

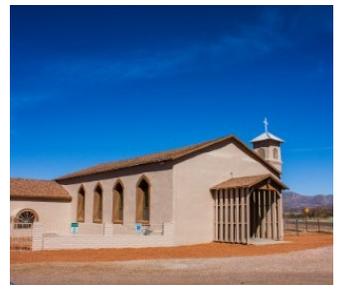


St. Patrick Roman Catholic Parish

St. Patrick Church • St. Michael Mission

NEWSLETTER

December 2016



Website: www.stpatsbisbee.com
www.facebook.com/stpatrickbisbee

P. O. Box 164
Bisbee, AZ 85603

E-Mail: stpatricks@cableone.net
(520) 432-5753

BISHOP KICANAS VISITS PARISH

Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas visited St. Patrick Parish on June 16. Bishop Kicanas reviewed projects completed at both St. Michael Mission and St. Patrick Church, and those underway in preparation for the Centennial Year. Bishop blessed the mural in progress, and presided at the evening Mass, at which the new altar at St. Patrick Church was dedicated. He was presented with a bronze sculpture of Father Constant Mandin, created by local artist Thomas Enriquez.



ST. MICHAEL MISSION

Renovation at St. Michael Mission was completed this year, with the inclusion of a vesting room for clergy and a custodian closet. A grant from the Catholic Foundation helped pay the cost of these improvements. Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 11:30 a.m. at the mission. Thanks to the recent renovation, the building is warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Make it a point to attend Mass at the Mission periodically.

PARISH FALL FESTIVAL

Our parish Fall Festival on October 7-8-9 was a great success, realizing a profit of just over \$20,200. The festival takes much effort by many people, but the profit is a critical part of the annual budget for the parish. It pays a sizeable portion of our annual property insurance, which is over \$25,600 each year. Thanks to all our volunteers who worked so hard, and all who supported the festival in any way.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Patrick Religious Education Program is alive and well. We currently have enrolled 8 confirmation candidates, 17 First Communion candidates, and 6 Rite of Christian Initiation for Children. All classes are a two year program that includes religious formation and sacramental formation for each student and their parents, godparents, and caregivers. The focus is to plant the seed and allow the Holy Spirit to nurture our faith within each family. We are looking for volunteer teachers who want to teach next year. If interested please contact the office at 520-432-5753.

SACRAMENT STATISTICS

These statistics are from November 2015— November 2016:

Baptisms	30
First Communion	18
Confirmation	
Teens	3
Adults	5
Deaths	48

ARE WE PAYING IT FORWARD?

Almost daily the various media have stories about people ‘paying it forward’—giving monetary assistance or volunteer labor to a group or an individual as a gesture of kindness and support. Those early members of our community, including many of our own family members, ‘paid it forward’ (even though they didn’t call it that) when they sacrificed greatly to build and financially support our churches. Our parish has been supported for well over 100 years, by several generations of dedicated individuals who contributed time and money to keep the parish active and alive. We are the beneficiaries of that support. Our church and mission are here today because of their support. Now it’s our turn. Our financial support and volunteer efforts now will ensure that our church will be here for the next generations to come. Will we do it?

Think about it. Now it’s our turn. We must pay it forward!

FAREWELL TO DEACON RICKY PINZON

Our parish reluctantly said farewell to Deacon Ricky Pinzon and his family, as they relocated to the Tucson area. We are very grateful for their dedication and service to St. Michael Mission and St. Patrick Church. We wish them well in their new location, but will also be happy to welcome them back to Bisbee & Naco for a visit now and then.



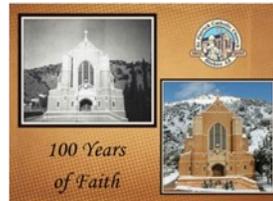
ST. PATRICK CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



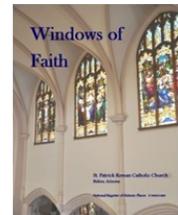
The Centennial Steering Committee has been busy for two years researching our church/parish history and planning for the celebration to commemorate the 100th birthday of St. Patrick Church, which was consecrated on September 30, 1917.

**Save the dates now for our celebration weekend!
Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1, 2017**

Plans are being made now for a Mass at 4 p.m. on Saturday afternoon with a celebratory reception afterward. That weekend there will be one Mass on Sunday at 10:00 a.m., followed by a celebratory brunch.

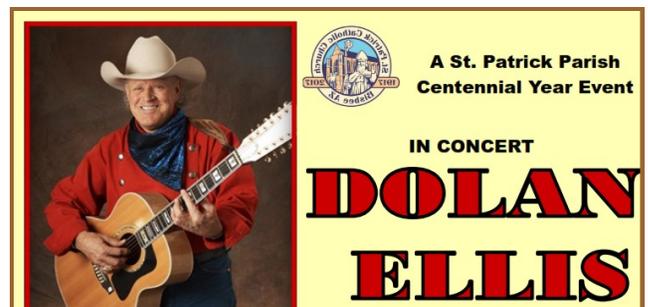


\$8



\$20

Please consider purchasing one of our Centennial publications when you’re remembering those on your gift list. The Centennial calendar and our Windows of Faith book would both make excellent gifts. Both are available at the parish office and may also be purchased on the parish website. Proceeds from the sale of our Centennial items will support our Centennial fund and the parish Building Repair fund.



St. Patrick Parish will host Dolan Ellis, Arizona’s State Balladeer, for a concert on Sunday afternoon, January 15 at 3:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Dolan Ellis was inducted into the Arizona Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame, and was designated as the first “Arizona Culture Keeper” by the Arizona Historical Foundation. His presentations include large screen photography to illustrate the music he performs on his 12-string guitar.

Advance tickets are available for \$15 at the parish office, the parish website, www.stpatsbisbee.com, or Bisbee Office Supply. Seating is obviously limited. Any tickets remaining the day of the concert will be sold at the door for \$20.

ST. PATRICK WOMEN'S CLUB

New officers beginning January 1, 2017 are President—Stella Burke, Vice President— Irene Boykin, Secretary—Bebe Benites, and Treasurer - Ruth Dugie. Thanks to outgoing officers Marcie Escalante, Stella Burke, and Melva Dugie for their dedication to the club and its activities.

This group of 30+ women continues to be a very active organization as they continue the club mission of supporting and promoting the activities and services of St. Patrick Parish. Their two main fundraisers, the July and December bazaars, enable them to give monthly contributions to the parish, to St. Vincent de Paul and to the Sisters of St. Agnes. In addition to their assistance with funeral dinners for parish families, the club hosts various parish dinners, sponsors the parish festival Sweet Tooth booth, and provides two scholarships each year to graduating Bisbee seniors.

Potluck meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month, with annual dues of \$15. All women of the parish are welcome to join. If meeting attendance is not possible, women are encouraged to assist with Club activities.

A PARISH FIRST —A SUMMER INTERN!



Summer 2016 brought a new experience for St. Patrick Parish as our first-ever intern, Dennis Marcos, arrived. And what a delightful experience it turned out to be! Dennis was born in Iloilo City in the Philippines. He and a cousin were raised by their grandparents, a couple very dedicated to their church. Education was very important as Dennis grew up. He completed a degree in Computer

Science and a degree in nursing. He was instrumental in the care of his elderly grandparents, and followed their example of ministry in the church. In his home parish Dennis sang in the choir and was a Eucharistic Minister and catechist. He was part of the Education Council, and taught religion in the public schools. Dennis was active in the Carmelite Missionary Secular, assisting with the social apostolate. Additionally, he was a tutor for 14 students in Chemistry and Physics, and enjoyed participating in martial arts.

Dennis came to the United States in 2015. When he arrived in Bisbee in May 2016, he had just completed the first of two years of pre-theology studies at Mundelein Seminary, a part of the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Chicago. He is now in his second year of pre-theology; following will be another four years of coursework required for a Masters of Divinity degree.

When Dennis arrived in Arizona and was told by the Diocese of Tucson that he would be going to St. Patrick Church in Bisbee, he had never heard of our community and knew nothing of the parish that would be his first ministry assignment in the 'Land of the Free.' He was pleased with the warm reception, and found the people here to be genuine, loving and caring. He was grateful for the opportunity to work with our Deacons and Fr. Matthew, knowing that what he learned from them will serve him well as he continues his journey in the seminary.

As he was preparing to leave at the close of his internship, Dennis said that St. Patrick Parish would always have a big place in his heart. Wherever his footprints may go in the coming years, he wants to assure St. Patrick Parish that his 'heart prints' will always stay here. We continue to keep Dennis in our prayers, and hope that occasionally his footprints will head in our direction again.

Fulfilling our Mission to Serve God's People

St. Patrick Parish reaches out to meet the needs of our community

By the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, the faith community of St. Patrick Parish and St. Michael Mission is devoted to living and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We strive to help all grow strong in faith by encountering Jesus in prayer, sacrament, and liturgy. We commit to nurturing our relationships with God and His people through service and works of charity, especially to those in most need, by bringing to life our Lord's Greatest Commandments: "Loving God, with all our heart, soul, and mind and our neighbor as ourselves" (Matthew 22:37-39).

The gospel calls us to share what we have received, and through our ministries our faith community does just that. We reach out to share with the homebound, the incarcerated, with all in our community who are in need, and with others around our diocese and around the world. Our financial support, our prayers, and our willingness to serve help us make our world a better place. May it ever be so.



BISBEE/NACO YOUTH C.R.E.W. Catholics Ready, Equipped, and Willing

Our Youth C.R.E.W. has been busy all year long. Just before Thanksgiving, members were honored to serve up over 200 meals consisting of turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cranberry jelly, rolls, dessert, and drinks. Their works of mercy do not go unnoticed! Many from the community have come to know our efforts and look forward to joining us, along with those who continue to support us with monetary donations which help make our goal possible. Young members of all ages join us and take pride in the work they do. The younger ones are anxious to help and the older ones are happy to guide and help them accomplish their tasks. They work together as a team and leave the supervising adults in awe, watching them with pride! We could not do the things we do without the support and discipline of their parents and guardians. Most of the C.R.E.W. members are not old enough to drive so they are dependent on an adult to get them there. Thank you!

The Youth C.R.E.W. looks forward to continuing service our community and others in need. Thank you for all of your continued support! Here are some of our upcoming events,—we hope you can join us!

December 10 – Decorating of the stage at 2:00pm

December 11 – Christmas Program Practice after 9:30am Mass, all youth invited to participate!

December 17 – Christmas Program at 6:30pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Mass

December 31 – Free Meal

January 1 – Youth Mass at 9:30am

Jan. 1 – Helium Balloon Rosary in the basketball court at 3:00pm

To be a member of the Youth C.R.E.W. just join us at one of our events. You can follow us on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BisbeeNacoYouthCrew

For information please contact Jennifer Ratkovich by email at jratkovich@diocesetucson.org or text/call 520-428-2163



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Spreading God's Love around the World

St. Patrick Parishioners, assisted by local Girl Scouts, once again participated in Operation Christmas Child. Our shoe boxes joined thousands more from southern Arizona that were shipped to children around the world. Filled with school supplies, hygiene items, toys and accessory items, the boxes will also contain a gospel booklet printed in the child's own language. This is an amazing program. Start thinking now about how you can help. It's not too early to start picking up things to pack into a box. Cash donations help pay the \$7 per box cost of shipping. You can read about the Operation Christmas Child program at www.samaritanspurse.org. For information about local participation, call Karen McNeal 432-8044. If every family packed just one box.....



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL Bisbee Conference

The St. Vincent de Paul Bisbee Conference continues to operate out of St. Patrick Church parish hall. The food pantry is open for food distribution each Thursday from 10 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Greatly appreciated are the many people who assist us in continuing to meet our mission of meeting the needs of our community with donations of food, clothing, cash and other services. We assist 100 people or more each week. We continue to be grateful for another small group of volunteers who happily and generously make sure that there is hot soup, sandwiches, or other offerings available each Thursday for our friends who come in.

Our Christmas Bake Sale is coming up on December 17-18. Parishioners continue to generously support these periodic fundraisers, as well as monthly campaigns for specific items needed—beans, rice, peanut butter & jelly, canned foods, and, when the cold weather comes, donations of coats, gloves, and blankets.

On behalf of St. Vincent de Paul, we wholeheartedly thank you for your continued support. One can readily see God working at St. Patrick parish through all of you! Stop by to see us any Thursday, 10 a.m.-12 noon.