

## 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. 52

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

# The GOOD News

... in Our Parish

## *Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 20, 2015*



### *"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

Now that the Year of Mercy has begun and the Holy Door, the Door of Mercy, is opened, let us consider how we can commit ourselves to respond to the gifts that will be imparted during this extraordinary Jubilee Year. First off, we respond by accepting the graces offered to grow in our relationship with Christ, especially in experiencing the gift of our Lord's Infinite Mercy. Also, we respond by joyfully and generously sharing the gifts we have received with others.

In the Gospel for this final week in Advent, we hear how our Blessed Mother immediately responded to the gift she had received and accepted of becoming the Mother of God, the Mother of Mercy. She, without delay, wanted to share the gift of Jesus, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, with others. After the Angel Gabriel departed from her, the Gospel tells us, *"Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth."* We too, want to make "haste" by accepting and sharing the gifts we have received.

Here at St. Patrick's we have been given, by God's grace, the wonderful gift of being designated as a pilgrimage site for the Holy Year of Mercy. I urge all of you to seriously consider how you will respond to the gift of this Year of Mercy and commit yourselves to making this unique opportunity a very fruitful time of conversion and spiritual renewal for yourself and for the entire parish. We want to do everything we can to make the most of the graces God desires to shower on each of us and all those who come here for a pilgrimage.

Because we have been given these gifts of being a pilgrimage site and having a Door of Mercy, we have the responsibility of sharing them generously with everyone. In addition to each responding personally, we want to respond as a parish by properly welcoming all those who come to our beautiful Church in Sonora seeking God's Mercy. This means making the Church more available, especially for pilgrims who travel here to enter through the Holy Door hoping to receive the Jubilee Indulgence. To fulfill this desire, we are starting a new ministry called **"Ambassadors of Mercy."** Those who take part in this ministry will be serving by welcoming any and all pilgrims who visit our Church in Sonora during the Year of Mercy. To limit the possibility of any vandalism or malicious activity, we have been closing the Church when the parish

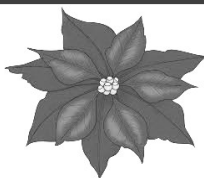
office is closed. Currently, the Church is opened Monday through Thursday from 7:00am to 4:00pm. However, we are closed all day Friday and most of the day Saturday. We are also closed on national holidays. But, because we want as many people as possible to come through the Door of Mercy, to receive the Indulgence, and welcome anyone who has been moved by the Holy Spirit to come here, I want the Church opened everyday of the week. So, at this point, we will need volunteers to take times in one- or two-hour blocks, on Fridays, between 9 am and 4 pm, and Saturdays, between 8 am and 3:45pm, to be at the Church. You can choose to serve once a month or more often if you are able. For safety reasons and mutual support, we want at least 3 people to be at the Church at any one time. While waiting for any pilgrims, there would be an opportunity to spend much needed time in prayer with our Lord Jesus. For those who are interested in this ministry, I am inviting you to come to a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 2016. I will present in more detail what this exciting ministry is all about and how you can best participate. For your convenience, there will be two opportunities to attend. We will have a session in the morning at 11:00 am and the same meeting repeated in the evening at 6:30 pm. In the meantime, we are already seeking volunteers to cover times over the next few weeks.

There are no limits, or requirements, to becoming an "Ambassador of Mercy." If you are new to the parish, or have never volunteered or been part of a ministry before, this is a great opportunity to get started. Please send an email to [ambassadors@stpatssonora.org](mailto:ambassadors@stpatssonora.org) or call the parish office for more information or to sign-up.

In final week of Advent, let us, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist, open the doors of our hearts to joyfully receive the fullness of God's love and mercy in the coming of His Son, our Lord Jesus!

*God Bless, Fr. Sam West*

## 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 with the check.

**Liturgical Ministers, please pick-up your schedules for the First Quarter**

### SUPPORT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

There is no difference in pricing. There is no tracking of your purchases. All of your Amazon Prime or other discounts and benefits apply. The only difference in your Amazon experience - the only difference - is how you got there.

Over 175 million people shop at Amazon every month! So it is very important that we share this link with all of our family and friends and take advantage of this terrific opportunity to support our Council in this very simple and easy way. With everyone's participation this could mean a lot of money for our Council, so do not hesitate - please forward this message to everyone you know.

## Save the Date



**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, December 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**

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD**  
**THROUGH SUNDAY JANUARY 3RD**



### 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.

*Deacon Mike Kubasek*

The "Giving Tree" has been decorated and is in the Parish Hall waiting for you to take an ornament.

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.

Religious give thanks. "We cannot begin to repay all who contribute," writes a Catholic sister. "So we pray to God, who is never outdone in generosity, to reward you." Heartfelt thanks for your donation to last week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. May God bless you for your goodness!

June 1-11, 2016

Call Adeline Castiglione, MCC  
(818) 368-6545 or Toll Free (800) 580-7040

Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	12-6-15 Week 1	12-13-15 Week 2	Month Totals
<b>General Offerings</b>			
St. Pat's	\$7,659	\$7,328	\$14,987
OLMC	\$1,235	\$1,163	\$2,398
E-giving	\$435	\$580	\$1,015
Total	\$9,329	\$9,071	\$18,400
LAST YEAR	\$10,012	\$9,020	\$19,032
<b>Maintenance Offerings</b>			
St. Pat's	\$556	\$177	\$733
OLMC	\$100	\$80	\$180
Total	\$656	\$257	\$913
<b>Parish Services:</b> <i>St. Pat's \$541 + OLMC \$153 = Total \$694</i>			
<b>Retirement Fund for Religious:</b> <i>St. Pat's \$995 + OLMC \$232 = Total \$1,227</i>			
<b>Thank you for your generosity &amp; continued support!</b>			

## Mass Intentions for the week

### Friday, Dec. 18 ~ Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015

Friday	8:00 am	Nicolas J. Cercore ☩
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Ethan Lyons ☩ Richard Wyman ☩
	5:00 pm	(OLMC) Justin Wilder
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	Teresa Sweeney
	9:00 am	(OLMC) All Parishioners
	9:00 am	Deceased Members of YLI ☩
		Steven Wyman ☩
	11:00 am	Rose LaMintia ☩ Joe Hart ☩
Monday	8:00 am	Roberto Gregorio ☩
		Bob McColloch
Tuesday	8:00 am	Roberto Gregorio ☩
		Carmona Family
Wednesday	8:00 am	Mary Lou Gonzales ☩ Bob Riede ☩
Thursday	8:00 am	Allen Patrick Spencer ☩
	4:30 pm	Bob & Betty Andrus ☩
		Louie & Ann Varni ☩
	5:00 pm	(OLMC) Margaret Deaver ☩
	6:30 pm	No Intentions
	Midnight Mass	No Intentions
Friday	9:00 am	(OLMC) No Intentions
	10:00 am	Leroy Egan ☩, Mike Melendez ☩
	12:00 pm	(St. Anne's) No Intentions
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm	Jack McCoy ☩
		Jack & LaVon Woodcock ☩
<b>Sunday</b>	7:30 am	All Parishioners
	9:00 am	Julia & Eric Mlinar
	9:00 am	John Hassay
	11:00 am	Bob Riede ☩ Carmen McGrath ☩

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

#### ***Those needing your continued prayers:***

Rose Agerter, Vi Baran, Ruth Callahan, Carole Canepa, David Todd Cardiff, David Brian Cardiff, Joyce Cardiff, Jacquelyn Duffy, Carolynn Gregory, Irene Hatcher, Audrey (A. J.) Holmes, Mary Kingsley, Dorothy McCargar, Helena Mayhan, Cari McQuinn, Joseph Murtagh, Carolyn Peterson, Margaret Petersen, Jean Richardson, Sue Slater, Marcie Sowa, Clay Sweeney, 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.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Monday, Dec. 21 thru Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015

Monday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Friday: Vigil:	Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night:	Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn:	Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day:	Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Saturday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins
Wednesday:	St. John of Kanty
Thursday:	The Vigil of Christmas
Friday:	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Saturday:	St. Stephen; First day of Kwanzaa



## This Week in our Parish

### Saturday, Dec. 19 ~ Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015

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

**Friday, December 25th Christmas Day**  
see the middle page for Mass times

**Sat 12/26** Altar Duty  
Eleanor Lauterio and Sue Julian

**Sun 12/27** Meet & Greet hosted by Knights of Columbus