

## 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. Yesobu Banka,  
Parish Administrator  
Fr. Joseph Lawrence O.C.D.,  
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"

## Contact Us

**Office:** 116 W. Bradford St.,  
Sonora, California 95370  
**Hours:** Mon-Thurs: 8:30-4:00  
**Fridays:** Closed  
**Phone:** 209-532-7139  
**FAX:** 209-817-8879  
**Web:** [www.StPatsSonora.org](http://www.StPatsSonora.org)  
**Email:** [StPats@StPatsSonora.org](mailto:StPats@StPatsSonora.org)  
**Bulletin:** [GoodNews@StPatsSonora.org](mailto:GoodNews@StPatsSonora.org)  
**Parish Services:**  
Sonora: 209-532-7139 Ext. 107  
Big Oak Flat: 209-532-7139 Ext. 111

Volume 8, Number 50

## St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Sonora, California

# The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

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## Sunday

of

# Advent

The desert and the  
parched land will exult;  
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.  
They will bloom with  
abundant flowers,  
and rejoice with joyful song.

Isaiah 35:1-2

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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

**December 15, 2019**

***"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.

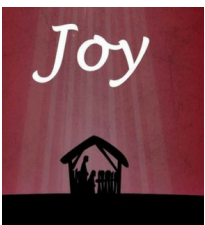
If you would like more information about our parish, please visit our website at [www.StPatsSonora.org](http://www.StPatsSonora.org). If you are new to the area, we encourage you to request a new member packet. I would like to meet all of you. I am available for appointments. Please call me at (209) 532-7139 ext. 112 or email [frbanka@stpatssonora.org](mailto:frbanka@stpatssonora.org). God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Yesobu Banka, Parish Administrator



## Father Banka's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,  
The common theme running through the readings this weekend is one of joy, waiting and encouragement. We receive the invitation to "Rejoice." This is what we are to do by realizing the presence of Christ in our midst and by receiving Him into our lives through our repentance, renewal of life and by doing God's will. This Sunday is called "Gaudete" Sunday because this weekend's Mass begins with the opening antiphon, "*Gaudete in Domino Semper,*" which means "Rejoice in the Lord always." Our joy is marked this Third Sunday of Advent



by lighting the rose candle as our anticipated joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus is coming closer. In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah encourages the exiled Jews to "Be strong, fear not!" Their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely

to their homeland. The Apostle James tells the first Christian people to "Be patient...make your hearts firm." As the farmer waits for the ground to yield its fruit, so too they must be patient waiting for the second coming of Christ. These two readings address the Jewish people awaiting the first coming of Jesus and the new Christians awaiting the second coming of Jesus. We identify with their longing as we too long for Jesus to become present, to be re-born into our hearts and lives.

The Gospel also is a message of rejoicing. At first there is the questioning by John if Jesus is "the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" We can identify with John because we too sometimes have doubts of faith. Jesus tells the disciples of John to "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised....." Jesus is telling John and the others to REJOICE by accepting the healing and preaching ministry of Jesus to be the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah. As Jesus commands the disciples to "Go and tell...," He also is telling us to rejoice that we share in God's bountiful love and grace and mercy, and we must share with others our experience of the rebirth of Jesus within us. So let us plan to follow John to share our blessings in this wonderful time of Christmas to restore the Joy of Christ in our lives.

**BLESSING OF DOORS UPDATE:** The blessing of the new doors was scheduled for Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 am Mass. This has been cancelled and will be rescheduled as more preparation is needed to ready the doors for blessing and our celebration. Stay tuned and we will keep you posted as to the new celebration date.

**SOCCER FUN:** Great weather and sunshine helped a small group of us to enjoy a fun and lively game of soccer on the high school field last Sunday. I had a fabulous time and am hoping to schedule another event for our youth to get together in joyful activity.

Thank you!

In the Merciful Christ,

Fr. Banka





DECEMBER 15, 2019

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# This Week in our Parish

**Saturday 12/14 & Sunday 12/15** ~ Second Collection  
Retirement Fund for Religious

**Tuesday 12/17** ~ Mass at Skyline, 10:00 am

**Tuesday 12/17** ~ Parish Council Meeting  
6:30 pm, Parish Hall Rm. 6

**Friday 12/20** ~ Encounter: Adoration, Worship & Praise  
6:30 - 7:30 pm, St. Patrick's



## Advent Blessing of the Home

In preparation for the Advent season, Fr. Banka and Fr. Joseph would like to extend to our parishioners an opportunity to have a Blessing of the Home. They encourage you to invite your family and friends to this Blessing, as you gather together to say prayers, sing songs, and hear reflections on Advent.

Please call the Parish Office to set up a time, and either one of our Priests or our Deacon will come to your home for the Blessing.

### St. Patrick's Catholic Parish 2019 Christmas Season Mass Schedule

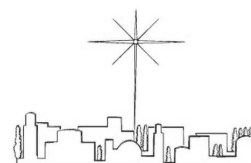
**St. Patrick's ~ 127 Jackson St. ~ Sonora**  
Christmas Eve ~ Family Mass ~ 5 p.m. in Parish Hall  
Mass at Midnight preceded by  
Musical Prelude at 11 p.m.  
Christmas Day ~ 10 a.m.  
New Year's Eve ~ Adoration at 11 p.m.,  
Mass at Midnight  
New Year's Day ~ 9 a.m.

**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel ~  
11700 Catholic Cemetery Road ~ Big Oak Flat**  
Christmas Eve ~ 4 p.m.  
Christmas Day ~ 9 a.m.  
New Year's Day ~ 9 a.m.

**St. Anne's ~ 22518 Church Lane ~ Columbia**  
Christmas Day ~ 12 noon

*For unto us, a Child is given . . .  
(Isaiah 9:5)*

Here are some ways for YOU to give during this joyous season!



### 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.



### ST. PATRICK'S PARISH CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

is on the wall in the Church vestibule and ready for you to give a Christmas gift wrapped in joy and filled with love. This year we partner with the Foothill Pregnancy Center to help the children of those in need. Please stop by the Giving Tree after Mass and choose your ornament tag. Purchase your gift and return it to the Parish Office with the ornament tag attached. Do not wrap the gift.

Your love will help many infants, siblings, and parents. Imagine the face of a child receiving an unexpected gift this Christmas, or parents receiving some badly needed necessities for their newborn. You can make that happen.

If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 209-532-7139.

God bless you for your help in this Advent season!



As we enter the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas, let us remember those less fortunate, especially as the weather grows colder. The St. Patrick's Food Pantry is in need of donations. Any contribution of food is welcome, but what the Pantry needs most right now is: **pasta, pasta sauce, soups** (canned or packaged), **jelly/jam** (small jars), and boxed dinners such as **Rice-A-Roni, Mac & Cheese**. You can put the items in the large basket inside the Church during Mass, drop them off in the Parish Office, or call Sandy Tannhauser @ 532-3899.

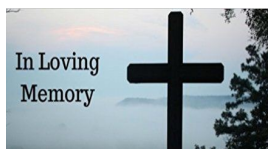
## WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

<b>Jackie Boling</b>	<b>Ashlie Lotz</b>
<b>RaeAnn Bozzo</b>	<b>Lois Marzocchi</b>
<b>Anna Davidson</b>	<b>Rosie Napier</b>
<b>Aldo Diaz</b>	<b>Lee O'Shaughnessy</b>
<b>Pat Fernandez</b>	<b>Jan Opie</b>
<b>Claudia Day Fossum</b>	<b>Gloria &amp; Nuncy Patania</b>
<b>Diane Goodspeed</b>	<b>Chuck &amp; Pat Pesha</b>
<b>Ed Hall</b>	<b>Juan Pulido</b>
<b>Eileen Hogan</b>	<b>Mary Russell</b>
<b>A. J. Holmes</b>	<b>Connie Scott</b>
<b>Jeanne Kiely</b>	<b>Clay Sweeney</b>
<b>Rosemarie Lapan</b>	<b>Dan Ward</b>

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



INTO YOUR HANDS,  
O LORD,  
we commend the soul of  
**Francis Jean**

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



St. Patrick's Parish invites you to  
an  
**Open House  
at the Rectory**

Come celebrate the joy of Christmas with our Priests as  
they joyfully open their home  
to you and your fellow Parishioners

**Friday December 20th  
1:00 to 5:00 pm**

Rectory is located east of St. Patrick's Catholic Church  
127 W. Jackson St., Sonora



## **Movie Night at OLMC**

**When:** 2nd and 4th Mondays @ 6:30 PM

**Where:** OLMC Parish House Great Room

**Why:** To get together with friends and family  
to share a movie.

**Cost:** No cost but you may occasionally bring a  
"movie treat."

**Types of Movies:** spiritual, inspirational, religious  
documentaries, moving or just "feel good" movies.  
Movie title will be sent out before the movie date.  
Movies shown previously include "God's Not Dead," "The  
Shack," "On Golden Pond," "Megan Leavey," "An  
Interview with God," and "The Snow Walker."

**Other:** Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided along  
with other traditional snacks.

**Disclaimer:** Since these are "Hollywood" movies, they  
may not be biblically factual. We will be starting the  
movie promptly at 6:30 pm.

For more information, please contact:  
Warren Belisle at [bellale@msn.com](mailto:bellale@msn.com)

### **Update on the Church Doors**

The new entry doors absorbed moisture and water  
during this last rain that caused the swelling and  
separation of some parts to the doors. The doors are  
made of solid wood, however, there were two parts that  
were engineered to help prevent swelling and  
contracting during the hot and cold times of the  
year. The glue that was used on these engineered parts  
failed, which allowed water to get in. The doors will be  
removed and taken back to the shop. They will be  
disassembled and the engineered parts will then be  
made out of solid wood and the doors will be  
reinstalled. This process should take four days once all  
the parts are in. The frame will not be removed. Once  
the doors are rebuilt and rehung, the vestibule space will  
be completed, as well as the trim around the frame.

Thank you for your patience as we move forward.

*Thank  
you*

We would like to thank all the volunteers  
who worked so hard to make the  
Christmas Fair wonderful and successful!  
The bulletin is just not large enough to  
mention everyone individually - so here's  
a big thanks to all of you from all of us!

Teresa Sweeney and Sandy Pasby



## **Encounter**

*has moved to Friday*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Worship and Praise Music  
Friday evenings 6:30-7:30 pm

*Mass & Intentions for the Week*

**Saturday December 14 ~ Sunday December 22**

<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Souls in Purgatory ☩
<b>OLMC</b>		Mitch Woods ☩
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	John Alonzo ☩
		Roberto Gregorio ☩
	9:00 am	Deceased members of the YLI ☩
		Adolfo Negrete ☩
	11:00 am	Joan Holland ☩
		Lawrence Rodrigues ☩
	5:00 pm	Lizbeth Gutierrez ☩
		Alicia Sanchez ☩

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

Monday	8:00 am	Fr. Bob Hughes
		Alvena Leal ☩
Tuesday	8:00 am	Souls in Purgatory ☩
		Joaquin Becerril
Wednesday	8:00 am	Charlotte Dunne ☩
		Thomas Merel ☩
Thursday	8:00 am	Christina M. Rossam ( <i>Birthday</i> )
		Mitch Woods ☩
Friday	8:00 am	Victor Espinosa ☩
		Bill Balbuena, Jr. ( <i>Birthday</i> )
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Marcos Balbuena ☩
		Jack McCoy ☩
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	Adolfo Negrete ☩
		Souls in Purgatory ☩
	9:00 am	Lizbeth Gutierrez ☩
		Daniel Vanzinni ☩
	11:00 am	Joan Holland ☩
		Joaquin & Aurora Andre ☩
	5:00 pm	Lupe Diaz ☩
		Alicia Sanchez ☩

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

<b>Friday 12/20 ~ Rectory Open House</b>
1:00 - 5:00 pm, St. Patrick's Rectory
<b>Tuesday 12/24 ~ Christmas Eve, OLMC Mass at 4:00 pm; St. Patrick's 5:00 pm and Midnight</b>
<b>Wednesday 12/25 ~ Christmas Day Mass 9:00 am OLMC; 10:00 am St. Patrick's; Noon St. Anne's</b>
<b>Tuesday 12/31 ~ New Year's Eve</b>
Adoration 11:00 pm ~ Mass at Midnight St. Patrick's
<b>Wednesday 1/1/2020 ~ New Year's Day</b>
Mass at 9:00 am, St. Patrick's
Mass at 9:00 am, OLMC
<b>Saturday 1/20/2020 ~ Walk for Life West Coast</b>

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday December 16 ~ Sunday December 22**

<b>Monday:</b>	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Thursday:</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Saturday:</b>	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12; 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday December 15 ~ Saturday December 21**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Third Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	Los Posadas begins
<b>Saturday:</b>	St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins

**SEASON OF ADVENT**



**Weekly Offerings**

Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	12-1-19 Week 48 Participation 23%	12-8-19 Week 49 Participation 27%	December Totals to date
<b>General Offerings</b>			
St. Pat's	\$4,856	\$6,653	\$11,509
OLMC	\$1,024	\$1,597	\$2,621
E-giving	\$1,155	\$370	\$1,525
Total	\$7,035	\$8,620	\$15,655
LAST YEAR	\$11,117	\$8,053	\$19,170
<b>Maintenance Offering</b>			
St. Pat's	\$582	\$390	\$972
OLMC	\$175	\$0	\$175
Total	\$757	\$390	\$1,147
Parish Services: St. Pat's \$465 ; OLMC \$200 Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!			



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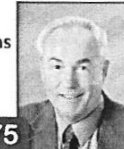


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