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
Two different persons attending the same event can have two completely different, even opposite, experiences. A simple example might be a sporting event; consider a championship football game. The fan of the winning team will leave the big game feeling uplifted and joyous, while the losing fan will drive home dejected and downcast. They both saw the same plays, watched the same players, and ate the same snacks, but the resulting experience was opposite. This is a little of what it may be like on that unknown day at an unknown hour when our Lord Jesus comes again “in the clouds with great power and glory…” At that “big event,” the biggest since His first coming, Christ’s “elect” will be rejoicing, while those who have rejected His election – well, let’s just say they are not going to be happy, not just temporarily but forever. At the “second coming” of our Lord Jesus, each and every person will have a different experience depending on Whose “team” they are on.

On this second to last Sunday in the Church’s liturgical year, our readings direct us to the Church’s doctrine on what will happen to us when we die and what we can expect to happen at the end of the world. We call what happens the “Four Last Things – Death, Judgement, Heaven, and Hell.” In the first reading, the prophecy from the Book of Daniel proclaims, “But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.” For those who are prepared and have a relationship with our Lord Jesus, the Resurrection of the Dead will be an everlasting, joy-filled event. They will be judged worthy to receive the fullness of Eternal Life. The Psalm for this week reminds us being with God, seeing God face to face, is the “fullness of joy in your presence…”

At the moment of our death, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is infinitely merciful, will judge us individually “according to our deeds.” This is called a “particular judgment” at which, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “Each man (person) receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven – through a purification or immediately – or immediate and everlasting damnation” (article #1022). When our Lord comes again, all who sleep in death will be raised and receive a new, glorified body. Then there will be a “general judgment.” Of this judgment, Jesus says, “He will send out the angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.” Considering what we know by the truth revealed by God in a definitive teaching of the Church on the Four Last Things, those who do not have the gift of Faith will not find anything comforting or any joy at the coming of our Lord Jesus at the end of the world.

By contrast, for us who know by Faith our only happiness, eternal joy and peace, is union with our Lord Jesus, then we should be totally ecstatic when He comes again. Same event, two different reactions.

The readings invite us to reflect carefully on our own mortality, the “unknown day” when the Lord will call us to stand before His judgement seat. The most important way, really the only way, to prepare for that “unknown day” is to have an authentic relationship with Christ, to “be His elect.” In our baptism, Christ has already chosen each one of us and claimed us to be His. Now it is up to us to continually choose to live as His chosen ones. When we do what pleases Him in all things and strive always to know, love, and serve Him, we remain in His love. However, if we freely choose to reject His love by sinning or obstinately remaining in our sin, then we are in danger of losing our election forever.

In addition, Jesus also tells us in the Gospel what will happen before His return in glory – “In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.” Our Lord is not only referring to events preceding His imminent return. He also points out at various times in our lives, and in the course of human history, our world will be turned upside down. He is warning us there will be unescapable upheavals, turbulent times, during our earthly pilgrimage. Most people would agree that presently we are all experiencing a time of instability in our society and, in particular, in the Church. Many of us are also experiencing instability individually due to family / marriage problems, financial difficulties, the death of a loved one, a recent serious diagnosis, etc. Rather than reacting in fear and dread, if we continue to trust our Lord Jesus and know “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away,” then we can still experience joy in difficult and challenging times. Those who do not have Faith cannot see the possibility of real joy in the midst of these troubled times in which we live. However, the Lord assures us who remain faithful to Him, obedient to His Word, the return of stability and peace. Jesus’ eternal words heard in the preaching of the Church are the only way we can have real stability in an unstable world. At every Mass, our Lord Jesus, whose word does not pass away, is with us. In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, His Body and Blood, we receive Him and find firmness and comfort in troubled times.

Let us pray for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, to give us her maternal care as we continue on our earthly pilgrimage and prepare for our real home in heaven!

In Christ, Fr. Sam West
This Week in our Parish

Saturday 11/17 & Sunday 11/18 ~ Second Collection Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Sunday 11/18 ~ Meet & Greet: Religious Ed & Teens

Sunday 11/18 ~ Youth Group 6:15 pm, Parish Hall

Monday 11/19 ~ Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers at OLMC, 10:00 am

Wednesday 11/21 ~ Thanksgiving Day Vigil Mass 4:00 pm, OLMC

Thursday 11/22 ~ Thanksgiving Day Mass 9:00 am, St. Patrick’s (Parish Office Closed)

Saturday 11/24 ~ Altar Duty: Barbara Kay, Rose Kutsch

Sunday 11/25 ~ Meet & Greet: Knights of Columbus

St. Patrick’s Christmas Fair Updates

★ If you took a tag in order to help out with our lovely Christmas baskets this year, please remember to bring your items and the tag to the Parish Office by November 21st, so we have enough time to construct the baskets. Please call Carol Cashen at 209-213-9991 if you have questions or need someone to pick up your contribution.

★ We still need more donations for the Raffle! We need items such as gift certificates for: movies, theaters, adventures, grocery stores, gas stations, retail shops, hair and nail salons, special events, restaurants, car repair or tire shops, gift and book stores, and other local businesses. Tickets for pro or college sporting events would be fun too! Any coaches or crafters want to give a few lessons as a raffle item? Be creative! Thank you all so much! Please bring them to the office by November 21st.

★ Thank you to all our wonderful parishioners for their generous donations for our “White Elephant” booth. We now must turn to the task of pricing and organizing all your treasures, so please save any further donations of household items until next year.

★ Volunteers are still needed to help run the booths during the day of the Christmas Fair. Volunteers work in 2-hour shifts, and you’ll get to see and chat with a lot of friends and parishioners during that time! Please call the Parish Office if you can help. 209-532-7139

The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation. We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities. We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another, and for our homes. We thank you, Lord; accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers)

November
A Month of Remembrance

In November the Church, in communion with all the saints, prays for our dearly departed.

★ We will place the Book of Remembrance in the church, where you may write the names of your loved ones who have passed into eternal rest.

★ We encourage you to bring photos of deceased family and friends, and place them in the windows of the Church.

★ At the beginning of Mass each weekend in November, we will sing a litany of the names of our parishioners who have died in this past year. Please join us on the refrain, “We Remember.”

We wish you a joyous Thanksgiving Day!
Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rich Abdelnour, Jr.</th>
<th>Bill &amp; Rolene Kiesling</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Bentz</td>
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<td>Ken &amp; Jackie Bolling</td>
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<td>Ed Hall</td>
<td>Joshua Stevenson</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. J. Holmes</td>
<td>Clay Sweeney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald C. Kellogg</td>
<td>Mitch &amp; Trish Woods</td>
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To add or remove a name from this list or the prayer chain, please contact Sandy Pallante at 532-7625.

The Patron Saint of Musicians, St. Cecilia symbolizes the central role of Music to the Liturgy. A noble lady in 2nd Century Rome, it is said she could hear the music of heaven, she sang with her heart to the Lord, and an angel was her constant protector. She is the subject of poems and many great works of music, including those by famous classical composers Purcell, Handel, Britten, and Vaughan-Williams. The Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome is one of the oldest musical institutions in the world. Her feast day is November 22.

Mark your calendars!

Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers

St. Patrick’s “ Tuesday, December 11
10:00 am or 6:30 pm
(you only need to attend one of these sessions)

OLMC ~ Monday, November 19, 10:00 am

La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

La fiesta de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, en la Iglesia Católica de San Patricio, se celebrará el domingo 9 de diciembre con una misa a las 3:00 p.m. Después de la misa, habrá un potluck y fiesta en el salón de la parroquia. Habrá mariachi, comida y camaradería. Todos son bienvenidos – por favor, traiga un plato para compartir.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Sunday, December 9
Mass at 3:00 PM
Potluck and Mariachi will follow in the Parish Hall!
Everyone is welcome - please bring a dish to share.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

"That the most Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege from Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, was kept free of every stain of original sin."

Pope Pius IX, "Ineffabilis Deus" (December 8, 1854).

Vigil Mass on Friday, December 7
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 4:00 pm
Mass on Saturday, December 8
St. Patrick’s, 10:00 am
Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date

Saturday 12/1 ~ St. Patrick’s Christmas Fair
7:00 am - 7:00 pm, Parish Hall

Sunday 12/2 ~ First Sunday of Advent

Friday 12/7 ~ Immaculate Conception
Vigil Mass, 4:00 pm OLMC

Saturday 12/8 ~ Immaculate Conception
10:00 am Mass, St. Patrick’s

Sunday 12/9 ~ Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Patrick’s, 3:00 pm

Tuesday 12/11 ~ Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers at St. Patrick’s
10:00 am - 12:00 noon OR 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Saturday 12/15 ~ Advent Prayer Service,
11:00 am St. Patrick’s

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday November 19 ~ Sunday November 25

Monday: Rv 1:1-4 -- 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44
Or Thanksgiving Day: Sir 50:22-24;
1Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday: Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Rv 1:5-8;
Jn 18:33b-37

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday November 18 ~ Saturday November 24
Sunday: Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wednesday: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday: St. Cecilia; Thanksgiving Day

Friday: St. Clement I; St. Columban;
Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro

Saturday: St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

Weekly Offerings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal</th>
<th>11-4-18 Week 44 Participation</th>
<th>11-11-18 Week 45 Participation %</th>
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General Offerings

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LAST YEAR $7,094 $8,870 $7,094

Maintenance Offering

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* Offertory Amounts for 11-11-18 were not available at time of publication and will be posted next week.
Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!
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Saint Margaret Sunday Missal

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