St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News
... in Our Parish

SEPTMBER 8, 2019

Anyone of you who does not renounce all your possessions cannot be my disciple.
Luke 14:33

“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

Volume 8, Number 36
In this week’s Gospel, our Lord Jesus says something puzzling, almost shocking. He tells us, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” With this shocking statement, our Lord is challenging us to consider what it really means to be His disciple. Jesus is posing the question of how much we are willing to sacrifice to remain faithful to Him, to show our love for Him, and to be His disciple.

Our Lord makes this alarming statement because He knows we will, at some point, have to make a moral choice between remaining faithful to our Lord Jesus and His teaching or supporting the sinful decision and actions of those who are close to us, even possibly having to face choosing Him over parents and children. Because Jesus is God, we are to love Him “above all things.” Our love of God is shown by remaining faithful to Him and keeping His commandments in all circumstances, even when our fidelity to Jesus could result in the loss of a human relationship, including the relationship with someone in our own family.

Having to choose Jesus over family and friends can occur in so many ways. For example, a young man in his mid-20s could ask his parents to accept and support his decision to move in with his long-time girlfriend, living with her as “husband and wife” outside of the Sacrament of Marriage. The man’s sinful decision puts his Catholic parents in a difficult position of having to choose between supporting their son or remaining faithful to Christ and their vocation as parents. If they are to live as Christ’s disciples, then the parents would not approve of or provide any support for their son’s decision to live a sinful lifestyle. But if they don’t support their son, then it could result in their relationship with him being seriously strained. The son may even retaliate by not talking to his parents. Another example could be an elderly woman who is terminally ill and has lost the will to go on living, begging her children to help her deliberately end her own life. Because it is “legal,” she wants her children to find out what it takes to obtain the pills to commit suicide. If the children decide to help her in any way to proceed down the tragic path of physician-assisted suicide, then they would not be faithful to Jesus and His commandments. Rather, they should try to get their mother real help to make her last days on earth as comfortable as possible, helping her prepare for a holy death and heaven. But again, if they don’t help get the deadly pills she is asking for, they risk alienating and upsetting their sick mother in her dying days.

Jesus says, “Whoever does not take up his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.” We take up our cross and follow Jesus, showing we are truly His disciples, when we choose to do what the Church teaches even when it will result in conflict with our family members. In difficult moral choices, we are called to make a real act of self-giving love, to love as God loves, and sacrifice for the good and salvation of the other. We know from Divine Revelation that God is Love, which means He is the source of all authentic love, including love between spouses and the love shared between parents and children. If we attempt to love another human person without loving God, then we cannot love as God loves. Jesus commands us in the Gospel of John to love as He loves. He says, “I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another” (John 13:34). But can we still love another person as God commands while, at the same time, not condoning and supporting their sinful behavior? Yes, of course we can because this is how God loves us. He loves us yet we still sin, choosing not to respond to His love by disobeying His commandments. St. Paul in His letter to the Romans writes, “But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us” (Rom 8:5). God never condones or supports our sinful behavior. But God loves us without condition and is always ready to forgive us and provide the help we need to return on the path of Salvation. So this is how then we would handle a wayward son, daughter, or parent. Love them without condition, but do not condone or support sinful behavior or lifestyle. Be ready to forgive them and help them to live in conformity to Christ’s teaching, helping them return to Jesus.

Today, as we also commemorate the birthday of our Blessed Mother, September 8th, let us ask for her motherly protection and guidance to always, even in the most difficult moral choices, remain faithful to her Divine Son and truly be His disciple.
### This Week in our Parish

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 9/7 &amp; Sunday 9/8</td>
<td>Parish Services Collection and Second Collection, Catholic University of America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9/9</td>
<td>Altar &amp; Rosary Society Luncheon 11:30 am, Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 9/9</td>
<td>6:30 pm Encounter, St. Patrick’s Adoration, Worship &amp; Praise Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9/11</td>
<td>6:30 pm Adoration &amp; Reconciliation, St. Patrick’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9/11</td>
<td>Religious Study, 4:00 - 5:30pm OLMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 9/14 &amp; Sunday 9/15</td>
<td>Mission Appeal, Archdiocese of Ozamis, Philippines</td>
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</table>

### Altar & Rosary Society Luncheon

**Monday, September 9th**

11:30 am  
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall

**Potluck:** Please bring your favorite salad to share.

New members are welcome to attend!

Please call President Marge Nath for more information.
209-532-2229

### Religious Education at St. Patrick’s

**Religious Education classes will begin**

**Wednesday, September 11th**

6:30 pm  
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall

This opening night session is for Registration and to meet your teacher. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office, and will be available opening night.

Please contact Kathy Casas for more information:
(209)770-5987

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

† RCIA is the pathway by which adults wishing to become Catholic are brought into the Church.

† If you have been previously baptized Catholic, but wish to complete your Sacraments of Initiation, this is the place for you.

† Learn more about the Catholic Faith during the RCIA Inquiry period, which continues this Tuesday, September 10th. The sessions are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall, Room 1.

For more information, please contact
Linda Knapp:
925-231-5849

### Mission Appeal, September 14-15

The Archdiocese of Ozamis, Philippines, through the Mission Co-operative program with the Diocese of Stockton, is sending Fr. Marvin Osmeña to our Parish as their speaker representative. He will be at St. Patrick’s Parish on September 14-15. Please extend a warm welcome to Fr. Osmeña!
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

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

Jackie Boling  Bill Kiesling
Jalen Bozzo  Kristine Kitamura
Mary Brown  Lois Marzocchi
Matt & Kim Cushman  Rebecca & Joe Nichols
Anna Davidson  Angela Pinocchio
Deacon John Froehlich  Juan Pulido
Ed Hall  Clay Sweeney
Eileen Hogan  Dan Ward
A. J. Holmes  Mitch & Trish Woods
Jeanne Kiely

To add or remove a name from this list, please contact the Parish Office at 209-532-7139.

YLI Patricia #79
Baked Potato Bar Luncheon/Bunco Games!
Saturday, Sept 21
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall
Doors open at 11:30 am
All Adults welcome!
$15 per person

Advance tickets or reservations suggested
For more information, call Vicki @ 532-6010
Bunco prizes ~ Drawing ~ Good food ~ Lots of fun!

Cinnamon Sundays at OLMC

This month Cinnamon Sunday will be held on Sept 22, so we can give Fr. Sam our best wishes and gratitude as he begins a new adventure! All are invited to come to Our Lady’s House after the 9:00 am Mass.

Mary’s Garden

It is a Catholic tradition to acknowledge and honor the unselfish and holy life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, particularly in the month of May. In the Middle Ages, missionaries and travelers spread stories across Europe about flowers named after Mary and various times of her life. “Mary’s Gardens” that featured these flowers became popular there, and later the tradition made its way to America. Our YLI planted a garden in 2001 on the west side of the Steinmetz House. It has recently been replanted and can be visited at any time. There are two benches where one can pray or contemplate. Please use the stepping stones so as not to crush the flowers. Even during these hot summer months, the garden is a lovely, cool and shady spot to spend some time in prayer and reflection.
The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**
- **Monday 9/9** ~ Altar & Rosary Society Luncheon
  11:30 am Parish Hall
- **Friday 9/13 - Sunday 9/15** ~ Catholic Men’s Fellowship Retreat
- **Saturday 9/14 & Sunday 9/15** ~ Mission Appeal, Archdiocese of Ozamis, Philippines
- **Sunday 9/15** ~ Reception & potluck for Fr. Sam after the 5:00 pm Spanish Mass
- **Saturday 9/21** ~ YLI Bunco and Luncheon, 11:30 am
- **Sunday 9/22** ~ Catholic Charities Sunday
- **Saturday 9/28** ~ St. Patrick’s Ice Cream Social
- **Sunday 10/6** ~ Respect Life Sunday
- **Saturday 10/12** ~ Jason Jeffrey, organist at the Cathedral of the Annunciation, will perform a short organ recital at St. Patrick’s Church at 3:00 pm, as part of the Sonora Bach Festival.
- **Friday 11/1** ~ All Saints Day
- **Saturday 11/2** ~ All Souls Day

**Mass Intention for the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday  September 7 ~ Sunday September 15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong> 5:00 pm Adolfo Negrete ()*</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Kahl ()*</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong> 7:30 am Alfredo &amp; Gasima Balinggan ()*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lorenzo Mallare ()*</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am The Stevenson Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eldon O’Brien ()*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am Barbara Rose ()*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave &amp; Kary Hubbard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm Alicia Sanchez ()*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolfo Negrete ()*</td>
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We say the Rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 8:00 am</th>
<th>Tete Arellano</th>
<th>Gijsbert &amp; Margaret Spilt</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 8:00 am</td>
<td>Erlinda Verceles  (<em>Healing</em>)</td>
<td>Ps 145:1-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 8:00 am</td>
<td>All Victims of Terrorism</td>
<td>Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 8:00 am</td>
<td>Erlinda Verceles  (<em>Healing</em>)</td>
<td>Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 8:00 am</td>
<td>No Intentions</td>
<td>Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 5:00 pm</td>
<td>No Intentions</td>
<td>Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 7:30 am</td>
<td>Alice Clisham</td>
<td>Irene Bryant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Deceased members of the YLI</td>
<td>Gijsbert &amp; Margaret Spilt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Walter Kolander</td>
<td>Lupe Diaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Alicia Sanchez</td>
<td>Lupe Diaz</td>
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</tbody>
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**Readings for the Week**

**Monday September 9 ~ Sunday September 15**

**Monday:** Col 1:24–2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
**Tuesday:** Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19
**Wednesday:** Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26
**Thursday:** Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38
**Friday:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42
**Saturday:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
**Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

**Saints and Special Observances**

**Sunday September 8 ~ Saturday September 14**

**Sunday:** Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents’ Day
**Monday:** St. Peter Claver
**Wednesday:** Patriot Day
**Thursday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary
**Friday:** St. John Chrysostom
**Saturday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**Weekly Offerings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal $10,000</th>
<th>8-25-19 Participation 23%</th>
<th>August Totals</th>
<th>9-1-19 Week 35 Participation 28%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Offerings</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$3,935</td>
<td>$25,292</td>
<td>$7,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$1,240</td>
<td>$5,411</td>
<td>$1,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-giving</td>
<td>$813</td>
<td>$3,392</td>
<td>$610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$5,988</td>
<td>$34,092</td>
<td>$9,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAST YEAR</td>
<td>$6,057</td>
<td>$27,865</td>
<td>$7,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance Offering</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$1,161</td>
<td>$630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$223</td>
<td>$130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$1,384</td>
<td>$760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!