



# St. Patrick Roman Catholic Parish

St. Patrick Church • St. Michael Mission

## NEWSLETTER

December, 2018



Website: [www.stpatsbisbee.com](http://www.stpatsbisbee.com)  
[www.facebook.com/stpatrickbisbee](https://www.facebook.com/stpatrickbisbee)

P. O. Box 164  
Bisbee, AZ 85603

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

### 2018 PARISH FESTIVAL A GREAT SUCCESS

With many thanks due to MANY people, the annual Fall Festival in October will show as the most successful to date, with a net profit of nearly \$19,000. The participation of all who contributed supplies, helped with food preparation, purchased their raffle tickets, and worked at the festival is very much appreciated. A successful festival is critically important to the parish as it works to meet rising costs across the board.

Our pre-festival fundraisers were a key part of the festival's success. The Festival Committee worked together with the Knights of Columbus on a successful golf tournament in June. Yard sales in May and August, and the Summer Fun Night in July contributed, and we earned enough to cover nearly all of the festival expenses.

Planning is already underway for the 2019 festival. Plan now to be a part of it!

### AND OUR FIRST 2019 FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER IS....

## BURGERS 'N' BINGO

Mark your calendars now! On **Saturday, January 26** St. Patrick Parish Hall will be the location of a good evening of fun. A great meal, a little bingo, and another fun Chinese Auction. A good way to start off a "Beary Good Year." Watch for more details early in January. But save that date now, and plan to be there!



### SACRAMENT STATISTICS

#### Statistics from 2018 liturgical year:

Baptisms	34
First Communion*	19
Confirmation*	
Teens	6
Adults	
Deaths	17
Marriages	5

\*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.



### Catholics : Ready, Equipped, and Willing!

Our Bisbee / Naco CREW members remain an active part of the parish as they fund raising for future youth programs. They also assist the church and community members as the need arises. Their next fundraiser is the **Tacos & Tequila Masquerade, scheduled for March 1, 2009**. Watch for further information, and plan to support their efforts.

### TOP STORY OF 2018

October 17, 2018 was a red letter day on the calendar as the beginning of our Window Restoration Project. Stephen Frei of Emil Frei & Associates in St. Louis MO arrived in Bisbee to begin Phase I of the stained glass window restoration work at St. Patrick Church, which will continue over the next three years.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The stained glass windows in St. Patrick Church have been in place since the church was built in 1915 – 1917. The window sections were crafted in St. Louis MO at the Emil Frei Studios and brought to Bisbee (perhaps by rail, although this is not documented), to be put together and installed in the terra-cotta structure of the church.

Making up the beautiful windows are **two thousand, three hundred, seventy seven square feet** of mouth blown full antique stained glass, the majority of which came from Germany. The windows were created in the "Munich Pictorial" style, featuring lifelike images of saints and other figures painted onto the stained glass. The painted window sections are then fired in a kiln at 1200 degrees Fahrenheit so that the materials used in the painting process sink into the glass and are permanently fused, never to fade or peel. The window sections are put together on site with zinc coated steel reinforcing bars. All engineering and installation is always done by Frei craftsmen. The wood trim would probably have been done by someone in this area; it would not have been done by the Frei crew that installed the windows. The Munich Pictorial style of window is the most labor intensive style of stained glass ever done in history, and is therefore the most expensive. The value of the St. Patrick Church windows today is approximately \$4.5 million.

(continued p. 2)

## THE RESTORATION PROJECT

The most visible part of the restoration project will be the removal of the clouded lexan protective coating, replacing it with clear tempered glass. Although lexan was recommended about 25 years ago as a clear covering for surfaces to protect against vandalism and the elements, it later became apparent that the lexan would not remain clear, but would become increasingly opaque until it resembled plywood. It was also found to expand and contract significantly, making a long term weather-tight seal impossible.



When the lexan has been removed, and before the new tempered glass is installed, the painstaking work on the window frames and the stained glass itself will be completed. Work will include:

- Repair and/or replacement of broken or cracked stained glass with all required painting and firing.
- Repair and/or necessary replacement of lead came (strips between pieces of glass), steel reinforcing bars, interior and exterior putties.
- Correction of bulging areas of glass, replacement of rotted sections of wood frames. Steel and wood frames will be repainted.
- Thorough cleaning, interior and exterior, of stained glass.



The preliminary Phase I of the project has been completed, with four of the lower windows (2 on the east side, 2 on the west side) now clearly visible, a marked contrast to the windows still covered with Lexan. It will be approximately a year before the phase II work begins, as the Frei craftsmen are scheduled well in advance. It is likely that Frei & Associates will schedule work here

in Bisbee at times that the weather is milder than in other parts of the country.



The photo of the restored Downs family window on the left is an interior photo, taken for the *Windows of Faith* book. The photo on the right of the same window was taken at night with a cell phone. This exterior photo shows the colors of the stained glass visible at night while the interior church lights are on. Having all the church windows visible at night will be a wondrous sight!

(Both photos taken by Ursula Ritchie)

## EVERY DOLLAR HELPS

Every dollar contributed to our Window Restoration Project will be gratefully accepted and most appreciated as we work toward our goal of approximately \$341,000. The exact amount is not known, as many of the costs will be determined as the work progresses.

We are actively seeking grant funding from many sources, but most grantors require the applicant to have a sizeable portion of the cost already in hand before grant awards will be considered. All contributions will be used to meet this requirement. That is why every contribution counts, regardless of size. No contribution is too small and, of course, no contribution is too large! The names of all donors (without amounts) will be acknowledged in our donor book in the narthex throughout the restoration project. At the end of the project, the acknowledgement will be converted to a permanent memorial.

We urge you to prayerfully consider being a part of this important project, in whatever way is best for you:

- Your donation in an envelope marked "Window Fund" may be placed in the collection basket at Mass, delivered or mailed to the parish office.
- A contribution of any amount may be made on-line via the parish website [www.stpatsbisbee.com](http://www.stpatsbisbee.com). Use the "Online Giving" link at the bottom of the website home page. Please check the "Window Restoration Fund" option to specify that your contribution will support this project.
- If you belong to a club or organization that would like to support our project, please ask them to consider doing so.
- A contribution to the Windows Restoration Project would be an excellent way to make a memorial donation, or simply to honor a friend or relative.
- Our Centennial Publications, *Windows of Faith* and *Journey of Faith* are available in the narthex, in the parish office, or may be ordered online. Proceeds from the book sales will go to the Window Restoration Project.
- Should you wish to underwrite the cost of restoring one of the windows as a project sponsor, or set up an endowment or bequest, please contact the parish office to discuss these opportunities.

Watch our church bulletin and website for our upcoming fundraisers. These will be ongoing. Your support is needed.

