

## 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,  
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"

## 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](http://www.StPatsSonora.org)

**Email Office:**  
[StPats@StPatsSonora.org](mailto:StPats@StPatsSonora.org)

**Email Bulletin:**  
[GoodNews@StPatsSonora.org](mailto:GoodNews@StPatsSonora.org)

### **Parish Services:**

Sonora: 209-532-7139 Ext. 107  
Big Oak Flat: 209-532-7139 Ext. 111

Vol. 4, No. 51

## St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Sonora, California

# The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

*The Year of Mercy has begun and Holy Door is now opened!*



*Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2015  
Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart!  
(Zep 3:14).*

*"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](http://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](mailto:frsam@stpatssonora.org). God bless.

In Christ, Fr. Sam West, Parish Administrator



# Father Sam's Message

This is the 3rd Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday! We have much to rejoice in our anticipation of our Lord Jesus' coming. Also, we especially have reason to rejoice because the extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy has begun and the Holy Door is now opened!

In the Gospel, St. John the Baptist tells us of the coming of "one" who is "mightier" than himself. The Baptist says, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." The purpose of this new "baptism," which, as John reminds us, differs from his baptism with water, is over and above the forgiveness of sins. The purpose of the baptism with "Holy Spirit and fire" is to make a person perfect in holiness, to transform a person to love like God loves. We will need to love perfectly in order to be like God and enjoy the vision of His face forever in heaven. Although we have been forgiven for our past sins, there may be effects that remain as a result of sin that prevent us from loving as we should. To better love as we are made to love, the consequence of sin can be satisfied here on earth by the practice of prayer, penance, and almsgiving. Otherwise, any remaining imperfections or consequences would need to be purged out in Purgatory after a person's death before they could enter heaven. An indulgence is a special grace that can more quickly remove the consequence or punishment due to sins for both the living and the dead. Although indulgences, which are granted by the authority given to the Church by Christ, are always available, there is a special indulgence in this Jubilee Year of Mercy to help us overcome the effects of sin. By having these lingering effects removed, we are then able to love God, others, and ourselves more perfectly.

Explaining the Jubilee Indulgence, Pope Francis says, "A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy. God's forgiveness knows no bounds. In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God makes even more evident his love and its power to destroy all human sin. Reconciliation with God is made possible through the paschal mystery and the mediation of the Church. Thus God is always ready to forgive, and he never tires of forgiving in ways that are continually new and surprising. Nevertheless, all of us know well the experience of sin. We know that we are called to perfection (cf. Mt 5:48), yet we feel the heavy burden of sin. Though we feel the transforming power of grace, we also feel the effects of sin typical of our fallen state. Despite being forgiven, the conflicting

*consequences of our sins remain. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God forgives our sins, which he truly blots out; and yet sin leaves a negative effect on the way we think and act. But the mercy of God is stronger even than this. It becomes indulgence on the part of the Father who, through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling him to act with charity, to grow in love rather than to fall back into sin."* (Misericordiae Vultus, article 22).

As a designated pilgrimage site for the Year of Mercy by our Bishop Stephen Blaire, our parishioners and the many pilgrims who come may be able to receive the Jubilee indulgence. In addition to the usual requirements of a good Confession, reception of Holy Communion, detachment from all sins (including venial sins), and praying for the Pope, when a person enters through the front door, the Door of Mercy, of our church, they can receive this unique grace. John the Baptist tells us that it is Jesus in His infinite Mercy who will "burn" away the "chaff" of the consequence of sin so only the pure wheat of love will remain and grow stronger in us. This is why Jesus, the Son of the living God, has come into the world. An indulgence applies the inexhaustible graces, referred to in the Gospel as the "unquenchable fire," our Lord Jesus won for us in His death on the Cross to make satisfaction for the penalty due to sin. This treasury of grace has been entrusted to the Church and

is distributed even more generously during a Jubilee Year.



In addition to the pilgrimage through the Holy Door, a person may obtain the Jubilee Indulgence by performing a spiritual or corporal work of mercy.



May the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Mercy, pray for us as we begin this very special time of conversion and renewal. Rejoice for our Lord, our Mercy, is near!

*God bless, Fr. Sam West*



**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration**  
**Today ~ 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.





**Save the Date in**  **December** 

**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  
**Mass at Midnight**

**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**



**HERE YE, HERE YE:**

The Hill Top Musical Kids, sponsored by  
 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, proudly present a  
 wonderful musical story of the first Christmas.

**"Arrest These Merry Gentlemen"**

Can you imagine shepherds seeing angels?  
 Well, come and find out about this on  
 Friday, December 18th at 7:00 pm &  
 Saturday, December 19th at 2:00 pm  
 at the Groveland Evangelical Church  
 on Ferretti Road in Groveland.

There is NO ADMISSION charge,  
 but donations are gratefully accepted.

For more information call,  
 Louise Turney, 962-0609.

**2015 Advent Penance Services**


**St. Patrick's ~ Angels Camp ~**  
 Monday, December 14 ~ 6:30 pm

**St. Patrick's ~ Sonora ~**  
**Tuesday, December 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, December 16 ~  
 call (209) 754-3815 for the time

**All Saints ~ Twain Harte ~**  
 Thursday, December 17 ~ 4:30 pm

***Please Pray for the Sick in our Parish,  
 and their family members***  
***Those needing your continued prayers:***  
 Vi Baran, Ruth Callahan, Carole Canepa,  
 David Todd Cardiff, David Brian Cardiff, Joyce Cardiff,  
 Jill McClintock-Cole, Jacquelyn Duffy, Carolyn 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, Aarla Walker,  
 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.

# Christmas Poinsettias

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.



## 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.

Laurel Utecht 532-5033 or [lu@mlode.com](mailto:lu@mlode.com)

## Weekly Offering

Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	12-6-15 Week 1
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### General Offerings

St. Pat's	\$7,659
OLMC	\$1,235
E-giving	\$435
Total	\$9,329

LAST YEAR	\$10,012
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### Maintenance Offerings

St. Pat's	\$556
OLMC	\$100
Total	\$656

**Parish Services:** St. Pat's \$541+  
OLMC \$153= Total \$694

**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.

## Retirement Fund for Religious

Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

## SUPPORT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Visit our new website at [www.kofc2165.org](http://www.kofc2165.org) and use the Amazon Link.

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**Mass Intentions for the week**



**Saturday, Dec. 12~ Sunday, Dec. 20, 2015**

<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Jack McCoy † Jack & LaVon Woodcock †
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	All Parishioners
	9:00 am	Hezzy Arellano †
	11:00 am	Rose LaMintia † David Oberwager †
	3:00 pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe Alicia Diaz †
<i>We say the rosary after each 8:00 am weekday Mass.</i>		
<b>Monday</b>	8:00 am	Virginia Ruscigno † Peggy Dossi †
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00 am	Rose LaMintia †
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00 am	David Oberwager †
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00 am	Rocky & Lupe Duran Rebecca Mlinar
<b>Friday</b>	8:00 am	Charlotte Dunne †
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Ethan Lyons † Richard Wyman †
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	All Parishioners
	9:00 am	Deceased Member of YLI † Steven Wyman †
	11:00 am	Rose LaMintia †, Joe Hart †
	5:00 pm	<i>No Intentions</i>

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, Dec. 14 thru Sunday, Dec. 20, 2015**

<b>Monday:</b>	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
<b>Thursday:</b>	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
<b>Saturday:</b>	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
<b>Sunday:</b>	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Second Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins
<b>Monday:</b>	St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
<b>Tuesday:</b>	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>Wednesday:</b>	St. Juan Diego
<b>Friday:</b>	St. Damasus I
<b>Saturday:</b>	Our Lady of Guadalupe

**This Week in our Parish**

**Saturday, Dec. 12 thru Sunday, Dec. 20, 2015**

**Sun 12/13~** Meet & Greet hosted by YLI

**Sat 12/12 & Sun 12/13 ~ Special Collection**  
Retirement Fund for Religious

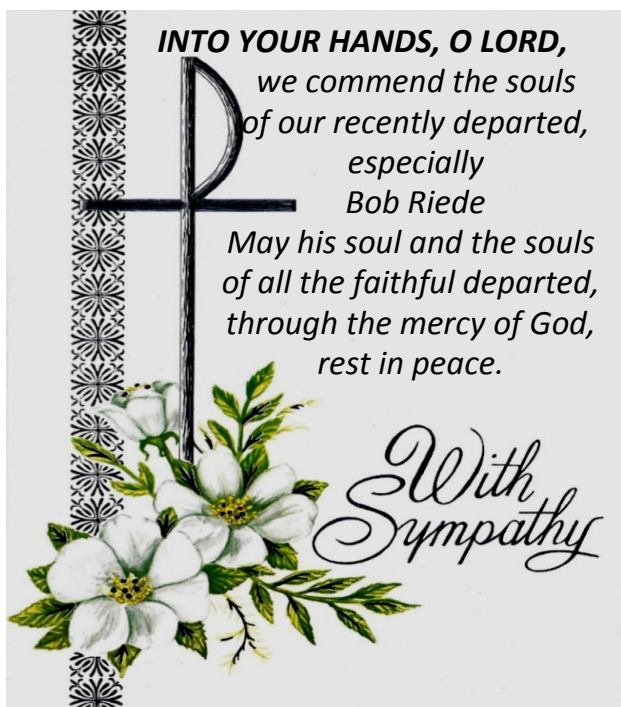
**Sat 12/19 ~ Altar Duty ~**  
Marge Clennon & Ruth Garretson

**Tues 12/15 ~ Special Mass**  
11:00 am ~ Skyline Place Mass

**Sun 12/20 ~** Meet & Greet hosted by Religious Education, Teens and Young Adults

For regularly scheduled meetings, please check the Master Calendar. Go to [www.StPatssonora.org](http://www.StPatssonora.org) and click on the "View Website" link on the left side of the main page. It will take you directly to the Master Calendar.

If you have calendar requests or need to make changes to your current calendared items, please email [ron@stpatssonroa.org](mailto:ron@stpatssonroa.org) with your request.





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