

St. Patrick's Church

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
Angela Cordes,
Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Gail Andrus, Receptionist
Jan DePaoli, Administrative Asst.
Emergency Intercessions "8"

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Big Oak Flat: 209-532-7139 Ext. 111

Volume 7, Number 48

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Sonora, California

The GOOD News

... in Our Parish



First Sunday of

Advent

December 2, 2018

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength
to escape the tribulations that are imminent
and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

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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



Father Sam's Message

In Advent, we prepare for the joy of receiving our Lord Jesus at Christmas. Since this liturgical season is about getting ready to rejoice in our Lord's birth, it is important to grasp what is meant when we speak of "joy." To understand what joy is, we first need to remember God created us with what we call "passions," which are the emotions we experience to move us toward what is good and to avoid what is evil. The four "principle passions" we have in us – desire, fear, sorrow, joy – are motivated by what we love. Desire is wanting what we love, fear is not able to have or losing what we love, sorrow is the absence of what we love, and joy is having what we love. St. Augustine says, "love yearning for the beloved object, is desire; and, having and enjoying it, is joy" (*The City of God*, book 14). We can think of joy as "resting" in what is good, what is loved. Since we are made to love God, we experience the fullness of joy when we share in the ultimate Good, when we are possessed by God or, better yet, when we rest in God, who is Love.

Christmas is the joyous celebration of God coming to us, experiencing real joy by being in God's presence and resting in Him. Preparing for this joy God wants for us begins first with the awareness of God's love for us, knowing He fulfills His promise to save us in Jesus. In the Gospel for our first Sunday in Advent, Jesus warns, "*Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness.*" Real joy cannot be experienced if we engage in superficial, fleeting sensual pleasures such as "*carousing and drunkenness.*" Sinful behavior actually blinds and obstructs us from experiencing true joy. If we are "*drowsy*" because of sin or distracted by "*anxieties of daily life,*" we are not aware of God's love; we then distrust His promise of salvation in Jesus Christ. If we are not ready to trust God's love, we lose out on the joy of His presence. Over the next four weeks of Advent, I am encouraging you to look forward to the joy God wants for you, the joy that only can be yours when you know God's love for you and trust He fulfills His promise to save you from present evil in Jesus Christ. One of the best ways to know God's love is experiencing His Mercy through the forgiveness of our sins in the Sacrament of Confession. As a reminder, every Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., we offer this Sacrament of healing at St. Patrick's in Sonora. In addition, this year we are having two special Advent Reconciliation services: one in the morning on December 18th starting at 10:00 am and another on December 19th in the evening at 6:30 p.m.

Prior to His return in glory, Jesus warns, "*there will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves.*" Our Lord goes on to say these horrifying events will cause "*people to die of fright.*" After the description of all this turmoil and chaos, Jesus says to us, His chosen, "*When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.*" Our Lord is telling us to anticipate His return with trust and confidence, to eagerly look forward to His coming, because when we are with Him, possessed by Him, we will have joy. So our true joy does not depend on what events are happening around us, whether good or evil. The joy only Jesus can give us is contingent on what is happening IN us, in our hearts. If our hearts are "awake" and desiring to receive Jesus when He comes, we will experience joy, even in the midst of trouble and tribulation. We don't just passively await Jesus' coming; we are actively seeking His presence. When people look forward to what they know will be a joyous experience – a wedding, a birth of a child, etc. – they actively think about what it will be like. They prepare and plan for it. This is what we are doing in Advent; preparing and planning for what it is like to meet God and experiencing the joy of resting in Him. To help us to be ready for the joy God wants for us in Jesus, we will have a special prayer service on Saturday, December 15th at 11:00 a.m. at our Church in Sonora. I urge all of you to attend this opportunity to be prepared to be renewed in God's joy.

Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, we pray God gives us the grace to know His love for us and be ready to receive our only true joy, Jesus Christ, and rest in Him always.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West



Advent Reconciliation Services

St. Patrick's Parish

St. Patrick's Church

Wednesday December 5th, 6:30 pm
(Spanish)

Tuesday December 18th, 10:00 am
Wednesday December 19th, 6:30 pm

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Friday December 21st, 4:00 pm

DECEMBER 2, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Week in our Parish

Saturday 12/1 & Sunday 12/2 ~ Parish Services

This is a special Parish Services Collection for the victims of the Camp Fire in Paradise, CA

Sunday 12/2 ~ Meet & Greet: Ministers to the Sick

Sunday 12/2 ~ Youth Group meets, 6:15 pm
upstairs in the Steinmetz House

Monday 12/3 ~ Altar & Rosary Society Meeting and Luncheon, 11:30 am Parish Hall Rm. 4

Wednesday 12/5 ~ Servicio Penitencial de Adviento, 6:30 pm (Advent Penance Service, Spanish)

Thursday 12/6 ~ No 8:00 am Daily Mass
due to St. Patrick's Staff retreat

Friday 12/7 ~ Immaculate Conception
Vigil Mass, 4:00 pm OLMC

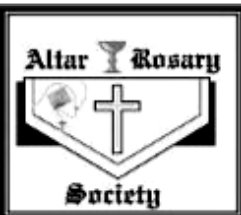
Saturday 12/8 ~ Altar Duty: Marge Clennon

Saturday 12/8 ~ Immaculate Conception
10:00 am Mass, St. Patrick's

Sunday 12/9 ~ Meet & Greet: YLI

Sunday 12/9 ~ Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Patrick's, 3:00 pm

Our Parish Services collection this weekend is for the victims of the Camp Fire in and around Paradise, CA. So many homes, businesses, and lives have been lost in this horrific wildfire. Please give generously.



St. Patrick's Altar & Rosary Society will hold their regular meeting on **Monday December 3rd**, in the Parish Hall, Room 4. It will be a potluck luncheon, and all the ladies from the Parish are invited to attend. If you would like to become a member, please contact President Marge Nath at 209-532-2229. Arrival time is 11:30, and lunch will be at 12:00 noon. There will also be nominations for officers for 2019 at this meeting. In addition, please bring a non-perishable food item for the food pantry at the Parish.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
"That the most Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin." *Pope Pius IX, "Ineffabilis Deus" (December 8, 1854).*



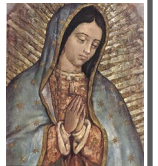
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Vigil Mass on Friday, December 7 ~ 4:00 pm

St. Patrick's
Mass on Saturday, December 8 ~ 10:00 am



La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

La fiesta de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, en la Iglesia Católica de San Patricio, se celebrará el domingo 9 de diciembre con una misa a las 3:00 p.m. Después de la misa, habrá un potluck y fiesta en el salón de la parroquia. Habrá mariachi, comida y camaradería. Todos son bienvenidos – por favor, traiga un platillo para compartir.

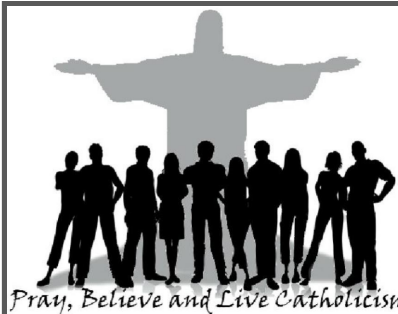


Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sunday, December 9

Mass at 3:00 PM

Potluck and Mariachi will follow in the Parish Hall!
Everyone is welcome - please bring a dish to share.



All Teens and parents of Teens:
Our Youth Group is meeting every Sunday evening, at 6:30 pm upstairs in the Steinmetz House. Please join as we seek to empower young people to embrace our faith and live as strong disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today.

WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

***Diane Abdelnour
Rich Abdelnour, Jr.
Catherine Bentz
Al Biedrzycki
Ken & Jackie Bolling
Jan Buck
Pat Fernandez
Vern & Jo Froehlich
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
A. J. Holmes
Donald C. Kellogg
Bill & Rolene Kiesling***

***Kristine Kitamura
Judi McGuire
Cindy Merritt
Joseph Murtagh
Juan Pinela
Juan Pulido
Pat Rut
Mike Schirmer
Connie Scott
Clay Sweeney
Dan Tew
Judy Wilder
Mitch & Trish Woods***

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



Advent Prayer Service

Restoring our Joy as Disciples of Jesus Christ

Saturday, December 15th

11:00 am

St. Patrick's Church

All are invited to a special prayer service to prepare for the fullness of God's love in the coming of Jesus Christ, our promised savior.

Let us make our hearts ready to receive God's Joy!



THE INTERFAITH CHRISTMAS GIVING

TREE is in place in the Parish Hall, and ready for you to give a Christmas gift wrapped in joy and filled with love.

Interfaith helps hundreds of families and homeless in our community each year, providing food, clothing, toys and household goods to those in need. Please visit the Parish Hall and choose your ornament tag from the tree. Purchase your gift and return it to the Parish Office with the ornament tag attached. Do not wrap the gift.

Your love will help our Interfaith homeless, newborn infants, families, preteen and teenage children. I wish that each of you could experience the reaction of our clients when they receive your gift. It is a moment of true thankfulness and appreciation of your generosity.

If you have any questions please call Laurel Utecht, at 532-5033 or email at lu@mlode.com

God bless you for your help in this Advent season!



Attention all Lectors,

EMHC, Altar Servers, and Ushers:

If there are any dates you are NOT available to minister during the 1st Quarter of 2019 (Oct - Nov - Dec), please let Sandra Betti know by **Friday, December 14th**. Please call 532-7139, ext. 109, or email your information to sandra@stpatssonora.org, or leave a note in the office. Thank you for your ministry!

Mark your calendars!

**Day of Reflection
for Liturgical Ministers
Tuesday, December 11**

10:00 am or 6:30 pm

(you only need to attend one of these sessions)



Share the spirit of Christmas Adopt-A-Family

If you would like to share the Joy of Christ's birth with those in need, you have a chance this Advent season to "Adopt a Family." If you would like to adopt a family, or if you know of any families in need in our Parish, please call the Parish Office at 209-532-7139 and leave a message for Deacon Mike.

Adoration and Reconciliation

Every Wednesday, 6:30 pm ~St. Patrick's Catholic Church



"The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith and open to making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."

(CCC #289)

Mass for the Intentions for the Week

Saturday December 1 ~ Sunday December 9

Saturday	5:00 pm	Lizbeth Gutierrez ☩
Sunday	7:30 am	Robert Gibson ☩ Rose Engler ☩
	9:00 am	Adolfo Negrete ☩ Lizbeth Gutierrez ☩
	11:00 am	Raul Gamboa ☩ Ramon Tamaresis (<i>Healing</i>)
	5:00 pm	Lupe Diaz ☩ Aurelio Guerrero ☩

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

Monday	8:00 am	Lizbeth Gutierrez ☩ Lisa Reyes ☩
Tuesday	8:00 am	Duane and Linda Chatlain (<i>Healing</i>)
Wednesday	8:00 am	Lupe Diaz ☩
Thursday	8:00 am	<i>No Mass - Staff Retreat</i>
Friday	8:00 am	Susan Pagni ☩
Saturday	10:00 am	Maria Negrete (<i>Happy Birthday</i>)
	5:00 pm	Jack McCoy ☩ Jack & LaVon Woodcock ☩
Sunday	7:30 am	Joseph & Margaret Aragon
	9:00 am	Hezzy Arellano ☩ Adolfo Negrete ☩
	11:00 am	<i>No Intentions</i>
	3:00 pm	Lupe Diaz ☩ Alicia Sanchez ☩ Miguel Beran

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date

Tuesday 12/11	~ Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers at St. Patrick's 10:00 am - 12:00 noon OR 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Saturday 12/15	~ Advent Prayer Service, 11:00 am St. Patrick's
Tuesday 12/18	~ Advent Reconciliation Service 10:00am, St. Patrick's
Wednesday 12/19	~ Advent Reconciliation Service 6:30 pm, St. Patrick's
Friday 12/21	~ Advent Reconciliation Service, 4:00 pm, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
2019	
Sunday 1/13	~ Volunteer Appreciation Lunch
Saturday 1/26	~ Walk for Life West Coast

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday December 3 ~ Sunday December 9

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday December 2 ~ Saturday December 8

Sunday:	First Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins
Monday:	St. Francis Xavier
Tuesday:	St. John Damascene
Thursday:	St. Nicholas
Friday:	St. Ambrose; First Friday Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Saturday:	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Weekly Offerings

Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	11-18-18 Week 46 Participation 27%	11-25-18 Week 47 Participation 27%	November Totals
General Offerings			
St. Pat's	\$5,824	\$4,809	\$23,740
OLMC	\$1,149	\$1,132	\$4,794
E-giving	\$1,012	\$833	\$3,348
Total	\$7,985	\$6,774	\$31,882
LAST YEAR	\$7,424	\$6,448	\$29,836
Maintenance Offering			
St. Pat's	\$130	\$110	\$1,169
OLMC	\$55	\$0	\$214
Total	\$185	\$110	\$1,383
<i>Thanksgiving: St. Pat's \$890; OLMC \$162</i> <i>Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!</i>			

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