

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
Katie McClintock,
Youth Ministry Leader
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 4

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Sonora, California

The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

January 28, 2018

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Come,
let us
sing
joyfully
to the
Lord*

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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

We Have our Next Bishop

We had some really big news for our Diocese this past week. On January 23rd, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, appointed Bishop Myron Cotta to succeed Bishop Stephen Blaire who submitted his resignation when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 75 on December 22, 2016. Bishop Cotta was born of Portuguese heritage in the Merced County community of Dos Palos on March 21, 1953. As a native son of the Central Valley, he knows the area very well and is well known for his pastoral leadership. He has served as Vicar General in the Diocese of Fresno where he was a priest and most recently served as Auxiliary Bishop in the Diocese of Sacramento.

We are grateful to Almighty God for the appointment of the Most Reverend Myron Cotta as our next Bishop of the Diocese of Stockton. Bishop Cotta will be installed as the sixth bishop of the Diocese on Thursday, March 15, 2018. Until that date, Bishop Blaire will serve as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese. On behalf of St. Patrick's parish, I extend a most warm welcome to Bishop Cotta. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us offer our prayers for his success as our new Bishop.

Reflection on this week's Gospel

The Gospel for this 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time confirms our Lord Jesus' Divine authority over the forces of evil. To the astonishment of people in a synagogue in Capernaum, Jesus displays His Divine power in the healing of a man possessed by an "unclean spirit." They say, "*He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.*" There are some scripture scholars and theologians who say references to an "unclean spirit" could be interpreted as a person suffering from some form of a mental illness or other unknown disease at the time, like epilepsy. Since in the days of Jesus' earthly ministry people did not have the science we have today, they could not have known the real, physical cause of certain symptoms like convulsions. So they assumed having these unexplained, mysterious symptoms showed a person was possessed by a supernatural entity or spirit. It is possible to mistakenly attribute physical phenomena, things we observe and experience, with having a direct supernatural cause rather than its actual natural cause. If we were only told what happened in this encounter in Capernaum, the man "convulsing," and did not hear what was said, then perhaps one could make an argument this is a physical healing that was "mistaken" for an exorcism. But because the Evangelist Mark also chose to include in his account what the possessed man said to Jesus – "*What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?*" we see there is something certainly more than physical and natural causes to his bizarre behavior.

Coherent and intelligent statements are made by the possessed man concerning Jesus. He is able to identify Jesus as "*the Holy One of God!*" Only by some sort of awareness of the supernatural would this ever be possible. To appreciate the significance of what Jesus does in this Gospel scene, we need to acknowledge the reality of supernatural, intelligent spirits, which we call demons, active in our physical world. These "unclean spirits" have one objective and that is to destroy the Divine Life we have already received. As our Lord says many times, "Fear Not!" We are assured our Lord Jesus, "*the Holy One of God,*" has come with a "*new teaching with authority*" to deliver us from the power of these supernatural creatures. Our Lord's "*teaching with authority*" on display in that synagogue over 2,000 year ago is preserved, guarded, and handed on to us in the teachings of the Church. To insure our protection and freedom from these real evil spirits, which are "prowling seeking the ruin of souls," we need to remain faithful to Our Lord's teaching by adhering to all that the Church teaches. We also need to stay close to Him in the Sacraments.

Bishop's Ministry Appeal

As we begin our annual Bishop's Ministry Appeal (BMA) campaign, I humbly remind all of you of the importance of fulfilling our responsibility to help support our new Bishop, now Bishop Cotta, in his important role of preserving, guarding, and teaching the Catholic Faith. The Bishop shares, in a unique way, in the Divine teaching office of our Lord Jesus Christ. This means, when teaching on matters of Faith and Morals, in union with the Holy Father and all the Bishops, and in conformity with Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, a Bishop "*teaches with authority.*" So we are assured he teaches with the authority of Jesus. Our contributions to the BMA support the Bishop to be able to continue to faithfully carry out this solemn duty of teaching the Faith.

According to the final report from the 2017 Bishop's Ministry Appeal, we only had 20% of our families participate. With your generosity, I am hopeful we can do much better. I am encouraging all of our families to give at least some amount so we increase our participation rate. Contributing to the Bishop's Ministry Appeal is how we do our part to support the Church's mission to teach with authority and, with Christ's teaching, to drive out evil in the world. Our money given to the Bishop's Ministry Appeal does benefit our parish by providing the funds needed to prepare our future priests, deacons, and lay leaders.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us pray for the grace to overcome any evil, through Her Son's Divine authority. God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West

This Week in our Parish

Sun 1/28 ~ Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
After the 11:00 am Mass

Wed 1/31 ~ Teens! Steinmetz House 6:30 pm

Fri 2/2 ~ Candlemas (The Presentation of the Lord)
Please bring your candles from home to be
blessed during the 8:00 am Daily Mass.

Sat 2/3 ~ Feast of St. Blaise. We will have a special
Blessing of the Throats during 5:00 pm
Mass at both OLMC and St. Patrick's.

Sat 2/3 ~ Altar Duty: Laurel Utecht

Sat 2/3 and Sun 2/4 ~ Parish Services Collection

Sun 2/4 ~ Meet & Greet hosted by the Ministers to
the Sick



INTO YOUR HANDS, O LORD,
we commend the soul of
Darlene Lehman

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



Lenten
Soup Suppers Stations of the Cross and Soup
Suppers will begin on February 16,
and continue every Friday evening
in Lent.

This wonderful tradition and beautiful time of fellowship
in Christ does not happen without volunteers. We need
your help! There will be sign up sheets in the Parish Hall
during Meet & Greet after Mass, or in the Parish Office
during the week.

Please call Linda Knapp @ 925-231-5849, for more
information.

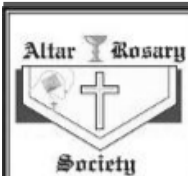


Eucharistic Adoration

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"

This Friday, February 2

An additional opportunity to spend time with
our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament has begun on
the First Friday of each month. Exposition begins after
the 8:00 am Mass, and will continue until 5:00 pm.



St. Patrick's Altar Society will have
their first meeting of the New Year on
Monday, February 5. There will be a
Potluck Luncheon starting at 11:30 am
in the Parish Hall. Please bring your

favorite dish to share. We will have a short installation
of officers for 2018, followed by a guest speaker.

All new members are WELCOME!

Please bring your blessed palms from Palm Sunday
last year to Mass next weekend. There will be a
large basket at the back of both churches (OLMC
and St. Patrick's) for the palms. We will burn the
palms on Tuesday February 13th, and the ashes will
be used for Ash Wednesday on February 14th.



Married Couples: Open your heart this
Valentine's Day and let your Spouse in!

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will
give you that chance. It is the greatest gift you can
give one another - the time and tools to revitalize
romance, deepen communication, and nourish the
spirituality in your marriage. Upcoming weekend is
February 16-18, 2018 in Lodi. For more information,
please visit our website at:

<https://www.stocktonwwme.org>
or call 209-691-0603.

We are in need of Ushers at St. Patrick's!

Duties include:

- † Warm, friendly greeting to everyone entering the
church before Mass.
- † Handing out worship aids, and helping people find
seats.
- † Assist in taking up the collection during the
Offertory.
- † Handing out bulletins after Mass.

If you feel a calling to assist with the greatest prayer we
can offer to Christ Jesus - the sacrifice
of the Mass - then please call the
Parish Office and leave your name and
number.

Thank You!



WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

Tete Arellano	A. J. Holmes
Ruben Bacci	Fred Kahl
Catherine Bentz	Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Al Biedrzycki	Lois Marzocchi
Cardiff Family	Joan Montesano
Joe Gamboa	Joseph Perez
Mitch & Patti Gerner	Juan Pulido
Bill Gookin	Mike Schirmer
Joan Holland	Clay Sweeney

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

Please Note: During this unusually severe flu season, the Diocese of Stockton has recommended that we do not shake hands during the Sign of Peace, nor hold hands when praying the Our Father. Additionally, we will not be distributing the Precious Blood during Communion. Once the flu season begins to pass we will again distribute Communion under both species.



Ministry Day

March 3, 2018 ~ 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
St. Mary's High School
5648 N. El Dorado St., Stockton

Ministry Day is the Annual Adult Faith Formation Conference of the Diocese of Stockton.

The Conference provides:

- † A professional development opportunity for all parish ministers
- † A day of spiritual enrichment and growth in faith for all Catholics
- † An occasion to affirm our commitment to carry out the mission of the Church
- † A Sabbath moment in time to re-connect with God and with one another
- † A day to bear witness to our faith and Catholic identity
- † An occasion to gather as a diocese around our Bishop as co-workers in the vineyard and disciples of Christ

For conference details and to download a registration form, go to <http://stocktondiocese.org/diocesan-departments/religious-education/diocesan-ministry-day>. Contact Kathy Casas @ 770-5987 for more information.

Father Sam's Installation ~ January 14, 2018



Fr. Samuel West, Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish



Fr. Joseph Lawrence, Parochial Vicar of St. Patrick's Parish, and Monsignor John Armistead

Blessing of the food at the Reception following the Installation



Fr. Sam with his family, and some of the cooks who prepared our delicious meal!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday January 27 ~ Sunday February 4

Saturday 5:00 pm Lawrence Rodrigues, *Healing*

Sunday 7:30 am All Parishioners

9:00 am Pauline Ahrendsen †

Josefina Andrada †

11:00 am Gail Andrus

Laurel Utecht

5:00 pm Maria De La Luz Guillen †

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

Monday 8:00 am Merlynne Verceles,
Happy Birthday!

Tuesday 8:00 am Arlene Mastrimico †

Wednesday 8:00 am Aaron & Janine Latone, *Healing*

Thursday 8:00 am *No Intentions*

Friday 8:00 am Debra Conner

Saturday 5:00 pm Raul Gamboa †
Josefina Andrada †

Sunday 7:30 am All Parishioners
Jaime Rodrigues †
9:00 am Robert DeCristofari †
Josephine Esparza †
Mitch & Patti Gerner, *58th
Wedding Anniversary*

11:00 am Roommie Romero

Aurora Andre †

5:00 pm Lupe Diaz †

Maria De La Luz Guillen †

Weekly Offerings

Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	1-14-18 Week 2	1-21-18 Week 3	Jan Totals to Date
General Offerings			
St. Pat's	\$7,042	\$4,822	\$18,224
OLMC	\$904	\$1,012	\$3,354
E-giving	\$738	\$430	\$1,818
Total	\$8,684	\$6,264	\$23,396
LAST YEAR	\$7,029	\$6,895	\$21,718
Maintenance Offerings			
St. Pat's	\$424	\$10	\$961
OLMC	\$30	\$0	\$30
Total	\$474	\$10	\$991
Church in Latin America: St. Pat's \$514 OLMC \$118 Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!			

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday January 29 ~ Sunday February 4

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30 -- 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7;
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 -- 19:3;
Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12;
Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18;
Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6;
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday January 28 ~ February 3

Sunday: The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday: St. John Bosco

Friday: The Presentation of the Lord;
First Friday

Saturday: St. Blaise, Blessing of the Throats;
St. Ansgar; First Saturday;
Blessed Virgin Mary

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date

Monday 2/5 ~ Altar and Rosary Society Pot Luck Luncheon & Meeting, 11:30 am Parish Hall

Wednesday 2/7 ~ Meeting for all Ministers of the Sick, 11:00 am Parish Hall

Saturday 2/10 ~ Special Mass to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the YLI, 10:30 am St. Patrick's

Wednesday 2/14 ~ Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins

Saturday 3/3 ~ Diocese of Stockton Ministry Day
St. Mary's High School, Stockton

Thursday 3/22 ~ Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton

Thursday 3/29 ~ Holy Thursday

Friday 3/30 ~ Good Friday

Saturday 3/31 ~ Easter Vigil

Sunday 4/1 ~ Easter Sunday

Wednesday 4/18 ~ Confirmation, 6:00 pm Mass

Triduum



For regularly scheduled meetings, please check the Master Calendar at www.stpatssonora.org. If you have calendar requests or need to make changes to your current calendared items, please email ron@stpatssonora.org.

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