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 the first reading, we hear how God will gather His people, who have been scattered and separated, back together to Himself. The Prophet Jeremiah tells us, “Behold, I will bring them back from the land of the north; I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst...” God desires to save us by gathering all of us, who because of sin are the “blind and lame,” together to “shout with joy” knowing God as our Father. The Church, the mystical Body of Christ, is the way God has fulfilled this prophecy. In the Church, we are united together as God’s holy people and have the joy of being His children. We receive the help we each need to know and love God because of the grace flowing to us who are members of the Church. Without the help of His grace that comes through the Church, we are not able to see God and walk in His path of salvation. In the readings, we are also reminded God knows our weaknesses and all the obstacles to receiving His salvation. This is why Jesus becomes our Eternal High priest and offers Himself, so we can be saved. Our Lord Jesus freely took on Himself the weaknesses of our human condition to show His love for us and how, with Him, we can overcome them. The second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews tells us, “He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness.” Jesus, as our only Mediator between God and us, patiently deals with each of us in our sin. Through the gifts of the Church, Jesus provides all the help we need to be healed from the effect of sin if we choose to accept it.

In the Gospel, Jesus cures a blind man who, on hearing Jesus passing by, cries out, “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” At times, we may feel like Bartimaeus. We can feel lost and confused, not able to “see” God in our lives. We can feel like we are stuck, begging at the side of the road going nowhere. This Gospel scene encourages us to recognize our Lord is near and is calling us to come to Him even in times when we cannot see Him. The blind man was only able to know “it was Jesus of Nazareth” because of the commotion of the “sizable crowd.” We recognize Jesus’ presence through others who seek our Lord. When we are with the right group of people, with those who want to be with Jesus, we are in a place where we can encounter Him. The Church, our parish, is the “sizable crowd” gathered by God as His people. When we are with the Church, we can hear and know Jesus is near. Like the blind man, we too call out to our Lord to “have pity” on us. The prayer of Bartimaeus, his crying out, is not done when he is alone with Jesus. Rather, this blind man makes His prayer to Jesus in the middle of the crowd. But also like Bartimaeus, we can encounter obstacles when we try to meet Jesus. Some in the crowd “rebuked” the blind man for calling to Jesus. This means even people who are fellow disciples of Christ in the Church, or parish, can become an obstacle to us meeting or hearing Jesus if we let them. We continue to seek Jesus out in the crowd, unceasingly crying out to Him, even when faced with the sinful behavior or personal failings, the ignorant and erring, of other members of the Church. We need to keep crying out, even louder, like this blind man does. We need to persevere in prayer and in the practice of the Faith when obstacles from within ourselves or from others try to prevent us from calling out to Jesus. The Sunday Mass is the place where God gathers us as His people each week. In the Mass, we together cry out to God to have pity on us, on those we love, and on the whole world. When we are at Mass, we are gathered together with the Church, the entire people of God, in prayer. We then experience healing, so we are able to see God and know His goodness, power, and love. To have the healing God desires for each one of us, we persistently cry out for God’s help, which flows from the Church, despite the obstacles we will certainly encounter. We need to cry out to Him and keep crying out to Him.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, we ask God for the necessary grace to persevere in prayer, always crying out to the Lord, for the healing we need to see Him.

Update on the Parish Offertory Program
I sincerely thank all of you who took the time last weekend to complete your offertory commitment card. The commitments will begin on December 1st, 2018. To have the funding we need to fulfill our mission as parish, it is necessary that each of our families contribute. So if you have not as of yet made a commitment, I humbly ask each family to make a weekly commitment. At the Masses for the next several weeks, you will have an opportunity to complete the commitment card. Please listen for the announcements before Mass.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 10/27 &amp; Sunday 10/28 ~</td>
<td>Second Collection for World Mission Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10/28 ~</td>
<td>Knights of Columbus Breakfast Fundraiser, after all morning Masses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, $5 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(No regular Meet &amp; Greet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10/28 ~</td>
<td>RCIA Rite of Welcome and Acceptance, 11:00 am Mass, St. Patrick’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 10/28 ~</td>
<td>Youth Group Meets! 6:15 pm, Parish Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10/29 ~</td>
<td>40 Days for Life continues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11/1 ~</td>
<td>All Saints Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masses: St. Patrick’s 8:00 am and 6:30 pm;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OLMC 4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11/2 ~</td>
<td>All Souls Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masses: St. Patrick’s Church 8:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St. Patrick’s Cemetery 12:00 noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OLMC 4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 11/3 ~</td>
<td>Altar Duty: Gwen Barendregt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday &amp; Sunday 11/3-11/4 ~</td>
<td>Parish Services Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11/4 ~</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: Ministers to the Sick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**The deadline to sign-up is October 30!**

**At One with the Spirit Ministry** is pleased to announce a pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and other Holy Places and Cathedrals in and around Mexico City, including the beautiful city of Puebla, Mexico.

January 30 - February 4, 2019  
$2,199 from San Francisco  
Spiritual Director: Fr. Samuel West  
Group Coordinators: Juddy Kendall & Dolores Schlichtmann  
For more information, please visit www.pilgrimages.com/stpatrickchurch

Don’t miss this opportunity to experience the special and holy places of Mexico.

---

**November**  
**A Month of Remembrance**

Beginning with the commemoration of All Saints and All Souls, November is a month where the Church, in communion with all the saints, prays for our dearly departed.

- We will place the Book of Remembrance in the church, where you may write the names of your loved ones who have passed into eternal rest.
- We encourage you to bring photos of deceased family and friends, and place them in the windows of the Church.
- At the beginning of Mass each weekend in November, we will sing a litany of the names of our parishioners who have died in this past year. Please join us on the refrain, “We Remember.”

**All Saints, Wednesday November 1**

Masses at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm, St. Patrick’s; 4:00 pm, OLMC

**All Souls, Thursday November 2**

Masses at 8:00 am, St. Patrick’s; 12:00 noon, St. Patrick’s Cemetery; 4:00 pm OLMC

St. Patrick’s Pastoral Council is working with Fr. Sam to support the formation of a Grief Ministry, and to conduct a Healing Mass during Advent as we care for the Parish. Other continuing efforts include Spiritual Growth Opportunities to study saints, and a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe early next year. Look soon for in-depth details of these efforts and ministries on the parish website, including how you can be involved. The next Pastoral Council meeting will be December 4, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 6 of the parish hall.
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rich Abdelnour, Jr.</td>
<td>Donald C. Kellogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Bentz</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Rolene Kiesling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Biedrzycki</td>
<td>Kristine Kitamura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken &amp; Jackie Bolling</td>
<td>Joseph Murtagh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rae Ann Bozzo</td>
<td>Juan Pinela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Brown</td>
<td>Juan Pulido</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robby Combs</td>
<td>Mike Schirmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John DeHerrea</td>
<td>Connie Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vern &amp; Jo Froehlich</td>
<td>Joshua Stevenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Gookin</td>
<td>Clay Sweeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Hall</td>
<td>Mitch &amp; Trish Woods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

October is Respect Life Month

40 Days for Life
Our Final Monday is Oct 29th
Please join us!

We at St. Patrick’s Church participate in 40 Days for Life on each Monday in October, by standing on the corner of Greenley and Mono Way from 9 am to 5 pm, as we give witness to the sanctity of all human life. We pray for the protection of the unborn and their mothers, and an end to abortion. Please try to give us one hour per week. Sign-up sheets are in the Parish Office.

A Prayer Before an Election
(From the USCCB)

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to Your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear Your Word, live Your love, and keep in the ways of Your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and His Apostles and guide us to Your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Hill Top Musical Kids will be welcoming the Christmas Season to Groveland, and taking everyone to heaven with the Christian Musical Play, "CHARLIE AND THE CHERUB CHEERLEADERS!"

Performances:
Friday, November 9 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, November 10 at 2:00 pm

Where:
Groveland EV Free Church
19172 Ferretti Rd., Groveland.
No admission charge, donations gratefully accepted.
For more information, please call Louise Turney at 209-962-0609.

Spend the day in Groveland! Restaurants, shopping, then see the play!
October 28, 2018

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Tuesday 11/13** ~ Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers at St. Patrick’s
10:00 am - 12:00 noon OR 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**Saturday 11/17** ~ Presentation by Bishop Emeritus Stephen Blaire “Guided by the Holy Spirit in Times of Trouble” St. Pat’s Parish Hall 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Monday 11/19** ~ Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers at OLMC, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

**Wednesday 11/21** ~ Thanksgiving Day Vigil Mass 4:00 pm OLMC

**Thursday 11/22** ~ Thanksgiving Day Mass 9:00 am St. Patrick’s

**Saturday 12/1** ~ St. Patrick’s Christmas Fair

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

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

**Saturday 12/15** ~ Healing Mass, 11:00 am St. Pat’s

---

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

**Weekly Offerings**

| Weekly Goal | 10-14-18 | 10-21-18 | October Totals
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>To Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Offerings**

- St. Pat’s: $6,373, $5,797, $16,924
- OLMC: $1,413, $1,161, $4,681
- E-giving: $741, $463, $1,504
- Total: $8,527, $7,421, $23,109

**Last Year:** $8,177, $7,239, $23,972

**Maintenance Offerings**

- St. Pat’s: $380, $177, $917
- OLMC: $0, $15, $200
- Total: $380, $192, $1,117

*Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!*

---

**Daylight Saving Time Ends**

**Sunday November 4**

Set your clock BACK one hour!