely new – to worship God “in Spirit and Truth.” Through the living waters of baptism, we were given the sanctifying grace to have this new relationship with the Father, to be truly His children. Although we have received the new life in Christ, we could still be holding on to a “old,” stagnate life. We may have the obstacles of habitual sins, fear, or self-sufficiency preventing us from fully living this new life, preventing the living waters of God’s grace to flow freely. Lent is a time to assess what obstacles we may have that hold us back from letting the living water of the Spirit to be active in all parts of our daily lives. In our relationship with God, we cannot be resigned to just getting by, not actively living the fullness of the Christ’s power and joy. We have a choice to enjoy the fullness of God’s life and really let the living waters of the Holy Spirit flow in and through us. Setting or accepting sin in any form in our lives renders our relationship with God and others sterile, lifeless, and unfulfilling. But, when we choose to turn from sin and live in accord with God’s plan by fulfilling our baptismal promises in an active practice of our Faith, we then experience the superabundant fertility of the life of the Spirit, experiencing the refreshment and joy of the “living waters” Christ wants for us. We then can grow and share with others the grace we have already received in Baptism and which is strengthen in the reception of Holy Communion. But before experiencing the powerful and transforming effect of Christ “living waters,” we need to be free from sin, and turn back to God, which starts with a good Confession.

Update on our Pastoral Plan

We are now actively forming teams to do the work of implementing the vision we identified over the past 9 months, since last May. I am encouraging each of you to consider helping out with one of the number of new initiatives we are now beginning. First, we are specifically looking for people to help our Welcome Team. This team is forming to plan, develop, and carry out ways to reach out to our parishioners. We see a need to “welcome” new families to our parish and “welcome back” those who are no longer attending Mass or participating in the life of the parish. We already have a number of exciting ideas to better engage our new, current, and former parishioners. If you are interested in helping on the Welcome team, please email the team at welcome@stpatssonora.org or call the office.

I would like to thank all of you who participated in Fr. Banka’s wonderful presentation on the Blessed Virgin Mary this past Saturday. There were over 50 participants! I would like to acknowledge the work of our “At One with the Spirit” Team. The purpose of this team is to offer diverse opportunities (workshops, speakers, retreats, etc.) to learn and experience more deeply our Catholic Faith so as to grow in our relationship with Jesus and better practice the Faith in our daily life.

(Cont. next page)
If you are interested in helping with this team or have a suggestion for future spiritual development efforts, please email spiritual@stpatssonora.org or again call the office.

Finally, we are having a 9-week course on how to obtain financial peace. Finance Peace University from Dave Ramsey starts on April 4th. Please see the announcement in the bulletin or go to our parish website for more details.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West

This Week in our Parish

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 3/3 and Sun 3/4 ~</td>
<td>Parish Services Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 3/4 ~</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: Ministers to the Sick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 3/5 ~</td>
<td>Altar &amp; Rosary Society Meeting, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>St. Patrick’s Parish Hall</td>
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<td>Wed 3/7 ~</td>
<td>Teens! Steinmetz House 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Fri 3/9 ~</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross, 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Sat 3/10 ~</td>
<td>Altar Duty: Carmen Ortiz, Barbara Sweeney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 3/11 ~</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: YLI</td>
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St. Patrick’s Altar and Rosary Society will be having their regular meeting on Monday, March 5th in the Parish Hall at 1:00 pm. We will be planning our May luncheon. All ladies of the Parish are welcome to join us! For more information, please call President Marge Nath @ 532-2229.

St. Patrick’s is in need of a sterling silver pitcher, that holds about 1 quart, for Holy Week. Please bring it to the Parish Office if you have one we can borrow. It will be returned after Easter Sunday.

Thank you!

Attention all Lectors, EMHC, Altar Servers, and Ushers:
If there are any dates you are NOT available to minister during the 2nd Quarter of 2018 (April - May - June), please let Sandra Betti know by Friday, March 9. Please call 532-7139, ext. 109, email your information to sandra@stpatssonora.org, or leave a note in the office.

Thank you for your ministry!

Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday evening in Lent, followed by a Lenten Soup Supper. Please join us for this wonderful tradition as we 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

“Don’t be afraid to go to the Sacrament of Confession, where you will meet Jesus, who forgives you.”

Pope Francis

Stations of the Cross

Starts Wednesday
April 4 ~ 6:00 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish in Sonora will present a nine-week course on financial management. Based on biblical principles and developed by Dave Ramsey, nearly five million people have completed this dynamic course! Take control of your money with practical, humorous, easy-to-follow lessons. Learn in a supportive group environment how to: create a budget that doesn’t feel like a straitjacket, pay off debt with the Debt Snowball, save for the future, and so much more.

For more information and to register, go to www.fpu.com/1059095 or contact Nathan and Annika Graveline at (209) 588-1780.

Lent

Communal Penance Services

Thursday, March 8th
All Saints, Twain Harte
6:30 pm

Monday, March 12th
St. Patrick’s, Angels Camp
6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 13th
St. Patrick’s, Sonora
6:30 pm

Monday, March 19th
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Big Oak Flat, CA
4:00 pm

“Don’t be afraid to go to the Sacrament of Confession, where you will meet Jesus, who forgives you.”

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

Leanne Abbe-Alcioti  Ed Hall
Tete Arellano    Joan Holland
Ruben Bacci    A. J. Holmes
Catherine Bentz    Fred Kahl
Al Biedrzycki    Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Jan Buck    Kristine Kitamura
Cardiff Family    Lois Marzocchi
Carol & Curt Cashen    Pat Newton
Roger Clark    Joseph Perez
Jeanne Dugan    Juan Pulido
Vern & Jo Froehlich    Mike Schirmer
Joe Gamboa    Monica Steele
Mitch & Patti Gerner    Clay Sweeney
Bill Gookin

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

INTO YOUR HANDS, O LORD, we commend the souls of
George Joseph Chesel  Cynthia Carol Chesel
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Congratulations
Bill and Debra Latone!
50th Wedding Anniversary

“Love is the beauty of the soul”
(St. Augustine)

Dynamic Catholic
is coming to St. Patrick’s in Ripon! We are excited to announce the national speaker, Dr. Allen Hunt from Dynamic Catholic is coming on Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 9:30 am -2:00 pm for a “Find Your Greatness” Workshop.

For tickets, visit www.dynamiccatholic.com/Ripon or call Beth@275-0306, or Chris@232-0017. The Church is located at 19399 E. Hwy 120, Ripon, CA.

Journey in Christianity, an organization focusing on Christian renewal through Catholic service, will be holding a weekend retreat starting Friday evening, March 16 to Sunday evening, March 18. It will be held at Foothill Horizons in Sonora. Registration Forms are available in the Parish Office. For more information, please call Duarte Bento @ 499-5256, or Mary Bento @ 499-6739. Website: www.journeyinchristianity.org

Knights of Columbus
Fish Fry Fundraiser!
Friday, March 23rd
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall

Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm
Fish Fry immediately after Stations

$12 per adult
$6 per 1 child, all other children in the family are free
3 pieces of Fish, French Fries, Coleslaw, Bottled Water
Soft drinks available for purchase

Proceeds will help replenish our Maintenance Account
Tickets available in the Parish Office, at the door, or from any member of the Knights of Columbus.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Please join us for a celebration in honor of our Patron, St. Patrick.
Sunday, March 18th, at 12:00 noon, following the 11:00 am Mass.
The Knights of Columbus will be serving a traditional Irish meal of corned beef, cabbage, carrots, and potatoes. Please bring a dessert to share. All are invited!
**Mass for the Intentions of the Week**

**Saturday March 3 ~ Sunday March 11**

**Saturday**
5:00 pm  
Herberta Asuncion  
Bill Latone, Healing

**Sunday**
7:30 am  
All Parishioners  
Margaret Wyman, Healing
9:00 am  
Dick Tasto  
Bill & Debra Latone, Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary!
11:00 am  
Josephine Esparza  
Jaime Rodrigues
5:00 pm  
Lupe Diaz  
Samuel Guerrero

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

**Monday**
8:00 am  
Ernie Cadina

**Tuesday**
8:00 am  
Margaret & Gijsbert Spilt

**Wednesday**
8:00 am  
No Intentions

**Thursday**
8:00 am  
Colleen Castro, Happy Birthday!

**Friday**
8:00 am  
Margaret & Gijsbert Spilt  
Bea Daver

**Saturday**
5:00 pm  
Ken Francek

**Sunday**
7:30 am  
All Parishioners  
Richard Lauterio
9:00 am  
Hezzy Arellano
11:00 am  
Dick Tasto
5:00 pm  
Lupe Diaz  
Adolfo Negrete

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday March 5 ~ Sunday March 11**

**Monday:**
2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3 -- 43:3, 4;  
Lk 4:24-30

**Tuesday:**
Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9;  
Mt 5:17-19

**Wednesday:**
Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20;  
Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:**
Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:**
Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17;  
Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:**
Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

**Sunday:**
(Year A) 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6;  
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday March 4 ~ Saturday March 10**

**Sunday:**
Third Sunday of Lent; First Scrutiny

**Wednesday:**
St. Perpetua, St. Felicity

**Thursday:**
St. John of God

**Friday:**
St. Frances of Rome; Abstinence

**Weekly Offerings**

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2nd Collection for Black and Indian Missions, Catholic Home Missions Appeal: St. Pat’s $783, OLMC $142

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!