St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News
... in Our Parish

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 10, 2019

Jesus said to Simon,
“Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.”

When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

Luke 5:10–11

“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

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
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 6
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Father Sam’s Message

Last Monday evening, our pilgrims returned from their six-day pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. By God’s grace and Mary’s maternal protection, our pilgrimage went very smoothly. Everything – transportation, accommodations, meals, and our guide – was really first-rate. We had a most wonderful and spiritually fruitful experience. Along our entire pilgrimage we carried your petitions and on the final day, we presented them at the Basilica where our Blessed Mother’s miraculous image on the tilma is displayed. We are planning in the near future to have a presentation of our pilgrimage open to the entire parish.

In this Marian apparition, which took place almost 500 years ago, the Blessed Mother appeared to a humble man named Juan Diego. In the year 1858 in Lourdes, France, Mary appeared to a young girl named Bernadette Soubirous. In 1917, she appeared in Fatima, Portugal to three young shepherd children – nine-year-old Lucia Dos Santos and her two cousins, Francisco Marto who was eight years old and his seven-year-old sister, Jacinta Marto. In each of these Church-approved apparitions of the Blessed Mother, we can see a clear pattern. God sent His Son’s mother to those who are poor and whom the world considers to be lowly and weak, mostly to young children. This shows us that to see and experience the presence of God, we need to acknowledge our “littleness” before the unlimited majesty of God. The virtue of Humility, the recognition of our absolute need of God’s grace to make us ready to be in His presence and serve Him, is a major theme of this Sunday’s readings.

In this week’s first reading, we hear of the Prophet Isaiah’s experience of being in God’s presence. He writes, “Then I said, ‘Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!’”

The Prophet expresses amazement at being able to stand before God in spite of his own sinfulness. St. Paul, in our second reading, also articulates this same attitude of being unworthy of serving God on his own merits but being made worthy by the grace of God. The Apostle writes in his letter to the Corinthians, “For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective.” Paul knows it is only because of God’s grace, working in and through Paul, that makes the Apostle to the Gentiles capable of effectively preaching of the Gospel. Finally, in the Gospel reading, we hear of Peter’s reaction when he witnesses a miraculous catch of fish at our Lord Jesus’s command to lower the nets into the sea. “When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, ‘Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.’” Despite Peter’s sins, faults, and limits, our Lord Jesus still invites Peter to share in His divine mission, calling Peter and his fellow fishermen to “be fishers of men.” In each of these readings, we see how God’s grace is the necessary precondition for entering into relationship with God. Our Lord Jesus makes them, those He calls, “worthy” to serve Him.

When we humbly acknowledge and really know our total dependence on God’s mercy, we then are ready to experience the unlimited power of His grace. The virtue of humility may be defined as “a quality by which a person considering his own defects has a lowly opinion of himself and willingly submits himself to God and to others for God’s sake.” St. Bernard defines it: “A virtue by which a man knowing himself as he truly is abases himself.” So we ask God for this gift of humility to always acknowledge our desperate need of God’s healing power to cleanse us from our sins and strengthen us in our weaknesses. Through the humble and consistent practice of the gift of our Faith, following our Lord’s call by obeying the teachings of His Church and receiving His sanctifying grace in the Sacraments of the Church, we are made worthy to be in God’s presence and serve Him.

Let us ask our Blessed Mother, our Lady of Guadalupe, to help us always be ready to acknowledge our “littleness” before God so as to truly experience His saving power. We then, only by His grace, will be worthy to follow and serve our Lord Jesus in our daily pilgrimage to our heavenly homeland.

In Christ, Fr. Samuel West
February 10, 2019

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 2/10 ~ Meet & Greet: YLI

Thursday 2/14 ~ Youth Group 6:30 pm Steinmetz

Saturday 2/16 ~ Altar Duty: Faustina Coleman
Kathleen Kahl

Sunday 2/17 ~ No Meet & Greet

All Teens and parents of Teens: NEW MEETING DAY!
Our Youth Group meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Steinmetz House. Please join us as we seek to empower young people to embrace our faith and live as strong disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today.

We will meet this Thursday, February 14th!

Forrest Marion would like to extend a big "Thank you!" to all who attended, participated, and supported the benefit dinner, silent auction, and concert for Matthew 25 on Jan 25th. This was Forrest’s Senior Project, and all proceeds went to St. Patrick’s Matthew 25 ministry, which provides a hot breakfast to all who are hungry, every Tuesday and Thursday.

Results:
170 Tickets sold
$4,649 was raised!

Thank you everyone for your generosity!

Jason Jeffrey
Director of Music Ministries at the Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton

In Concert!
Classical Piano recital

Sunday Feb 17  ~ 3:00 pm
Sutter Creek Theater
44 Main St. Sutter Creek, CA

This is a rare opportunity to hear this talented pianist from our own Diocese, right here in the Mother Lode! Solo piano works include the “Rhapsody in B minor” and the “Intermezzo in A major” by Johannes Brahms, and “Carnival Scenes from Vienna” by Robert Schumann. Also on the program is the “Double Violin Concerto” by J.S. Bach, with violinists Makena Clark and Zoe Schlussel, accompanied by Jason Jeffrey on piano.
Free Admission!

St. Valentine of Rome was martyred on February 14, 269 AD. It is said that in the 3rd century AD, the Roman emperor Claudius refused to allow his soldiers to marry. Valentine, who was a priest, defied the order of the emperor and secretly performed Christian weddings for the soldiers and their brides. The account mentions that in order “to remind these couples of their vows and God’s love, Saint Valentine is said to have cut hearts from parchment,” giving them to these newlyweds and other persecuted Christians, a possible origin of the widespread use of hearts on St. Valentine’s Day.
Happy Valentine’s Day!

The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday, Feb 23
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Doors open 11:00 am
Games start at 12:00

For $20.00 you get 6 Cards, a hot dog, and a drink!
Hosted by the Knights of Columbus
All proceeds go to benefit those in need in our community

Thank you everyone for your generosity!

"Forrest Sings for Supper" and Matthew 25 benefits!

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Happy Valentine’s Day!
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Diane Abdelnour
Rich Abdelnour, Jr.
Al Biedrzycki
Jackie Boling
Jan Buck
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
A. J. Holmes
Donald C. Kellogg
Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Krystine Kitamura
Lois Marzocchi
Judi Maguire
Cindy Merritt
Gary Pizl
Mike Schirmer
Clay Sweeney
Roy Volpetti
Mitch & Trish Woods

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

A new Religious Study will begin on February 28 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. “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. 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

Fr. Marian Korzeniowski (St. Stanislaus Parish, Modesto) will be leading a pilgrimage to the beautiful country of Poland from May 20 - June 2, 2019. We will be visiting St. Faustina’s Convent and Shrine, the tomb of St. Stanislaus, Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine (aka the Black Madonna), the monastery founded by St. Maximilian Kolbe, the birthplace of Frederic Chopin, and many other shrines, castles, and historic places. You will see the best that Poland has to offer!

The price of the ground tour is $1900 and includes everything except airfare. The deadline to register and pay is February 15, 2019.

For more information and more details please contact Fr. Marian at 209-422-7123.
Email: mkorzeniowski@ststanscc.org

Here are our pilgrims standing at the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, at the Shrine in Mexico.

The green bag contains the prayers we sent with the pilgrims. You can also see the interior of the beautiful Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

- **Monday 2/18** ~ Parish Office closed
- **Saturday 2/23** ~ Knights of Columbus Bingo
- **Tuesday 3/5** ~ YLI Minestrone Soup Luncheon
- **Wednesday 3/6** ~ Ash Wednesday, Lent begins
- **Sunday 3/17** ~ St. Patrick’s Day
- **Thursday 4/11** ~ Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton
- **Thursday 4/18** ~ Holy Thursday
- **Friday 4/19** ~ Good Friday
- **Saturday 4/20** ~ Easter Vigil
- **Sunday 4/21** ~ Easter Sunday
- **Saturday 5/11** ~ Mother Lode Round-Up Parade
- **Sunday 5/12** ~ Mother’s Day
- **Wednesday 5/15** ~ Confirmation Mass, 6:00 pm

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday February 11 ~ Sunday February 17**

**Monday:**  
Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56

**Tuesday:**  
Gn 1:20 -- 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13

**Wednesday:**  
Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23

**Thursday:**  
Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30

**Friday:**  
Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday:**  
Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10

**Sunday:**  
Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday February 10 ~ Saturday February 16**

- **Sunday:** Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day
- **Monday:** Our Lady of Lourdes; World Day of the Sick
- **Tuesday:** Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday
- **Thursday:** St. Cyril and St. Methodius; Valentine’s Day
- **Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary

**Weekly Offerings**

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1-27-19 Week 4 Participation 27%</th>
<th>January Totals</th>
<th>2-3-19 Week 5 Participation %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Offerings</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$4,914</td>
<td>$24,388</td>
<td>$6,344</td>
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<td>OLMC</td>
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<td>E-giving</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$7,253</td>
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<td>LAST YEAR</td>
<td>$6,412</td>
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| Maintenance Offering|                                  |                |                                 |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|                                 |
| St. Pat’s           | $85                              | $1,113         | $828                            |
| OLMC                | $0                               | $135           | $95                             |
| Total               | $85                              | $1,248         | $923                            |

*Parish Services: St. Pat’s $306; OLMC $50*  
Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!