St. Patrick’s Catholic Parish
Sonora, California

The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

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”

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
Email: StPats@StPatsSonora.org
Parish Services:
Sonora: 209-532-7139 Ext. 107
Big Oak Flat: 209-532-7139 Ext. 111

Volume 7, Number 19
Here is a message from our recently installed Bishop Myron J. Cotta about the Blessed Mother and a newly established Memorial in her honor:

My Dear People of God,

As we welcome the month of May, we are reminded of the annual celebration of Mother’s Day. It is a time to give thanks to God for our moms, and for the gift of “motherhood.” It is a time to reflect on all that motherhood entails: selflessness, sacrifice, commitment and the nourishing love that only a mother can give.

It is amazing to see, in the plan of God the Father, that “motherhood” would be intimately connected to the gift of salvation. It was through the cooperation of the faith and humility of a young girl, Mary of Nazareth, that the Son of God would become incarnate, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the sanctuary of her womb. Her “call” was to be mother, to be the Eve of the “new creation.” It is she, who was to bring into this world, for you and me, the “New Adam,” Jesus. This Mother, blessed among all women, would nourish and care for his basic needs with all the love of her Immaculate Heart.

We also know, as Queen and Mother of the Apostles, Mary was present on the day of the birth of the Church on Pentecost. This event of the descent and empowerment of the Holy Spirit gave the Church the ability to fulfill its purpose and mission to proclaim the Gospel of the Risen Christ to the world.

As the Church moved forth from the Cenacle out into the world, Our Lady, as Mother of the Church, protected and encouraged the Apostles through her maternal presence and prayerful intercession. Her presence and intercession continues to be present to us as we are sent as the missionary disciples of the 21st century. Because of the importance of the presence and role of Mary in the life of the Church, we are grateful to Pope Francis for acknowledging the Monday after Pentecost as a new Memorial in honor of the Blessed Virgin: “Mary, Mother of the Church.” May Pope Francis’ proclamation of this new Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, grace us as the Body of Christ, the Church, with her motherly prayers of comfort and protection.

As we acknowledge this special day, I ask the prayers of Our Lady as I begin my episcopal duties as your bishop. On Monday, May 21, I invite you – the clergy, religious and laity of the Diocese of Stockton – to offer a prayer of consecration of our Diocese of Stockton to the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady, “Mary, Mother of the Church.”

May we, throughout this month of May, and along with this year’s annual celebration of Mother’s Day, be mindful of the maternal presence of Our Lady. May she intercede for all women, especially those called to the sacred role of motherhood.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

Bishop Myron J. Cotta

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Father Sam’s Message

On this Sunday in our Diocese, we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into heaven. Although He is now ascended to the “right hand of God the Father Almighty,” He certainly does not leave us as orphans. He is now actually with us more closely than He could have been if He had remained on earth in His resurrected Body. Because Jesus ascends, He can send us the Holy Spirit so we can always remain united with Him and have Him, God’s love and power, truly dwell within us. Our Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, can now be present to us in the Sacraments, especially in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Also by ascending, our Lord has prepared a place for each of us in His Father’s house (John 14:2-3).

This weekend we also give thanks to Almighty God for the gift of our dear mothers. I am grateful for my own mother, Hilda. My sister, Sabrina, my brother, J.J., and I have been so blessed. For us, our mother is a great example of fidelity to our Lord Jesus Christ. She taught us, by both her actions and words, to remain faithful to Jesus and His teachings despite the obstacles we face in our earthly lives. Even when we, especially as teenagers and young adults, resisted, complained, moaned, and sometimes outright rebelled, our mother never gave up or “threw in the towel.” She stayed consistent and steadfast in her own practice of the Faith.

Our mom continually encouraged us, sometimes very passionately, to fully practice the gift of our Faith, especially the importance of attending Mass every Sunday. She desired the very best for us, her children. In so many ways, our mother sacrificed herself, giving of herself, so we could grow in our relationship with the Risen and Ascended Lord Jesus. At times, we would just roll our eyes at her repeated efforts and even become annoyed at her insistence. But, now that I am much older and pray a little “wiser,” I realize more clearly our beautiful mother was only motivated by real love for us and a genuine desire for our eternal happiness. She knew, by the gift of her Faith, that if we were ever going to know the joy and peace of God’s love, we needed to remain united with Jesus.

(Cont. next page)
**Father Sam’s Message, cont.**

I am personally grateful to my mom for the courage and firm resolve she has shown me. I deeply appreciate her remaining faithful to Jesus and always committed to her God-given vocation as a mother, trying in everything she did to get her children into heaven. Without her example, I am not sure I would have been able to hold on to the Faith, let alone become a priest.

In addition to showing honor, respect, and love to our own mothers, we also want to remember our heavenly Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. When we were baptized, not only did we receive the incalculable gift of a share in our Lord Jesus’ risen life, becoming partakers in His divine life, we also received the most beautiful gift of having Mary, Jesus’ own mother, now as our mother, too! On this Mother’s Day weekend, let us honor our mothers with joy and gratitude. Through the intercession of our Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, we ask for the grace to know our Lord Jesus and reach the “dwelling place” of peace and joy He has prepared for us in His Ascension.

*In Christ, Fr. Sam West*

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**This Week in our Parish**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 5/13</td>
<td>No Meet &amp; Greet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 5/14</td>
<td>Parish Welcoming Team Meeting 6:30 pm, Rm. 6 Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 5/15</td>
<td>Pastoral Council Meeting, 6:30 pm Rm. 6, Parish Hall</td>
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<td>Wed 5/16</td>
<td>Financial Peace University, 6:00 pm St. Patrick’s Parish Hall, Rm. 4</td>
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<td>Thurs 5/17</td>
<td>OLMC Religious Study, Parish House 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, OLMC Big Oak Flat</td>
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<td>Sat 5/19</td>
<td>Altar Duty: Judy Wilder</td>
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<td>Sat 5/19 &amp; Sun 5/20</td>
<td>Second Collection for Catholic Communication Campaign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 5/20</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet: Religious Ed and Teens</td>
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**Baby Bottle Boomerang!**

† Starts this Mother’s Day weekend, May 12-13.  
† Pick up your baby bottle bank, fill it with coins and cash, and bring it back to church on Father’s Day weekend, June 16-17.  
All proceeds benefit the Foothill Pregnancy Center. 
**Thank you** for promoting the sanctity of human life!

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**EXTENDED!**

OLMC Religious Study:  
The Bible and the Virgin Mary  
OLMC Parish House Great Room  
4:00-5:30 pm; Thursdays: May 17, 23  
For more information, please contact:  
Warren Belisle @ 209-962-4394

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**Welcome**

Would you like the opportunity to share your Faith? Would you like to be a part of the team that extends a genuine welcome to newcomers and visitors? How about helping those who have stopped attending Mass return to the Church? St. Paul said, “Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.” (Romans 15:7) If Christ is calling you into this ministry, then please attend the next organizing meeting for the **Parish Welcoming Team.**  
Monday, May 14th  
6:30 pm  
Rm. 6, Parish Hall.

Please contact Jim Woosley @ 209-536-4020 for further information.
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

Tete Arellano
Catherine Bentz
Al Biedrzycki
Beverly Brainard
Carolyn Bruning
Jan Buck
Vern & Jo Froehlich
Mitch & Patti Gerner
Bill Gookin
Ed Hall
Joan Holland
A. J. Holmes
Bill & Rolene Kiesling
Kristine Kitamura
Lois Marzocchi
Dorothy McCargar
Maria Negrete
Pat Newton
Barbara North
Lee O’Shaughnessy
Joseph Perez
Mike Schirmer
Clay Sweeney

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

Spiritual Direction at Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church

God’s grace surrounds us – all the time, in every place. Recognizing this presence and hearing its whisper can be difficult. Spiritual Direction is a ministry that can help.

Spiritual Directors are trained companions who join a seeker on his/her spiritual journey and help in the discernment of where God’s spirit is leading.

The following members of St. Patrick’s Catholic Church have been trained as Spiritual Directors through the Institute for Catholic Spirituality & Spiritual Direction, and are available to the faith community.

If interested in learning more, contact any one of the following:
† Cynthia Dragun: (805) 490-6147
† Barbara Fish: (209) 743-8919
† Carol Gabbert: (775) 771-6297
† Connie Jacob: (209) 591-7978
† Christina Welch: (541) 447-7998

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.

Loving God, we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end. We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience. We ask You to bless them with Your own special love.

Amen.

www.Catholic.org

Thank you for all your generous donations of potholders! Our Parish Hall Kitchen is now fully equipped for those working with hot pots and pans.

The Parish Staff

A lifetime accumulation of cool stuff: Artwork, religious items, books, furniture and lots more . . .

Bishop Stephen Blaire’s Retirement Sale!
Sunday, May 20
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
St. Francis Room at Presentation Church
1515 Benjamin Holt Drive
Stockton, CA 95207

Holy Grounds, our cozy coffee shop (next door to the St. Francis Room), will be open all day. All proceeds benefit seminarian education.
Mass for the Intentions of the Week

Saturday May 12 ~ Sunday May 20

Saturday 5:00 pm LaVerne & Jack Woodcock ♦
        Jack McCoy ♦
Sunday 7:30 am All Parishioners
        Tony Pallante ♦
        Aurora Andre ♦
        9:00 am Ruth Ann McGee ♦
        Hezzy Arellano ♦
        11:00 am Dick Tasto ♦
        Joan Oneto-Test ♦
        5:00 pm Lupe Diaz ♦
        Sole Balbuena, Happy Birthday!
        We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.

Monday 8:00 am Delores Heissel ♦
        Delores Goicoecha ♦
Tuesday 8:00 am Delores Verceles ♦
        Lupe Diaz ♦
Wednesday 8:00 am Juan Barba, Happy Birthday!
        Tony Pallante ♦
Thursday 8:00 am Veronica Barba, Healing
Friday 8:00 am Marcie Evans ♦
Saturday 5:00 pm Alicia Diaz ♦
        Sofia Diaz ♦
Sunday 7:30 am All Parishioners
        Tony Pallante ♦
        9:00 am Deceased members of YLI ♦
        Nuncy & Gloria Patania,
        Happy Anniversary!
        11:00 am Joan Oneto-Test ♦
        5:00 pm Lupe Diaz ♦
        Miguel Bernal ♦

Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date

Monday 5/28 ~ Memorial Day Mass at 9:00 am,
        St. Patrick’s Catholic Cemetery
        (No 8:00 am Daily Mass)
Saturday 6/16 ~ Knights of Columbus Pancake
        Breakfast Fundraiser
        Applebee’s, 8:00 am - 10:00 am
Sunday 6/24 ~ Parish Picnic! Pinecrest Lake
Saturday 7/28 ~ Feast of St. Joachim and St. Anne
        will be celebrated at St. Anne’s in Columbia, 9:00 am

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21
        Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab
        Jn 17:11b-19
        Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab;
        Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7;
        Jn 21:20-25
Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9; Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b;
        Ez 37:1-14; Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35,
        27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
        Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;
        1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25;
        Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday May 13 ~ Saturday May 19

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; Mother’s Day
        World Communications Day
Monday: St. Matthias
Tuesday: St. Isidore the Farmer
Thursday: Julian Calendar Ascension
Friday: St. John I
Saturday: Vigil of Pentecost; Armed Forces Day;
        Shavuot (Jewish observance)

Weekly Offerings

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<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal</th>
<th>4-29-18</th>
<th>April Totals</th>
<th>5-6-18</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 17</td>
<td>Week 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Offerings</td>
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<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$4,938</td>
<td>$21,469</td>
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<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$1,235</td>
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<td>E-giving</td>
<td>$310</td>
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<td>$6,483</td>
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<td>LAST YEAR</td>
<td>$7,242</td>
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<td>Maintenance Offerings</td>
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<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<td>$110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$425</td>
<td>$702</td>
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Parish Services: St. Pat’s $560; OLMC $106
Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!