

**St. Patrick's
Catholic Church**

127 Jackson St.

Sonora, CA

Masses:

Mon-Fri

8:00 am

Sunday

7:30 am

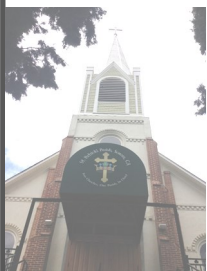
9:00 am

11:00 am

1:00 pm

Reconciliation: Wednesday

6:00 - 6:45 pm, or by appt.



**Our Lady of
Mt. Carmel**

Mission Church

11700 Catholic Cemetery Rd.

Big Oak Flat, CA

Mass:

Saturday

4:00 pm

**Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30,
or by appt.**



Parish Staff

Fr. Suresh Ery,

Parochial Administrator

Mike Kubasek, Deacon

Michael Tippet, Deacon

Nancy Roe, Business Manager

Marie Dahlstrand,

Coordinator of Liturgy

Sandra Betti, Music Director

and Bulletin Editor

Kathy Casas, Religious Ed

Teresa Sweeney, Maintenance

Lisa Gabrielson,

Administrative Assistant

Kary Hubbard,

Communications Coordinator

Contact Us

Office: 116 W. Bradford St.

Sonora, CA 95370

Hours: Mon-Thur 8:30 - 4:00

Closed 12:30-1:00 for lunch

Phone: 1-209-532-7139

Web: www.stpatssonora.org

Email: stpat@stpatssonora.org

Parish Services: 209-532-7139

Ext. 107

Volume 12, Number 37



The Good News

... in our Parish

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 10, 2023



"The Lamb" Oil, pen and ink, 1920

Paul Klee, 1879-1940

Jesus said to His disciples, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 18:18)

All are welcome at St. Patrick's Parish!

Whether you are a visitor or a long time parishioner, St. Patrick's Parish joyfully welcomes you! We want all who come here to know the love of Christ, to truly encounter the risen Lord, to hear His word and experience His mercy. If you would like more information about our parish, please visit our website at www.stpatssonora.org.

To contact Fr. Suresh, please call 1-209-532-7139, ext. 112 or email frsuresh@stpatssonora.org. May God richly bless you!



And the Whole World Changed ~ A Reflection by Fr. Ron Rolheiser

Iris Murdoch once said that the whole world can change in fifteen seconds. She was talking about falling in love. Hatred, it seems, can do the same thing: On Tuesday morning, September 11, the world changed. Two huge passenger planes, hijacked by terrorists, crashed into and collapsed the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York, killing thousands of people, as television cameras recorded the event live, showing horrific, graphic scenes over and over again. Shortly afterwards, a third hijacked plane slammed into the Pentagon, even as a fourth crashed in an open field. Inside of what is supposed to be the most secure place on earth, thousands of innocent people were killed within the space of an hour.

Stunned, muted, we nonetheless tried to speak to the situation. Many of the voices we heard were hard, angry, calling for retaliation and vengeance. Most voices though were gentle, looking only for a safe, intimate place to cry, for someone to hang onto. One Internet media site simply had a blank screen, a silent gesture that spoke eloquently. What, after all, can be said?

The opening lines from the Book of Lamentations offer this haunting description: *How deserted she sits, the city once thronged with people! Once the greatest of nations, she is now like a widow.* Later on, this same book tells us that there are times when all you can do is to put your face to the dust and wait. Rainer Marie Rilke would agree. Here's his advice on suffering: *O you lovers that are so gentle, step occasionally into the breath of the sufferers not meant for you. ... Do not be afraid to suffer, give the heaviness back to the weight of the earth; mountains are heavy, seas are heavy.*

The earth knows our pain. Sometimes silence is best. Yet a few things need to be said, even in the raw immediacy of this thing.

First of all, that each life lost was unique, sacred, precious, irreplaceable. None of these persons should have their name lost in the anonymity of dying with so many others. Their lives and deaths must be honored, individually. This is true, too, for the suffering of their families and loved ones.

Second, clear voices must call us, especially our governments, towards restraint. Many see this as an attack on civilization itself. They're right. Accordingly our task is to respond in a civilized way, re-iterating always

our belief that violence is wrong, whether it be theirs or ours. The air we breathe out into the universe is the air that we eventually breathe back in. Violence begets violence. Terrorism will not be stopped by bitter vengeance. Catharsis won't bring about closure. We shouldn't be naive about that. Nor, indeed, should we be naive in reverse. These terrorist acts, with their utter disregard for life, offer us a very clear picture of the world these people would create were they ever given scope and license to do so. They must be brought to justice. They're a threat to the whole world. In bringing them to justice, however, we must never stoop to their means and, like them, be driven by a hatred which blinds one to justice and the sacredness of life.

No emergency ever allows one to bracket the fundamentals of charity, respect, and justice. Indeed, horrific tragedies of this sort call us to just the opposite, namely, to fiercely re-root ourselves in all that is good and Godly – to drive with more courtesy, to take more time for what is important, and to tell those close to us that we love them. Yes, too, it calls us to seek justice and it asks for real courage and self-sacrifice in that quest. We are no longer in ordinary time.

Most of all though, this calls us to prayer. What we learned again on Tuesday morning is that, all on our own, we are neither invulnerable nor immortal. We can only continue to live, and to live in joy and peace, by placing our faith in something beyond ourselves. We can never guarantee our own safety and future. We need to express that in prayer – on our knees, in our churches, to our loved ones, to God, and to everyone whose sincerity makes him or her a brother or sister inside the body of Christ and the family of humanity.

And we are called to hope. We are a resilient people, with faith in the resurrection. Everything that is crucified eventually rises. There will be a morning after. The sun will shine again. We need to live our lives in the face of that, even in times of great tragedy. I end with Rilke's words: *Even those trees you planted as children became too heavy long ago – you couldn't carry them now. But you can carry the winds ... and the open spaces.*

*Fr. Ron Rolheiser
(September 16, 2001)*

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This Week in our Parish

Monday 9/11 ~ Communion Service

8:00 am, St. Patrick's Church, Sonora

Tuesday 9/12—Friday 9/15 ~ Daily Mass

8:00 am, St. Patrick's Church, Sonora

Wednesday 9/13 ~ Adoration/Reconciliation

6:00—6:45 pm, St. Patrick's Church, Sonora

Saturday 9/16 ~ Vigil Mass for The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm, Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Second Collection: Catholic Charities

Sunday 9/17 ~ The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass at 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 am, St. Patrick's
Spanish Mass 1:00

Second Collection: Catholic Charities

Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser S.O.S. ~ Save Our Stairs!

Help us rebuild the Parish Office Stairs



Friday, September 29

5:30—8:00 pm

St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Menu:

Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, French Bread, Dessert

Tickets: \$15

Tickets available after all Masses,
or in the Parish Office

SAVE THE DATE!



From the Editor's Desk 22 Years Ago

The terrorist attacks on 9-11-01 hit me hard. I was in Japan at the time, and being so far from home when such a horrible tragedy was happening in my country made it all the worse. There were no flights back to the USA for several days, of course, and when I finally was able to get a flight, the plane was nearly empty. About 30 Americans returning home; there were no Japanese travelers at all. No one wanted to go the States.

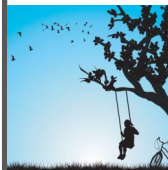
I remember sitting in my empty row, and a Middle Eastern looking gentleman boarded. A young man behind me stood up in his seat and watched the other man put his luggage away, as if to make sure the man knew he was being watched and better not try anything. I thought, "Dear Lord, is this our new normal? Hatred of those who are different, violence as the solution to our problems, suspicion toward anyone we don't know?"

Some say religion is the problem and only causes hate and division. I say fanatical, one-dimensional, blind to anything else at the expense of humanity, is not religion. Christ's teachings are the solution, if we can just follow them. So simple, love God and love your neighbor as yourself. Why is this so hard for us?

Mother Mary, pray for us,
Sandra Betti

Helping Children Cope with Grief and Loss

A free workshop offered in partnership with Stockton
Diocese Family and Marriage Ministry



Saturday, Sept 16, 2023

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Lunch provided

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Parish Hall

Facilitator: Cathi Ruiz

Hospice Chaplain, Adventist Health Sonora

Morning Session: Learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE'S), trauma, and toxic stress, and how these impact health outcomes and family relationships.
Afternoon Session: Become comfortable with materials used to facilitate grief groups for children. Observe how to effectively use artwork in a grief group setting.

To register: Please contact Cathi Ruiz at
CLRuiz@comcast.net by September 9, 2023.



Christmas Baskets

Just a friendly reminder that if you took a tag to get items to help us fill those beautiful Christmas Baskets for the Christmas Fair, those items are due by September 27. Please bring your items to the Parish Office or to Mass on Sunday. Thank you!



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

We meet every Sunday after the 9:00 am Mass in Rm 4 of the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Marie.

Email: marie@stpatssonora.org
Phone: 209-768-7612.



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

Jesse Alarcon
Barbara Balestrieri
Roger Clark
David Costa
Kenny Cox
Aldo Diaz
Gerardo Diaz
Sue Froseth
Manuel Gamboa
Eileen Hogan
A. J. Holmes
Dennis Kavie, Sr.

Linda Knapp
Barbara Lema
David Mesh
Jim Napier
Barbara North
Gloria Patania
Frank Perry
Juan Pulido
Greg Rodriguez
Sebastian Ruiz
Jo Vargo

To add or remove a name from this list,
please contact the Parish Office at 1-209-532-7139.



Faith Formation

Register today!!

Classes continue THIS Wednesday, Sept 13th

If you missed pre-registration and you want your kids
to learn about Jesus and our faith, it's not too late!

Online: stpatssonora.org

Or in person: Parish Office

Join us!

As you may have noticed, we have resumed the
announcements before Mass! If your ministry group
has an event or important information to be
announced, please see the following guidelines:

- Announcements must be brief, 1-2 sentences only: what, when, and where. Details like why we're doing this and who to contact should be in the Bulletin. Be sure your event is also in the Bulletin!
- Announcements will not be repeated week to week, except under certain circumstances.
- Announcements should only be for events and information that affect the majority of the Parish.
- Please submit your announcement request in writing either by email to sandra@stpatssonora.org, or leave a note in the Parish Office. Fr. Suresh has the final approval on all announcements.

Thank you!

Important Dates for St. Patrick's Parish

Thursday, Sept 21 ~ Planning meeting for Christmas Fair
5:30 pm, St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Friday, Sept 29 ~ "Save Our Stairs" Spaghetti Dinner
Fundraiser, 5:30—8:00 pm St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Friday, Oct 6 ~ First Friday Adoration 8:30—3:00

Wednesday, Nov 1 ~ All Saints Day

Thursday, Nov 2 ~ All Souls Day

Friday, Nov 3 ~ First Friday Adoration 8:30—3:00

Sunday, Nov 5 ~ Daylight Saving Time Ends

Saturday, Nov 18 ~ St. Patrick's Christmas Fair

Thursday, Nov 23 ~ Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, Dec 3 ~ First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, Dec 24 ~ Fourth Sunday in Advent AND
Christmas Eve!

Monday, Dec 25 ~ Christmas Day

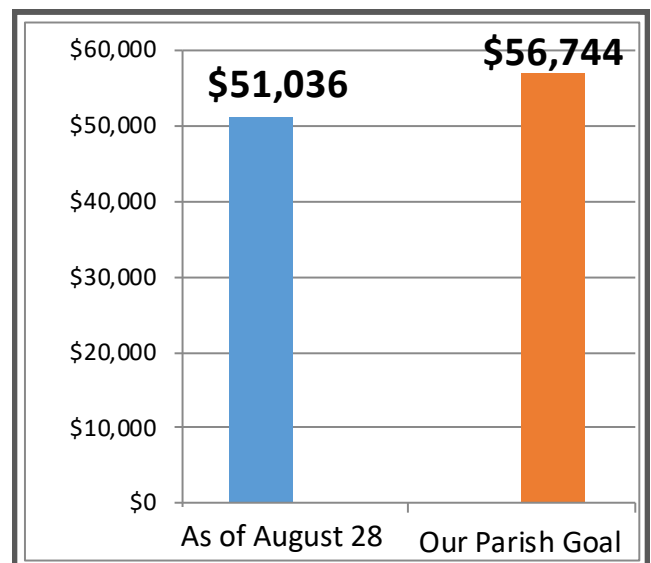
Monday, Jan 1 ~ Happy New Year 2024!



The Wednesday evening Adoration and
Reconciliation will be from 6:00 to 6:45 pm,
in order to leave time for the Benediction
which follows Adoration. Please join us for
this beautiful and peaceful time in the real
presence of Christ.

Bishop's Ministry Appeal Update
We are almost there!

If you haven't already given, you
can still help us meet our goal!



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday September 9 ~ Sunday September 17

Saturday

OLMC 4:00 pm *No Intentions*

Sunday

7:30 am Sam DeFaria ✕
Carmella Peller ✕
9:00 am Tete Arellano ✕
Ruby Mercado ✕
11:00 am The Victims of 9-11-01 ✕
Kathy Gargotto

1:00 pm *No Intentions*

Monday

8:00 am **Communion Service**

Tuesday

8:00 am Souls in Purgatory ✕
Andryc Family ✕

Wednesday

8:00 am Souls in Purgatory ✕

Thursday

8:00 am The Stevenson Family

Friday

8:00 am Gijsbert & Margaret Spilt ✕

Saturday

OLMC 4:00 pm Andryc Family ✕

Sunday

7:30 am Fred Rodriguez ✕
9:00 am Deceased members of YLGI ✕
11:00 am Jack McCoy ✕
1:00 pm *No Intentions*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday September 11 ~ Sunday September 17

Monday: Col 1:24—2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11;
Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab;
Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38;
Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11;
Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5, 6-7;
Lk 6:43-49
Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10,
11-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday September 10 ~ Saturday September 16

Sunday: The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Patriot Day
Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
Wednesday: St. John Chrysostom
Thursday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Friday: Our Lady of Sorrows
Saturday: Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian

Fellowship Sundays!



Please join your fellow parishioners in St. Patrick's Parish Hall after Mass for coffee, food and conversation!

The following ministries have volunteered to host our Fellowship Sundays this summer:

Next Sunday!

Sept 17 after the 9:00 am Mass - *At One With the Spirit*

October 29 after both the 9:00 am & 11:00 am Masses - *Caring for the Whole Person*

We need more volunteers to host additional Masses! Any group of family, friends, or ministries can host. Contact Janice Santana (jmsantana6200@att.net) or call the Parish Office for more details.



Baby Bottle Boomerang is ending soon. The last day to return your baby bottle for the Foothill Pregnancy Center is **September 15!** Please bring your filled baby bottle bank to Mass or to the Parish Office during the week. Thank you!



Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton

Second Collection, September 16-17

Make your check out to *Catholic Charities*

Weekly Offerings



Weekly Goal \$ 10,000	9-3-23 Week 36		Sept Totals to Date
General Offerings			
St. Pat's	\$6,010	\$	\$6,010
OLMC	\$936	\$	\$936
E-giving	\$120	\$	\$120
Total	\$7,066	\$	\$7,066
LAST YEAR	\$9,134	\$	\$9,134
Maintenance Offering			
St. Pat's	\$829	\$	\$829
OLMC	\$135	\$	\$135
Total	\$964	\$	\$964

Parish Services: St. Pat's \$677; OLMC \$162

Thank you for your continued and generous offerings!

Next Sunday's Gospel:
Forgiveness

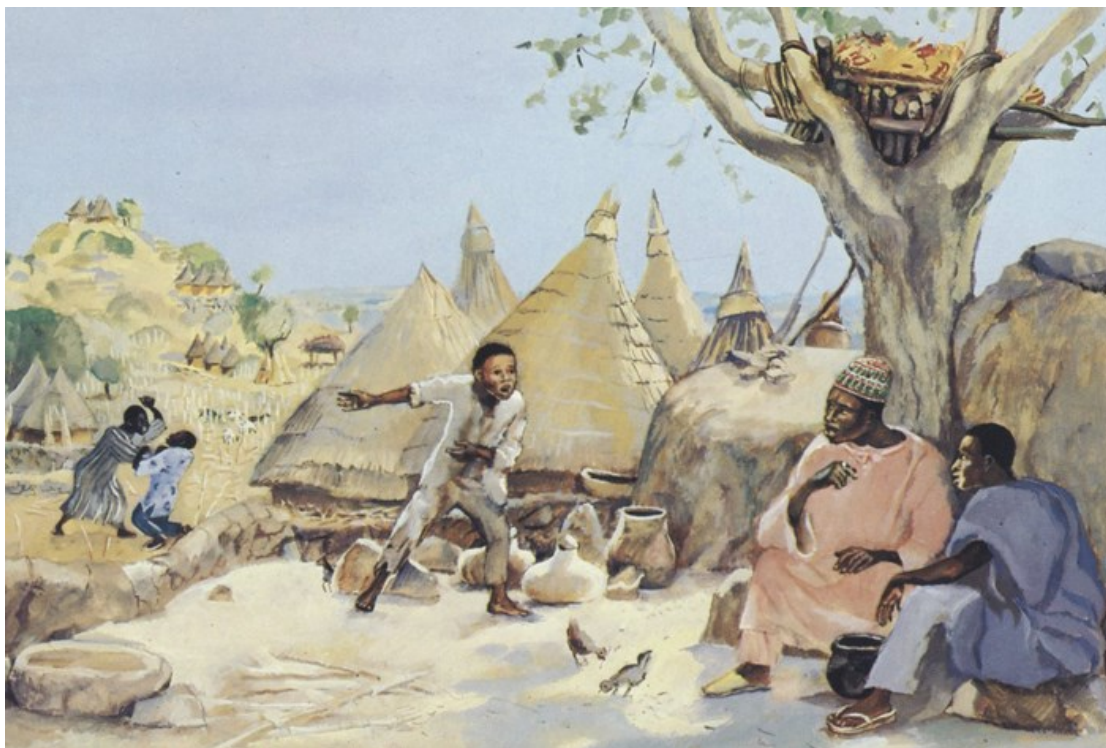
Peter approached Jesus and asked Him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:21-22

About the artwork:

JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by community members.



The Unforgiving Servant, 1973

JESUS MAFA. The Unforgiving Servant, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

St. Patrick's Parish Communications

Visit our **Website** at www.stpatricksonora.org to view our new helpful links, and learn more about our Parish. You can also sign up for Faith Formation, request a Mass Intention, read current and past Bulletins, make a Donation, check our Calendar, and much more!

Follow us on Social Media

If you have any questions or comments, please email our Communications Coordinator Kary Hubbard at kary@stpatricksonora.org

