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 this Sunday’s Gospel, we hear how our Lord Jesus changes ordinary water into wine at a wedding feast in Cana. This miracle takes place at the urgent request of His mother, who was concerned to protect a newly married couple’s reputation as good hosts.

The fact our Lord chose to perform His first public miracle at a wedding is not by accident. A wedding feast is among the most joy-filled events a person can attend on earth. So it makes sense such a joyous occasion is often used to explain what heaven, the most joyful possible experience, is like. As a woman is united to her husband in the covenant of marriage, so our Lord Jesus’ mission is to unite us to Himself. He is our Bridegroom and we, the Church, are His bride. In addition to the setting, the miracle itself, changing water into wine, is also a sign of the joy our Lord Jesus offers us. Wine in the scriptures is often an image of “joy.” Psalm 104 proclaims God brings forth wine from the earth “to gladden” the “hearts” of His faithful (Ps 104:15). Jesus tells His Apostles at the Last Supper, “I tell you, from now on I shall not drink this fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it with you new in the kingdom of my Father.” (Matt 26:29). Jesus anticipates the divine joy of His Resurrection and Ascension into heaven after the bitter sorrow of His Passion and Death. The miracle of water becoming wine at a wedding feast reveals union with Jesus is the only way to have the supernatural and superabundant joy we crave.

We learn from this miracle of the changing of water into wine that our “best” experience of joy can only happen when we “do whatever He tells us.” Hearing our Lord’s call to generously serve others, especially our brothers and sisters in need, is how we experience the joy Jesus desires for us. One of the goals for this upcoming year is to have more of our parishioners actively participate in the ministries we presently have and those we are planning. There are many ways to serve our parish community, whether it is serving at our Masses (as a greeter, usher, lector, or in the choir), serving in our ministries for the poor and sick, or helping with our Faith Formation programs. In addition, we have opportunities to serve on our Welcome and Spiritual growth teams. Please let me know if you are interested, and I would be glad to help you find the right ministry for you. Not only would you be helping your parish, but by serving we also grow in our own experience of spiritual joy.

I want to thank everyone who attended our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon last Sunday. I am grateful to each of you who helped put on this most splendid event. As usual, there was warm fellowship, great entertainment, and delicious food!

We do this event every year to show our appreciation to our many generous volunteers who serve our parish community by giving of their time, effort, and talent. May the Good Lord continue to reward their generosity and sacrifice. St. Patrick’s, along with Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mission, is so blessed to have the volunteers we have and our hope in the coming year is to increase the number of parishioners who are willing and able to serve in our many important ministries. This year, we invited our neighboring parish, All Saints in Twain Harte, to join us for our meal. I would like to thank Fr. Jeff Wilson, the pastor, and their volunteers for attending.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who always brings our needs to Her Son, let us ask the Lord to renew and strengthen our joy, especially in serving the needs of others!

*In Christ, Fr. Samuel West*

**A Message from our Bishop**

My Dear People of God,

January is a month in which we focus our prayers and concerns to uphold the sanctity and dignity of life. During this time, across our Nation annual “marches” and “walks” for life are taking place. January is a month which prompts us to offer our prayers and sacrifices for the protection of our “unborn” brothers and sisters. It is a time to pray for the graces necessary to help “form the consciences” of all Catholics, and to “bear witness” to the Lord of Life and His Gospel of Life. Under the leadership of the pastor, parishes are encouraged to offer special opportunities to help focus our attention on combating this great evil of abortion and the “culture of death” which has gone on too long in our country and throughout the world. Let us offer prayers for this intention, rosaries, Divine Mercy Devotion, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hours, novenas, prayer time near abortion clinics, participation in the walks and marches for life, etc., all in reparation for the sin of the killing of innocent life within the womb - a travesty!

Let us pray for repentance and the conversion of women and men who have experienced, or have contributed to the act of an abortion. We pray for those who are in need of healing from the haunting consequences of this act. For them, we pray for forgiveness, and wholeness of peace of mind and heart.

“For the sake of his Sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!” Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States, pray for us.

In the Peace of Christ,

Bishop Myron J. Cotta
**This Week in our Parish**

| Sunday 1/20 ~ | Meet & Greet: Religious Ed & Teens |
| Monday 1/21 ~ | Parish Office Closed |
| Tuesday 1/22 ~ | Church Office Closed |
| Wednesday 1/23 ~ | Religious Ed: First Reconciliation |
| Thursday 1/24 ~ | Bible Study OLMC, 4:00 - 5:30 pm |
| Friday 1/25 ~ | Benefit Concert for Matthew 25 |
| Saturday 1/26 ~ | Walk for Life West Coast |
| Saturday 1/26 ~ | Altar Duty: Louise Goicoechea |
| Saturday 1/26 & Sunday 1/27 ~ | Second Collection for The Church in Latin America |
| Sunday 1/27 ~ | Meet & Greet: Knights of Columbus |
| Sunday 1/27 ~ | Youth Group, 6:30 pm Steinmetz |

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**Benefits Concert for St. Patrick’s Matthew 25**

Forrest Marion, parishioner at All Saints in Twain Harte and a senior at Summerville High School, has chosen to present a benefit concert for his Senior Project. All monies raised will go to St. Patrick’s Matthew 25 program.

Friday, January 25th
Silent Auction, Dinner, and Entertainment
6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Silent Auction begins 5:30 pm
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Tickets: $25 pre-sale, $30 at the door
Dinner Menu: Lemon Chicken, Caesar Salad, Green Beans with Pearl Onions, Scalloped Potatoes

Tickets available at:
St. Patrick’s Parish Office in Sonora ~ 209-532-7139
All Saints Parish Office in Twain Harte ~ 209-586-3161
Featured performer: Forrest Marion, vocalist
Guest performers: Jazz@8 vocal group, pianist Robert Combs, flutist Sandra Betti

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**Ordinary Time**

*Extraordinary God*

**Congratulations**
Gerard and Margaret
Hilgersom!
60th Wedding Anniversary
Married in Holland on January 14, 1959
“Love is the beauty of the soul”
(St. Augustine)

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**Share Your Faith**

The annual Collection for the Church in Latin America will be taken up the weekend of January 26-27, 2019. For more than 50 years, the collection has been a sign of solidarity between Catholics of the United States and those in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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**The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Religious Ed**
First Confession
Wednesday, January 23rd
6:30 pm
We will have Adoration in the church as usual for everyone. Reconciliation that evening is for the children receiving the Sacrament.
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
Jackie Bolling
Jan Buck
Vern & Jo Froehlich
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
A. J. Holmes
Donald C. Kellogg
Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Kristine Kitamura
Lois Marzocchi
Judi Maguire
Cindy Merritt
Joseph Murtagh
Bob Nath
Juan Pinela
Juan Pulido
Gary Pizl
Mike Schirmer
Clay Sweeney
Judy & Kerry Wilder
Mitch & Trish Woods

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

All Teens and parents of Teens:
Our Youth Group meets every Sunday at 6:30 pm 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.

We will meet this Sunday, January 20th!

World Youth Day 2019
Panama City, Panama

Our group going on the pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City will take your prayers with them, and offer them at the Basilica. Please write your prayers on a piece of paper, and you can either fold the paper in half and seal it with tape, or put it in a small, sealed envelope. Look for the wooden box marked “Prayers for Our Lady of Guadalupe” after Masses on January 26th - 27th, and put your prayers in the box. The group leaves for Mexico on January 30th.

Respect Life News
Walk for Life West Coast
Saturday, January 26

For those of you who have registered for the bus, it will pick us up at 8:30 am in the lower Save Mart parking lot on January 26th, and we will arrive in San Francisco at 12:30. After the Walk, the bus will first go to St. Patrick’s in Angels Camp, arriving there at 7:00, and then will return us to the lower Save Mart parking lot in Sonora at 8:00 pm. Please bring a bag lunch and snacks to share. Water will be provided.

Please consider joining the 50,000 Christians at this powerful event, as we all stand up for the most vulnerable and for the mothers who carry these precious lives. Together, we will give a voice to those who have no voice.

For more info, please call Joan Madsen at 533-3429.

January 26, 2019

“You formed my inmost being; You knit me in my mother’s womb. I praise You, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works! My very self You know. (Psalm 139:13-14)

Despite the shorter timespan to participate this year, many families were able to put a gift under the tree and a Christmas meal on their table. I am amazed each year at how generous our St. Patrick’s Parish is. Thanks to you, many of our homeless will be dry with a new tent and warm in a new sleeping bag and have a nice sweet treat to eat. Our teens are very excited that we don’t forget them. They appreciate the gift cards for the movies, school supplies, a fast food treat and other items. You are all so generous to our Interfaith “Giving Tree” project. And, do not forget, the greatest gift you can give is that of your time. Volunteers are always needed to accomplish what is done in the Interfaith program. Just 3 hours one day a week and you will be blessed tenfold. Give me a call at 532-5033, or email at lu@mlode.com. Thank you again and may the Lord be with you.

Laurel Utecht
Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date

Saturday January 19 ~ Sunday January 27
Saturday 5:00 pm Cindy Merritt (Healing)
Sunday 7:30 am Ed Soares  Katerina Lilly Bottom  Deceased members of the YLI  Cynthia Schlosser  Cora Quintana  Rochelle Rainey
9:00 am Deceased members of the YLI  Cynthia Schlosser
11:00 am Ed Soares  Katerina Lilly Bottom
5:00 pm Lizbeth Gutierrez  Alicia Sanchez

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

Monday 8:00 am Mary Barba  Diego Gamboa (Happy Birthday!)  Bob Julian  Lizbeth Gutierrez  Michael Galvin
Tuesday 8:00 am Victor Espinosa  Cora Quintana (Healing)  Cindy Merritt (Healing)  Bob Julian  Lizbeth Gutierrez  Michael Galvin
Wednesday 8:00 am Marnie Banks  Victor Espinosa  Cindy Merritt (Healing)
Thursday 8:00 am Catherine Stevenson  Larry Bouchard
Friday 8:00 am Ramona Tamaresis
Saturday 5:00 pm Hal Channey  Ramona Tamaresis
Sunday 7:30 am Ed and Mamie Soares  Irene May  Margaret Calcaterra  Marnie Banks
9:00 am Ed and Mamie Soares  Irene May
11:00 am Margaret Calcaterra  Marnie Banks  Adolfo Negrete
5:00 pm Lizbeth Gutierrez  Alicia Sanchez

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday January 20 ~ Sunday January 27
Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Agnes; Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; World Youth Day
Wednesday: St. Vincent; St. Marianne cope
Thursday: St. Francis de Sales
Friday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends
Saturday: St. Timothy and St. Titus

Weekly Offerings

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Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!