St. Patrick's Church

127 Jackson St., Sonora, CA



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mission Church

11700 Catholic Cemetery Rd. Big Oak Flat, CA



Staff

Fr. Sam West,

Parochial Administrator Fr. Yesobu Banka, Parochial Vicar Mike Kubasek, Deacon Ron Ivey, Business Manager Marie Dahlstrand, Coord. of Liturgy Sandra Betti, Music Director Kathy Casas, Religious Ed. Susan Julian, Bookkeeper Gail Andrus, Receptionist **Emergency Intercessions** "8"

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Vol. 4, No. 50

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Sonora, California

The GOOD News

. . . in Our Parish

Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 6, 2015 God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low. Baruch 5:7



"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 <u>www.StPatsSonora.org</u>. 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 <u>frsam@stpatssonora.org</u>. God bless.



In Christ, Fr. Sam West, Parish Administrator

Father Sam's Message For the 2nd week in Advent, I would like to

continue reflecting on the extra-ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, which commences in just a few days. To begin this special Year, the Pope will open the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on December 8th. The longstanding tradition of opening the Holy Door, which normally happens every 25 years, inaugurates a Holy Year or special year of grace in the Church. The last time the Door was opened was at the start of the Jubilee Year 2000 by St. Pope John Paul II. The tradition of breaking open the Holy Door, which actually happens because the Door is sealed at the end of a Holy Year, is a visible sign of the breaking open or unsealing of the Church's treasury of inexhaustible grace she received from her Divine spouse, our Lord Jesus. It is also a tangible means of receiving these special graces. Those people who make a pilgrimage to go through the Holy Door and are truly resolved to be free from all sin can receive a special Jubilee indulgence. The Pope has requested that all dioceses, also called "particular churches," throughout the world open a Holy Door, so everyone will have a chance to receive the real spiritual benefit of making a pilgrimage and walking through the Holy Door, also called this year the "Door of Mercy," to enter into a renewed relationship with Christ freed from the effects of sin. Our Bishop, Stephen Blaire, by the authority given to him by the Pope, has designated a Door of Mercy to be opened at three locations in the Diocese of Stockton - the Cathedral of the Annunciation in Stockton, St. Stanislaus in Modesto, and here at St. Patrick's in Sonora! This is a great honor. We are blessed and grateful to be designated as a pilgrimage site for the Year of Mercy. You are invited to the opening of the Door of Mercy that takes place at St. Patrick's at the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, December 12th, the 3^{rd} Sunday of Advent. In next week's bulletin, I will have an opportunity to write in greater detail on what this Jubilee indulgence means and why it is important.

Here are a few more excerpts from the Holy Father's official document declaring the Year of Mercy. He explains the Scripture quote he selected as the guiding light for the year and the meaning of a pilgrimage. Pope Francis writes, "13. We want to live this Jubilee Year in light of the Lord's words: Merciful like the Father. The Evangelist reminds us of the teaching of Jesus who says, 'Be merciful just as your Father is merciful' (Lk 6:36). It is a programme of life as demanding as it is rich with joy and peace. Jesus's command is directed to anyone willing to listen to his voice (cf. Lk 6:27). In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must first of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. This means rediscovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us. In this way, it will be possible to contemplate God's mercy and adopt it as our lifestyle.

14. The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a viator, a pilgrim travelling along the road, making his way to the desired destination. Similarly, to reach the Holy Door in Rome or in any other place in the world, everyone, each according to his or her ability, will have to make a pilgrimage. This will be a sign that mercy is also a goal to reach and requires dedication and sacrifice. May pilgrimage be an impetus to conversion: by crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God's mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us."

Considering the Holy Father's above exhortation, I encourage all of us to make this Advent a time to more clearly hear God's voice, the voice of Mercy. In hearing His voice, we then can rededicate ourselves having the renewed energy to travel along the way of Mercy, the way of true conversion, to reach our final destination of union with God in heaven. For us to do this, we should take the time in prayer, especially praying with Sacred Scriptures. In today's Gospel for the 2nd week in Advent, the forerunner of our Lord Jesus Christ, St. John the Baptist, "went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." We want to listen to this voice, the voice of the Church, which is inviting us in this Year of Mercy to a deeper conversion and greater experience of God's Mercy, particularly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, John's mission was to be "a voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." With God's Mercy, we will "make straight His paths" to give our Lord, our Savior, a way to reach us, and, in doing so, we then can share His Mercy, through our spiritual and corporal works of mercy, to give our Lord a way to reach others.

Finally, this Tuesday, December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In addition to being a Holy Day of Obligation, it is the Patronal Feast day of the United States and the official start of the Year of Mercy. DECEMBER 6, 2015

message continued: We have Masses scheduled at St. Patrick's at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm. There is one Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel mission at 5:00 pm on Monday, December 7th. As the Church is opening the Holy Door this week, with the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary, the Immaculate Conception, we ask our Lord for the graces we need to open our hearts even wider to Christ!

God bless, Fr. Sam West

2015 Advent Penance Services Our Lady of Mt. Carmel ~ Friday, 12/11, 4:00 pm St. Patrick's ~ Angels Camp ~ Monday, 12/14, 6:30 pm St. Patrick's ~ Sonora ~ Tuesday, 12/15 ~ 6:30 pm (the regularly scheduled Wednesday 6:30 pm evening confessions will not be held on 12/16 at St. Patrick's) St. Andrew's ~ San Andreas ~Wednesday, 12/16 ~ call (209) 754-3815 for the time All Saints ~ Twain Harte ~ Thursday, 12/17 ~ 3:00 pm

Save the Date in **Strate**

Feast Of Immaculate Conception ~ Holy Day Monday, Dec 7 ~ 5:00 pm Our Lady of Mount Carmel Vigil Mass Tuesday, Dec 8 ~ St. Patrick's Masses ~ 8:00 am & 6:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 13 ~ St. Patrick's Our Lady of Guadalupe, procession, 3:00 pm Mass, potluck to follow Thursday, Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mass** ~ 5:00 pm St. Patrick's Masses ~ 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm Family/children's Masses ~ (a short play on Christmas will be performed by our Faith Formation students 15 minutes before the start of the above Masses) A musical interlude at 11:00 pm with <u>Mass at Midnight</u> Friday, Dec. 25 ~ Christmas Day Mass Schedule

Our Lady of Mount Carmel ~ 9:00 am St. Patrick's ~ 10:00 am & St. Anne's ~ 12:00 noon SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We	7					
Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	11-22-15 Week 4	11-29-15 Week 5	Month Totals			
General Offerings						
St. Pat's	\$6,153	\$4,886	\$29,332			
OLMC	\$1,052	\$1,540	\$6,439			
E-giving	\$55	\$285	\$1,620			
Total	\$7,260	\$6,711	\$37,391			
LAST YEAR	\$8,113	\$9,989	\$42,429			
Maintenance Offerings						
St. Pat's	\$97	\$67	\$1,462			

St. Pat's	\$97	\$67	\$1,462
OLMC	\$5	0	\$140
Total	\$102	\$67	\$1,602

All Souls': St. Pat's \$2,936 + OLMC \$455 = Total \$3,391

Parish Services: St. Pat's \$478 + OLMC \$108 **= Total** \$586

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: St. Pat's \$688 + OLMC \$115 = \$803

Thanksgiving: OLMC \$95 + St. Pat's \$1,406 = \$1,501

Thank you for your generosity & continued support!

Share the spirit of Christmas! Adopt-A-Family



If your family would like to sponsor a family in need this Christmas, or you would like to refer a family in need, please call Parish Services and leave a message (532-7139 ext. 107). Deacon Mike will contact you with all the details.



Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration Sunday ~ December 13th ~ Mass at 3:00 pm Potluck will follow in the Parish Hall **Mariachis! Music! Food! Fellowship!** Everyone is welcome ~ Please bring a dish to share The Hispanic Community is generously providing beverages, green salad, enchiladas, tamales and bread.



WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Supporting Interfaith

Santa Claus will be visiting the "North Pole" at Interfaith again this year with your help. The "Giving Tree" has been decorated and is in the Parish Hall waiting for you to take an

ornament.

This is the one time of the year that our Interfaith children receive something **NEW**, rather than a hand-me-down or used gift.

You may deliver your unwrapped gifts to the office during office hours or leave them under the tree any time the hall is open. They will be picked up every Tuesday and Thursday. Let us show our love for our Interfaith children. The last day we are accepting gifts is December 23.

Please call or email me if you have any questions.

SUPPORT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Visit our new website at www.kofc2165.org and use the Amazon Link.

OUR amazon LINK

GREAT FUNDRAISING NEWS JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!!

If you or anyone you know shops at Amazon, we would appreciate if you would use our Council's Amazon Link. By using the link to go to Amazon instead of going through Google or any other link, we will earn a commission for every purchase made.





During Advent, you may donate Christmas poinsettias for a loved one: *"in memory of, or in honor of".*

We have sent out pre-printed envelopes. If you do not have an envelope, please use a regular envelope.

Please place your donation envelope in the collection basket during Advent. Print your name on the envelope with the check and remember to indicate on your check whether your donation is for OLMC or St. Patrick's. Also ~ please print clearly on the envelope or a piece of paper the names of those you are honoring or remembering and include it in the envelope.



Attention all Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, and Ushers

If there are any dates you know you will NOT be available to minister during the first quarter of 2016 (January, February, March), please let Sandra Betti know by Monday, December 7th.

Please either email your information to <u>sandra@stpatssonora.org</u> or call the office. Sandra's extension is 109. Thank you!

Stop Assisted Suicide in CA before it's too late!

Earlier this year, through a Special Session, the CA legislature passed assisted suicide, allowing doctors to prescribe overdose medication to terminally ill patients. Join a coalition of physicians, nurses, disability-rights organizations, and people of all faiths to stand for the lives of our elderly and dying and oppose assisted suicide! On Sunday, December 13 and December 20, petitions will be available for signature outside of Masses. Signers must be registered to vote and can only sign once.

Why Oppose Assisted Suicide?

- Sends the Wrong Message: Legalizing suicide for the terminally ill, while discouraging it for the rest of the population, teaches that the lives of the ill and disabled do not matter to our society.
- Will Worsen Patient Care: Patients in other states, like Barbara Wagner in Oregon, are being denied treatment prescribed by their doctors, and instead offered drugs for assisted suicide.
- Will Increase Non-Terminal Suicide Rates: Suicides skyrocket when assisted suicide is legalized. Oregon's suicide rate for non-terminal people increased 49% after assisted suicide became legal.

Mass Intentions						
Satu	Saturday, Dec. 5 ~ Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015					
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adolfo Negrete, happy birthday				
OLMC	5:00 pm	Joe & Marge Fitzpatrick 🕆				
Sunday	7:30 am	All Parishioners				
-	9:00 am	Jerry Kahl 🕆				
		Maury & Alvena Leal,				
		Happy 73rd Wedding Anniversary				
	11:00 am	No Intentions				
	5:00 pm	No Intentions				
We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.						
Monday	8:00 am	No Intentions				
Tuesday	8:00 am	Maria Negrete, happy birthday				
Wednesday	8:00 am	Gertrude Toothacre 🕏				
Thursday	8:00 am	No Intentions				
Friday	8:00 am	No Intentions				
Saturday	5:00 pm	Jack & LaVon Woodcock 🕆				
		Jack McCoy 🕆				
Sunday	7:30 am	All Parishioners				
	9:00 am	Hezzy Arellano 🕆				
	11:00 am	No Intentions				
	3:00 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe				
		Alicia Diaz 🕆				

Retirement Fund for Religious

Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K–12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

This Week in our Parish

Saturday, Dec. 5 thru Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015

Sat 12/5 & Sun 12/6 ~ Parish Services Collection

Sun 12/6 ~ Meet & Greet hosted by Ministers to the Sick

Sat 12/12 ~ Altar Duty ~ Barbara Kay & Rose Kutsch

Sat 12/12 & Sun 12/13~ Second Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious Sun 12/13 ~ Meet & Greet hosted by YLI

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Lectors ~ Please pick up your new lector workbooks in the parish office.

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

New this week: Aarla Walker & Jacquelyn Duffy Those needing your continued prayers:

Vi Baran, Ruth Callahan, Carole Canepa, David Todd Cardiff, David Brian Cardiff, Joyce Cardiff, Jill McClintock-Cole, Carolynn Gregory, Irene Hatcher, Audrey (A. J.) Holmes, Dixie Huber, Mary Kingsley, Dorothy McCargar, Helena Mayhan, Cari McQuinn, Joseph Murtagh, Carolyn Peterson, Margaret Petersen, Jean Richardson, Bonnie Rodgers, Sylvia Scott, Sue Slater, Marcie Sowa, Clay Sweeney, Richard Vandergrift, Rita Vigil, Harry Weiland, Joyce Youngbar

If you have a request to add a name to the bulletin and/or the prayer chain, please contact Sandy Pallante at 532-7625. If you have good news and would like a name removed, please call same number.



Diocese of Stockton

GOOD NEWS

From Bishop Blaire My Dear People,

As we begin the season of Advent a new Church year, and the Year of Mercy, we hear the call to welcome the stranger and to be open to the living Christ. I pray with you that we may be transformed during this season of longing for the presence of Jesus in our lives and in our world. May you and everyone you love be blessed with the light of Christ shining in your lives of faith.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

1. Jote her & Pilen

Bishop Stephen E. Blaire Roman Catholic Bishop of Stockton

THIS MONTH

Guadalupe Procession

35th Annual Guadalupe Procession and Euchanist Celebration–Join Bishop Blaire on Sunday, December 6, 12:00 pm. Pilgrimage begins at St. Mary of the Assumption, Stockton, followed by Mass at 2:15 pm at the Stockton Arena. This year's theme is Under the Merciful Mantel of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Feeding the hungry is one of the corporal works of mercy. Pilgrims are invited to bring non-perishable items to the gathering site at St. Mary's or to the entrance doors at the Arena. Food will be distributed through Catholic Charities Food Bank. For information, call 466-0636, ext. 627 or 628.

US Patronal Feast

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on December 8 is the patronal feast day of the United States and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mary's response to the angel places her willingly in the hands of God, no matter the difficulties ahead. Check your parish bulletin for mass times.

Year of Mercy

Pope Francis has called us to a Jubilee Year, a Year of Mercy, from December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016. Events at the Diocesan and Parish level throughout the year will mark this extraordinary time of prayer and reflection on the merciful love of God.



Information on the year can be found at http://stocktondiocese.org/year-ofmercy.

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Special events include:

CESA

* Holy doors to celebrate pilgrimage and conversion at the Cathedral in Stockton, St. Patrick in Sonora and St. Stanislaus (new church) in Modesto

* Diocesan Penance Services with the Bishop and all the priests of the diocese throughout the year

 Healing Masses for those who are sick or who have disabilities during the summer

Watch your parish bulletin for details!

FUTURE EVENTS

Walk for Life

The 12th Walk for Life West Coast January 23, 2016, 12:30 pm Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco http://www.walkforlifewc.com/

Year of Mercy Ministry Day

Ministry Day will be on March 12, 2016 at St. Josephe's in Modesto. The Diocesan Conference will lift up the Jubilee Year of Mercy called forth by Pope Francis and his encyclical 'Laudato Si', on the care of the environment. This is for all parish leaders: pastors, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. For further information e-mail Sr. Gloria DeJesús: *GDejesus@stocktondiocese.org* Diocese of Stockton

oticiats Diciembre 2015 Vol. 11 No.12

DI@CESANAS

BUENAS NOTICIAS

Del Obispo Blaire

Queridos fieles,

Al principio del Adviento y de un Nuevo Año Litúrgico, y del Año de la Misericordia, escuchamos de nuevo el llamado a la aperture al prójimo y a Cristo vivo. Oro para que ustedes y yo podamos ser transformados en este tiempo de espera y de anhelo por la presencia de Dios en njuestras vidas y en nuestro mundo.

Que usted y los suyos puedan ser bendecidos con la luz de Cristo que brilla en sus vidas de fe. En Cristo,

Obigoo Stephen E. Blaire

Obispo Católico Romano de Stockton

ESTE MES

Procesión Gusdalupana

La Trigésima quinta processión Guadalupana y la celebración de la Misa serán el Domingo 6 de Diciembre, a las 12.00 m. Comenzará en Santa María, en Stockton, y la Misa se tendrá al final de ésta, a las 2.15 pm, en la Arena de Stockton. El tema de este año es: "Bajo el manto protector de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe."

Dar de comer al hambriento es una de las obras de misericordia corporales. Se pide a los fieles que quieran hacerlo traer donaciones de alimentos que no se corrompan, para depositarlos en Santa María o en las puertes de entrada de la Arena. Los alimentos se distribuirán por el Banco de Alimentos de Caridades Castólicas. Mayor información en 209.466.0636 ext. 627 o 628.

Fiesta Patronal de EE UU

El 8 de Diciembre es la fiesta patronal de EE UU y un día de Misa. La respuesta de María al Ángel la coloca voluntariamente en manos de Dios, no importa lo que pueda venir. Vea su boletín parroquial para las horas de Misa.

Año de la Misericordia.

El Papa Fransco ha declarado un año jubilar de la Misericordia, que irá de Diciembre 8, 2015 a Noviembre 20, 2016. Eventos parroquiales y diocesanos se tendrán durante este año de oración y reflexión sobre el amor misericordioso de Dios.



Más informaciópn en *http://stocktondiocese.org/yeat-of-metty* Eventos especiales como:

* Puerta Santa en la cathedral de Stockton, en San Paricio (Sonora), y en San Estanislao (Iglesia nueva), en Modesto, para celebrar peregrinaje y conversión.

 Celebraciones diocesanas de la penitencia (Confesiones) con el Obispo y los sacerdotes de la diócesis a lo largo de todo el año.

 Misas de sanación para los enfermos y deshabilitados.

 Consulte su boletín parroquial para más detalles.

ACONTECIMIENTOS FUTUROS

Caminata por la vida

La duodécima Caminata por la Vida de la Gosta Ocste será en Enero 26, 2016. Ciomenzará a las 12.30 pm en la Plaza del Centro Cívico de San Francisco. / http://www.walkforlifewc.com

Día del Ministerio en el Año de la Misericordia

Se tendrá el 12 de Marzo del 2016 en la Parroquia de San José, en Modesto. Esta Conferencia Diocesana exaltará el Año de la Misericordia convocado por el Papa Francisco y su Encídica "Laudato Si", sobre el cuidado del medio ambiente. Está pensado para todos los líderes parroquiales: párrocos, sacerdotes, diáconos, y fieles en general. Para más información e-mail a la Hna. Gloria DeJesús: GDejesus@stockktondiocese.org



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