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
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Father Joseph’s Message

My Vocation: God’s purpose

John Henry Newman felt God’s call to him in life and reflected on it with a beautiful prayer. But first, who was John Henry Newman? He was a scholar and an intellectual who lived in England from 1801 to 1890. He dabbled with atheism early in his life, but then God called. He couldn’t put him off. He sought God in religion, in the Church of England, or Anglican Church. He became an Anglican priest and continued his studies of Christianity at Oxford University. In 1845 he wrote that as he studied more and more the writings of the early Fathers of the Church, he was convinced that the Catholics were the closest followers of Christianity in its original form. He had a deep respect for the Anglican Church, but he heard God calling him to become a Catholic. This was an extremely difficult decision that affected his life in every way possible. He could no longer teach at Oxford. He could no longer preach in the Anglican Churches. He was a patriotic Englishman who was embracing those people whom he had referred to as “our traditional enemies.” But God was calling. He became a Catholic and led the movement of Anglican scholars to Catholicism called the “Oxford Movement.” He became a Roman Catholic priest, and eventually was even made a cardinal. On September 19, 2010, Pope Benedict XVI beatified Cardinal Newman.

This week, the First Reading speaks of the call of Samuel and the Gospel speaks of the call of Andrew and Peter. The key phrases are: 1. “Come and you will see” and 2. “Speak, Lord, your servant is hearing.”

We all possess the modern communication media – the mobile phone. In all our mobile phones, we have the facility of caller ID. Seeing the one who is calling, we can receive the call or deny it. We are also able to receive the message as voicemail. There are people who never answer the call.

In our Spiritual life, too, we have the Caller ID and the Voicemail facility. When we get a call from the Lord, we can either respond immediately like Samuel saying, “Speak, Lord, your servant is hearing” or we can save it thinking that we can act slowly. God needs us for His purpose – for our own spiritual growth as well as for supporting others to come near the Lord. We call this “Vocation” – Call for a specific purpose. If we miss a call, surely we are missing God’s purpose for us and for others.

“Fear not that thy life shall come to an end, but rather fear that it shall never have a beginning.”
Blessed John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Therefore, God calls us for different vocations – some to a married state of life for the holiness of the couples mutually and to be a blessing for their children, some to a single state of life, being a priest or a religious or as a lay person. When the Lord calls us, if we do not respond, the call is lost and we fail to fulfill the purpose of God.

Cardinal John Henry Newman’s life must inspire us. Like Samuel, the disciples of the Lord acted immediately, understanding the purpose of God. Blessed Cardinal Newman wrote this beautiful prayer which is a reflection not just on his life but on all our lives.

“God has created me for some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have a mission. I may never know exactly what that mission is in this life. I shall be told it in the next. I have a part in a great work. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for nothing. I shall do well. I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, even if I do not realize what I am doing. But, if I keep His commandments, I will serve Him in my calling.”

In Christ, Fr. Joseph Lawrence

“Speak Yahweh, your servant is listening” 1Sm 3:10

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
Sunday January 28
12:00 pm in the Parish Hall
Please bring a dessert to share.
We thank the many generous and devoted volunteers at St. Patrick’s Parish!

“Volunteers do not have more time, they just have more heart”.

“Speak Yahweh, your servant is listening” 1Sm 3:10
Please support the St. Patrick’s Food Pantry! During this past holiday season, there was an overwhelming demand on our Food Pantry. We are now running desperately low! Any contribution of food is welcome BUT what the Pantry needs most right now is: peanut butter, jam/jelly, pasta and sauce, canned tuna or chicken, crackers, soup, beans, and ramen noodles. You can put the items in the large basket at the back of the Church, drop them off in the Parish Office, or call Sandy Tannhauser @ 532-3899.

**This Week in our Parish**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/14</td>
<td>Installation of Fr. Samuel West as Pastor of St. Patrick’s Parish, 11:00 am Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/14</td>
<td>Religious Study, Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Big Oak Flat), 2:00 pm Parish House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1/17</td>
<td>Teens! Steinmetz House 6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/21</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet hosted by Religious Ed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/21</td>
<td>Youth Mass, 11:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 1/21</td>
<td>Religious Study, Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Big Oak Flat), 2:00 pm Parish House</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MLK Day ~ 1-15-18

"In recent years—including last summer in Charlottesville—we have glimpsed an appalling truth that lurks beneath the surface of our culture. Even with all the progress our country has made on the issue, racism remains a living reality. As our nation celebrates the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we are given an important time to recommit ourselves to the Gospel message he preached, that the sin of racism can be defeated by active love and the light of faith.

We pray in confidence that Jesus Christ will remind us all that He is the most powerful means to break the chains of hate that still bind too many hearts, a truth which lies at the center of Dr. King’s legacy."

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, President, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

**Foothill Pregnancy Center**

Foothill Pregnancy Center
427 N. Hwy 49, Suite 101
Sonora, 95370

H.E.A.R.T. Ministry

“Healing the Effects of Abortion Related Trauma”

In January 2018 (date and time TBA), there will begin a 12-14 week support group at Foothill Pregnancy Center. This is a free, confidential and compassionate support group that specifically addresses issues relative to post-abortion trauma. If you’re experiencing feelings of loss, anxiety, shame, and sadness, please call Terri at 536-9262 to join the next support group.
Welcome to St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish, and their family members.
Those needing your continued prayers*:

- Ruben Bacci
- Catherine Bentz
- Al Biedrzycki
- Carolyn Bruning
- Cardiff Family
- Joe Gamboa
- Mitch & Patti Gerner
- Bill Gookin
- Leon Hinen
- Joan Holland
- A. J. Holmes
- Fred Kahl
- Bill & Rolene Kiesling
- Laura Lombardi
- Lois Marzocchi
- Joan Montesano
- Joseph Perez
- Juan Pulido
- Hannah Rose
- Mike Schirmer
- Clay Sweeney
- Roy Volpetti

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

*We would like updated information on our fellow parishioners and their family members so we can continue praying for them. Please check the weekly Prayer List in the Bulletin, and let the office know of any additions or changes.

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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
† Connie Jacob: (209) 591-7978
† Christina Welch: (541) 447-7998
† Carol Gabbert: (775)771-6297

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Noticias del Consejo Pastoral

El 19 de diciembre, seis miembros del Consejo y dos invitados se reunieron con el Padre Sam para hablar sobre las medidas a seguir para ayudar a nuestra Parroquia a ser una comunidad acogedora, que pone sus talentos al servicio de la iglesia, que crea oportunidades para crecer espiritualmente cuidando de las necesidades de la comunidad parroquial y que se preocupa de estar en constante comunicación con sus feligreses.

Se han seleccionado 6 proyectos específicos: Crear un equipo de bienvenida; establecer un calendario anual de oportunidades para crecer espiritualmente; ofrecer una sesión de 6 semanas sobre cómo mantener en orden finanzas personales; hacer más accesible y visible la presencia del Consejo Pastoral; continuar trabajando en la reparación y mantenimiento del edificio de la Iglesia y crecer como una comunidad que ofrece sus talentos al servicio de la iglesia.

La Parroquia de San Patricio posee una historia abundante en cuidado y crecimiento como familia en Cristo. Estas iniciativas usarán además del tiempo y talento, los dones que Dios nos ha otorgado. Habrá otra “Open House” a principios del año nuevo para explicar estas medidas, invitándolo a participar y obteniendo sus sugerencias para proyectos futuros.

La próxima reunión del Consejo Pastoral será el 16 de Enero del 2018, a las 6:30p.m., en un aula del Salón Parroquial en Sonora. Si desea acudir es siempre bienvenido o le puede expresar sus ideas a cualquier miembro del Consejo Pastoral.

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St. Patrick’s Parish Council, from left: Nathan Graveline, Charlene Dambacher, Juddy Kendall, David Bolles, Fr. Sam, Jim Woosley, Tina Welch. Not pictured: Wendall Cushman
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.

**Weekly Offerings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Goal $10,000</th>
<th>12-31-17 Week 52</th>
<th>Dec Totals</th>
<th>1-7-18 Week 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Offerings</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$5,425</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAST YEAR</td>
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<td>$39,952*</td>
<td>$7,798</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Maintenance Offerings</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Pat’s</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>OLMC</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Because Christmas Day fell on a Sunday in 2016, Christmas Offerings are included in this figure.

Parish Services: St. Pat’s $537 ~ OLMC $106

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday January 15 ~ Sunday January 21**

**Monday:** 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6

**Thursday:** 1 Sm 18:6-9 ~ 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12

**Friday:** 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19

**Saturday:** 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21

**Sunday:** Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday January 14 ~ Saturday January 20**

**Sunday:** The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Wednesday:** St. Anthony

**Thursday:** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins

**Friday:** Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany)

**Saturday:** St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

**Upcoming Events ~ Save the Date**

**Saturday January 27 ~ Walk for Life West Coast**

**Sunday January 28 ~ Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**

**Wednesday February 14 ~ Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins**

**Thursday March 22 ~ Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton**

**Thursday March 29 ~ Holy Thursday**

**Friday March 30 ~ Good Friday**

**Saturday March 31 ~ Easter Vigil**

**Sunday April 1 ~ Easter Sunday**

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.