St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

Jesus said, “There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me.

For whoever is not against us is for us.”
Mark 9:39-40

September 30
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“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 7, Number 39
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Father Sam’s Message

In the Gospel for this Sunday, our Lord Jesus uses particularly graphic language to warn us about the possibility of losing eternal life forever. He reminds us of the urgency and supreme importance of a genuine conversion, turning away from sin and turning back toward Him. When Our Lord says things like, “It would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea” and “It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna,” He is clearly warning us of the grave and eternal consequence for those who obstinately choose to continue living a life of serious sin. In referring to Gehenna, the place of the “undying worm” and “unquenchable fire,” Jesus reveals there is such a “place,” or state of being, we call Hell. The existence of Hell is a definitive teaching of the Church and therefore a teaching of Christ Himself. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, “The teaching of the Church affirms the existence of hell and its eternity. Immediately after death the souls of those who die in a state of mortal sin descend into hell, where they suffer the punishments of hell, ‘eternal fire.’ The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in whom alone man can possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs.” (paragraph 1035)

Whether we can comprehend it or not, there is the real possibility of a person freely choosing to obstinately and callously remain in their sin. If a person dies in such a state, they make the choice to separate themselves from God forever. Rather than condemning, Lord Jesus’ use of such graphic imagery in this Gospel text from Mark is a desperate plea to those who are on a path of eternal perdition. As a loving Father, He is begging His wayward children to make a radical change with the help of His grace, which is always lovingly offered through His unlimited mercy and forgiveness.

The words Jesus uses to describe Hell reminds us what is at stake could not be more serious – the loss of eternal life for which Christ has come, suffered, and died. The consequence of sin is so desperate that Jesus compares the need for conversion from sin to cutting off one’s own hand or plucking out one’s own eye instead of losing eternal life. All the saints, including our Patron, St. Patrick, deeply felt the urgency of preaching the Gospel and truly gave themselves out of love to save others. As the baptized, the Chosen, we each in our own way are also called to give ourselves in service to the urgency of the Gospel. We do this first by humbly asking God for His mercy, which is infinite, to deepen our own continued conversion. With His Grace and the help of His Church, we remove ourselves from any and all sinful situations, taking the necessary steps to completely “cut off” all sins, particularly serious sins, from our lives. We then strive to be faithful to our Lord Jesus by keeping His commandments and following Him.

Let us beg for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Patrick to help us heed our Lord’s urgent call to conversion and to be true evangelizers, bringing His message of conversion and mercy to everyone God has called us to serve.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West

At One with the Spirit Ministry

is pleased to offer a presentation on
St. Catherine of Siena
The First Mystical Saint

Friday, October 5th
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Rm. 1
5:30 pm Potluck ~ 6:00 pm DVD presentation

At age 21, St. Catherine of Sienna (1347-1380) had a mystical experience where in her vision, she was told to help the poor and sick. She immediately began working in homes and hospitals. Her pious activities attracted a group of followers. Eventually she and her followers were drawn into the wider world of politics in the Middle Ages, and she held great influence over the Medieval Church and Popes of the time.
October is Respect Life Month

40 Days for Life
Our Catholic faith calls us to participate in our communities. That same faith calls us to protect life and to promote dignity and respect for all human beings from conception to natural death. We at St. Patrick’s Church will 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.

Walk for Life
Foothill Pregnancy Center will hold a Walk for Life in Sonora on Saturday, October 6th. Registration will be at 9:00 am at the Pregnancy Center, and the Walk down Washington Street in downtown Sonora will begin at 9:30 am.

“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)

The Blessing of the Animals
Thurs Oct 4
10:00 am

We will gather on the steps in front of St. Patrick’s on the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, for the blessing. For their own safety, please be sure your beloved pets are on a leash or in a crate.

“Ask the beasts, and they will teach you the beauty of this Earth.” (St. Francis of Assisi)

Religious Education Classes ...

Kindergarten and First Grade
Sundays, 10:15 through 11:00 Family Mass
Includes Liturgy of the Word for Children

2nd Grade through Confirmation
Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm - Parish Hall
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Catherine Bentz  
Al Biedrzycki  
Ken & Jackie Bolling  
Rae Ann Bozzo  
Evelyn Brom  
Angela Brown  
Ernie Cuzzocreo  
Vern & Jo Froehlich  
Ed Hall  
A. J. Holmes  
Donald C. Kellogg  
Bill & Rolene Kiesling

Kristine Kitamura  
Joseph Murtagh  
Jim Napier  
Nuney Patania  
Juan Pinela  
Bob Porcella  
Juan Pulido  
Mike Schirmer  
Jim Soderberg  
Joshua Stevenson  
Clay Sweetney  
Mitch Woods

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

INTO YOUR HANDS, O LORD, we commend the souls of
Liz Gutierrez
Mary B. Shea
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

COME AND SEE . . . GHANA!
You are cordially invited to come, see and share in the experience of my journey to Ghana. The presentation will be on Sunday October 14th at 2:00 pm, in rooms 3&4 of the Parish Hall at St. Patrick’s.
Hope to see you there! Marla

RESCHEDULED!
After all morning Masses on Sunday, October 28th, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a hot breakfast in the Parish Hall. For only $5.00 per person, you will get French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, a cup of fruit, juice and coffee. Tickets go on sale September 22nd, and are available after each weekend Mass and in the Parish Office. All proceeds from this breakfast will support the efforts of the Knights of Columbus, as they strive to bring Christ to our community by helping those in need.

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

Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast to Support:
Young Ladies Institute (YLI)
Patricia # 79
$5 per person
Saturday, October 13, 2018
8 am to 10 am

Crossroads Shopping Center
Sonora, California
Tickets available at the door or by calling 532-5955
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.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday September 29 ~ Sunday October 7

**Saturday**
5:00 pm  Francis Weldon Regan ❤
9:00 am  Dorothy McCargar ❤
11:00 am  Vicki Pacholka ❤
5:00 pm  Lupe Diaz ❤

**Sunday**
7:30 am  Eleanor Lauterio,  
*Happy Birthday!*
9:00 am  Adolfo Negrete ❤
11:00 am  Mary B. Shea ❤
5:00 pm  Alicia Sanchez ❤

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

Monday 8:00 am  Gary & Teresa Steveson
Tuesday 8:00 am  Peggy Dossi ❤
Wednesday 8:00 am  Lupe Diaz ❤
Thursday 8:00 am  Cynthia Villafana,  
*Happy Birthday!*
Friday 8:00 am  No Intentions
Saturday 5:00 pm  Francis Weldon Regan ❤
         Ken Francek ❤
Sunday 7:30 am  All Parishioners
         9:00 am  Adolfo Negrete ❤
         Tete Arellano ❤
         11:00 am  Linda Mariscal ❤
         5:00 pm  Lupe Diaz ❤
         Alicia Sanchez ❤

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Monday 10/8**  ~  Columbus Day, Parish Office closed
**Saturday 10/13**  ~  YLI Breakfast, 8:00 - 10:00 am  
Applebee’s, $5 per person
**Sunday 10/14**  ~  RCIA Rite of Welcome and Acceptance, 9:00 am Mass, St. Patrick’s
**Sunday 10/28**  ~  KOC Breakfast, after all Masses  
St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, $5 per person
**Thursday 11/1**  ~  All Saints Day  
Masses: St. Patrick’s 8:00 am and 6:30 pm;  
OLMC 4:00 pm
**Friday 11/2**  ~  All Souls Day  
Masses: St. Patrick’s 8:00 am; St. Patrick’s Cemetery 12:00 noon; OLMC 4:00 pm

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday October 1 ~ Sunday October 7**

**Monday:**  Jb 1:6-22; Ps 17:1bcd-3, 6-7; Lk 9:46-50
**Tuesday:**  Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Ps 88:2-8;  
Mt 18:1-5, 10
**Wednesday:**  Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Ps 88:10bc-15; Lk 9:57-62
**Thursday:**  Jb 19:21-27; Ps 27:7-9abc, 13-14;  
Lk 10:1-12
**Friday:**  Jb 38:1, 12-21 -- 40:2-5; Ps 139:1-3, 7-10,  
13-14ab; Lk 10:13-16
**Saturday:**  Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91,  
125, 130; Lk 10:17-24
**Sunday:**  Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11;  
Mk 10:2-16 [2-12]

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday September 30 ~ Saturday October 6**

**Sunday:**  Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
**Monday:**  St. Therese of the Child Jesus
**Tuesday:**  The Holy Guardian Angels
**Thursday:**  St. Francis of Assisi
**Friday:**  Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos;  
First Friday
**Saturday:**  St. Bruno; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher;  
First Saturday; Blessed Virgin Mary

**Weekly Offerings**

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Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

“While the World changes, the Cross stands firm.”  

*St. Bruno*