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 frbanka@stpatssonora.org. God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Yesobu Banka, Parish Administrator
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

A Message from Fr. John Foley

There is a way that the human heart can say YES to God, and mean it, as we travel our own Road to Emmaus.

Suppose you and I are strolling along in the countryside and a stranger starts to stroll with us.

“What are you discussing as you walk along?” He asks, a little too boldly.

We stop. We are tempted to admit that we were worrying about the 2020 pandemic. Plus so much else. One of us—maybe you—says to Him, “Are you the only person in the world who does not know what things have happened during these years and these centuries?”

He replies, “What sorts of things?”

You stammer these words, “we had promised to continue Christ’s works, to revere his presence, to preserve his love so it could overflow through us to everyone.” You look away. “But the Church is fragmented. So many bad things are happening.

“Bad things?” the visitor asks.

“Yes,” you say.

“A number of our own priests have gone against the very mission they swore to preach. Some have been predators! So few are entering the priesthood now—how are we going to have sacraments when the virus won’t allow us to?”

I give you a calm down signal, but you go right on, now louder.

“We are crucifying Christ all over again! Oh, we were hoping that he would make the whole world come right! What can we do?”

Jesus says quietly, “You are slow of heart. Don’t you know it is necessary that Christ should suffer and so bring the world into his glory?”

Silence.

Then you reply.

“What do you mean—why should the Christ keep suffering? And worse, why would he let all these horrors happen through the world? This virus, for one thing. And remember Nazi Germany? And Sri Lanka, and Indonesia and Bosnia and Rwanda and Iraq and Afghanistan?”

So He begins to tell us the things that referred to Him in scripture, beginning with Moses and all the prophets. His voice is calm. He shows how God had long sought a loving relationship with His people, and how they would enter into it for a while but then would turn their backs on Him and walk away.

Battles and wars, belief and unbelief, rich versus poor—and worst of all, the sick, the very ones who are aching for love. Is there no way?

He tells us that there is a way the human heart can say Yes to God and mean it.

“One human being has done it on behalf of us all, One who is human to the core and yet even so will not stop trusting God—though trapped like the rest of us in mindless suffering and death. As often as you and the others, your brothers and sisters, join with Me in human faithfulness and love, the world will be changed.”

He walks with us further. And stays with us. His love is so gently strong that we can always count on it, even if we are sinners. It sends us out to others. It is in fact, God’s love for people.

You have now become calm. So have I.

“Maybe the resurrection did happen,” you are whispering so that the stranger cannot hear it. We both nod. We have recognized him. We have seen him in the breaking of the bread.

We see him in the breaking bones of the world.

Fr. John Foley, SJ

Fr. John Foley, is a scholar at Saint Louis University.

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STAY WITH US, LORD

Walk with us, Lord, along the road of resurrection!

Explain for us, so slow to believe, the things that Scripture says of you.

Break the bread of the Eucharist with us whenever we share our lives with our brothers and sisters.

Stay with us each time night approaches and the daylight fades in our hearts!

April 26, 2020

Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Saturday April 25 ~ Sunday May 3
Saturday No Intentions
Sunday Tete Arellano ⌃
            Lupe Diaz ⌃
            Alicia Sanchez ⌃
Monday No Intentions
Tuesday No Intentions
Wednesday No Intentions
Thursday Terri Julian Gray ⌃
Friday No Intentions
Saturday No Intentions
Sunday Lupe Diaz ⌃
            Alicia Sanchez ⌃

Fr. Banka will pray Mass Intentions at his personal daily Mass.

Readings for the Week
Monday April 27 ~ Sunday May 3
Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59 or, G­n 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday April 26 ~ Saturday May 2
Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter
Tuesday: St. Peter Chanel;
            St. Louis Grignion de Montfort
Wednesday: St. Catherine of Siena
Thursday: St. Pius V
Friday: St. Joseph the Worker; First Friday
Saturday: St. Athanasius; First Saturday

Weekly Offerings

Weekly Goal $10,000
4-12-20 Week 15 Participation 16%
4-19-20 Week 16 Participation 12%
April Totals To Date

General Offerings
St. Pat’s $9,865 $4,340 $25,764
OLMC $767 $485 $4,297
E-giving $2,435 $770 $5,640
Total $13,067 $5,595 $35,701
LAST YEAR $11,710 $14,716 $37,896

Maintenance Offering
St. Pat’s $ $95 $465
OLMC $ $60 $105
Total $ $155 $570

Holy Thursday: St. Pat’s $403; OLMC $90
Good Friday: St. Pat’s $648; OLMC $15
Please continue to support your Parish during this crisis.
Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

Prayer of Spiritual Communion
My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

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

Jackie Boling
David Costa
Evan Dean
Aldo Diaz
Eileen Hogan
A.J. Holmes
Jeanne Kiely
Bill Kiesling
Rosemarie Lapan
Kathy Lopez
Ashlie Lotz
Lois Marzocchi
Jan Opie
Gloria & Nuncy Patania
Juan Pulido
Connie Scott
Al Sullivan
Clay Sweeney

To add or remove a name from this list, please contact the Parish Office at 209-532-7139.