

St. Patrick Roman Catholic Parish

St. Patrick Church • St. Michael Mission

NEWSLETTER

December, 2017



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2017..

...IT WAS A VERY FULL YEAR....

How blessed we are as a parish that we were able to celebrate so many milestones! We hope many of you were present for these happy days!

January 15 Dolan Ellis, Arizona's official State Balladeer, gave a concert at St. Patrick Parish Hall. His performances always include much historical information - very fitting four inclusion in our Centennial Year.

January 21 We gathered on the Feast of St. Agnes to acknowledge our four Sisters of St. Agnes who celebrated their Golden Jubilee in 2017 -- Sr. Susan, Sr. Kathy, Sr. Marilyn, and Sr. Mary Rose.

March 18 St. Patrick Women's Club hosted our annual St. Patrick's Day dinner.

June 4 we celebrated with St. Michael Mission to acknowledge the completion of renovations to the mission and the chapel. What a wonderful place this is for Sunday worship -- plus it's warm in the winter, cool in the summer!

July 4 St. Patrick Church sponsored a float in the 4th of July parade. A nice community presence for the Centennial.

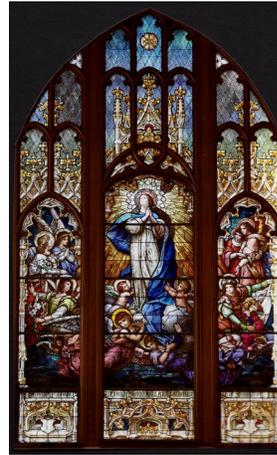
September 21 was the date of Fr. Matthew Thayer's Golden Jubilee. We celebrated the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Mass and a festive luncheon.

September 30-October 1 OUR BIG WEEKEND for the celebration of our church Centennial. We were grateful that Bishop Kicanas was able to celebrate Mass with us both days.

October 4, the Feast of St. Francis, was Benjamin Saenz's Rite of Profession into the Secular Franciscan Order. We celebrated with Benjamin with a Mass and luncheon.

October 6,7,8 was our annual Parish Fall Festival. Another successful fundraiser was enjoyed by all.

W H E W !



Dear Parishioners:
As many of you know, the responsibility to provide maintenance for our church and mission are ongoing tasks. Some have a more pressing need than others, all however are important.

One of the most important maintenance tasks for our church has been our stained-glass windows. They are magnificent in beauty and have been for many these past 100 years true "Windows of Faith".

Knowing that time and the elements do take their toll with wear and tear, we decided late 2016 to contract Stephen Frei from Emil Frei Associates, Inc. to look at our glass, to assess its condition and provide us a proposal for needed repairs and maintenance.

(We chose Emil Frei Associates, Inc. as they are the original Artists and Craftsmen who back in 1915 designed, created, and installed the stained glass we have today.)

The proposal was received March of 2017 but due to our preparations for the Centennial Celebration I decided to wait to review it. It is now my goal for 2018 to form a committee who will work through the proposal, develop a plan for its repair/maintenance recommendations and outline options for securing financial resources (grants etc.) to cover costs.

As plans develop I will be sure to keep you all informed. Until then let's keep this endeavor in our prayers. May the Lord bless this work so that our beautiful stained glass can remain "Windows of Faith" for all people for another 100 years.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Deacon Tony Underwood
Pastoral Administrator

WELCOME, BISHOP WEISENBURGER!

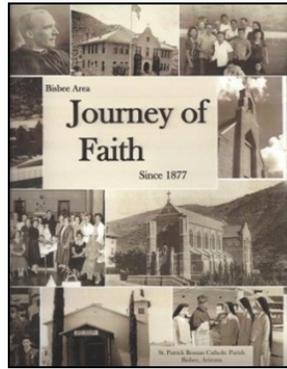
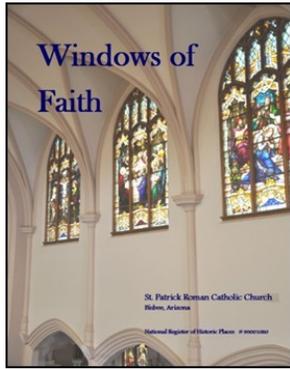


On October 3, 2017 Pope Francis named Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Tucson, succeeding retiring Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas.

The installation Mass for Bishop Weisenburger was celebrated on November 29 at St. Augustine Cathedral.

We look forward to a visit by Bishop Weisenburger in the coming months as he travels throughout the Diocese.

TELLING OUR STORY



The two publications produced by the Centennial Committee have been well received, and will continue to be on sale at the parish office. Order forms are also on the parish website, and the books can be mailed.

Proceeds from the sale of these books will go to the parish Building Repair fund, particularly for the renovation of the stained glass windows. See accompanying article for further information.

Please tell your friends & relatives about the books. Consider using the books as gift items. Your continuing support of this fundraising effort will be greatly appreciated.

SACRAMENT STATISTICS

Statistics from 2017 liturgical year:

Baptisms	25
First Communion*	1
Confirmation*	
Teens	9
Adults	3
Deaths	33
Marriages	7

*First Communion and Confirmation classes are now two year classes. These sacraments are conferred every other year except when they are conferred at the Easter Vigil mass.

CATHOLIC BIBLE INSTITUTE

Benjamin Saenz has been attending the Diocese of Tucson Catholic Bible Institute for the last two and half years and is in his final phase of instruction to receive his certification in June to lead in scripture studies in small groups. The first two years were submersion in the New Testament and Hebrew Scripture studies. The final year is focused on planning, development, and facilitating a scripture program within a parish. The program is run under the direction of Loyola Institute for Spirituality. Professors Felix Just, S.J. Ph.d. in New Testament Studies and Daniel Christopher-Smith, Ph. D. in Hebrew Scriptures lead the instruction. Benjamin will be facilitating a series on the "Justification for Jesus" in April at Saint Mary's Mission in Duncan, Arizona. The parish plans to begin a scripture program in six-week increments covering various scripture topics beginning in August 2018. Look out for notification in the Parish Bulletin in the near future.

BISBEE NACO YOUTH CREW



The Bisbee Naco Youth Crew would like to extend our sincere thanks to our supportive community. Because of your support we were able to take three of our members to Indiana to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference along with 20,000 other high schoolers!

A special thank you to the following sponsors for their

donations! Robert & Sara Gonzales, Edward & Laura Kull, St. Patrick Folk Choir, Tony & Jackie Underwood, Kit Hutchinson, Jim & Theresa McEntee, Sylvia & Cliff Anable, Gabino & Fina Salcido, Mike Montoya, Ruth Dugie, St. Patrick Women's Club, Trinity United Methodist Church, Deborah Klimek, Rosemary Garcia, The Bisbee Observer, Barco Ice, Elvia Villa, & Carl Hooper.

We will be holding a Free Baked Potato Bar on December 16 at St. Patrick Church from 11:00am – 3:00pm to give back to the community who supports us. Please join us!

Info: Jennifer Ratkovich at 520-428-2163 or jratkovich@diocesetucson.org

IT'S OUR TURN TO PAY 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. Maybe it's buying a meal for someone. Maybe it's volunteering to clean up & fix up someone's property. Maybe it's a donation to a worthy cause. The 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, effort, and money to keep the parish alive and active. 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 make the sacrifice?

Think about it. Now it's our turn. As a parish community and as individuals, we must pay it forward!