



St. Patrick Roman Catholic Parish

St. Patrick Church • St. Michael Mission

NEWSLETTER

December 2014



Parish Registration—Time to be Counted!!

2015 will bring a major effort by St. Patrick Parish to update parish records and accurately account for all the families served by the parish. Many people who regularly attend Mass are finding that they are not registered members of the parish. How could this have happened? In many cases, we find that the parents of a family may have been registered many years ago. As the children became adults with their own families, they were not registered with the parish under their own name. When the parents died, the family registration no longer existed.

Why should you be a registered parishioner?

- It is important to our parish and our diocese to have an accurate accounting of the families we serve. Registered parishioners receive information via our newsletter and other mailings.
- If a person requests a letter of approval from the parish to be a sponsor or a godparent for someone receiving a sacrament, he must be registered as a member of the parish.
- There are parishioner/non-parishioner fee considerations for families requesting a sacrament, funerals, quinceañeras, or requesting use of a parish facility.

The Gospel of St. Luke tells us that Joseph took his family to Bethlehem to be counted. You are encouraged to be counted as one of the parishioners of St. Patrick Parish.

A registration form is included in this mailing, and will be available at the church office. Registration may also be completed on our website www.stpatsbisbee.com. Please help contact others in your family or friends who should be registered members of the parish.

St. Patrick Church Centennial Celebration

It's less than two years until the beginning of our Centennial Year, and time is flying! The Centennial Steering Committee is laying plans for beautification projects and events during the Centennial Year which will let us and the entire community share the joy of our heritage.

How can you help? Everyone can help us find photos! We're hoping that there are old photos of the churches -- St. Patrick (including the original church building), St. Michael, Sacred Heart, the mission churches in Don Luis and Tintown, the school. Perhaps photos of former priests, nuns, or even photos of the churches when they were being built. Are these photos packed away in your closet?

Can you help us find former parishioners, or descendants of those families, who no longer live in Bisbee? Does your family have any interesting bits of history about the Catholic Community in Bisbee? Do you have ancestors that purchased one of the stained glass windows?

There will be an informational meeting in January to share ideas and move forward with our planning. Watch for details in the church bulletin and on our website centennial page.

St. Michael Mission

February 10, 2014 was a big day for St. Patrick Parish--- Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Tucson, celebrated the Rite of Blessing a Church and Dedication of an Altar at the newly renovated St. Michael Mission in Naco.

St. Michael Mission and the surrounding grounds were completely renovated, made possible by many thousands of dollars raised by the community, and many thousands of volunteer hours by dedicated parishioners and community members. If you haven't had an opportunity to attend Mass at St. Michael Mission, plan to do so some Sunday at 11:30. There are many photos of the renovation project and the dedication Mass on the parish website, but seeing the beautiful building in person is much better.

Memorial & Tribute Giving Program

Our Memorial & Tribute Giving Program is an excellent way to honor someone at a special time, or to memorialize a loved one. Brochures can be picked up in the church narthex or office. Information can also be found at www.stpatsbisbee.com.

St. Vincent de Paul—Bisbee Conference

President Yolanda Anderson is excited about the big news for SVdP this year, as they now operate out of their 'new' home in St. Patrick Parish Hall. The new location provides more room for people to eat, relax and take advantage of the services offered. Everyone present joins in opening prayers each Thursday, and SVdP volunteers believe that they are where they need to be, right in the heart of St. Patrick Parish.

St. Patrick parishioners have continued to support the SVdP mission to respond to the poor by providing financial assistance, food, and by supporting the supplementary monthly campaigns which last year provided socks, rice, beans, canned fruit, diapers, cereal, soup, peanut butter & jelly, jackets and blankets.

Along with giving out food bags each Thursday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., SVdP volunteers have begun serving soup & sandwiches. They partnered with the Cochise County Health Dept to host a Health Fair in November, with free blood pressure checks and health information available. The numbers of friends served each week has climbed since this time last year, from 80 per week to 120. In November average per week rose to 150.

SVdP added 7 new volunteers to their membership this year. Not all are members of our parish, but all share the same mission--to provide services to the poor in our community. Stop in for a cup of coffee some Thursday between 10-1, and see our SVdP in action. Such a great blessing for our community!

Sacrament Statistics

These statistics are from December 2013 through November 2014

Baptisms	35
First Communion	
Children	16
Adults	2
Confirmation	
Teens	18
Adults	9
Marriages	6
Deaths/funerals	25

St. Patrick Parish Women's Club

St. Patrick Parish Women's Club continues to be a busy, thriving organization, fulfilling their mission of supporting the parish and parish activities. In addition to the annual Christmas Bazaar fundraiser, the group has added a pancake breakfast and a 'Christmas in July' event this year. Funds raised enabled the Club to provide funds for much needed ceiling fans in the parish hall and a new microwave in the kitchen. Funds were provided to St. Michael Mission for on-going renovation efforts, and monthly support of the Bisbee St. Vincent de Paul food bank continues. When called upon, the Club assists with parish funeral luncheons and dinners for clergy meetings. Scholarships are provided to two Bisbee High School graduating seniors each year, and other appropriate community efforts are supported. Club luncheon meetings are usually held the first Wednesday of the month at noon. New members are welcome. If attendance at the meetings is not possible, women of the parish are encouraged to help with other club activities.

New! Movie Nights at St. Patrick Church!

Our new Movie Nights will continue throughout the year, FREE to everyone. Our movie nights encourage and offer an inexpensive family outing close to home at least once a month. A very reasonably priced concession stand is available, and popcorn is always FREE. Depending on weather & time of year, movies are shown outdoors in the basketball court, or in the hall. Plan to take advantage of this opportunity. Dates, times & other information will be posted on the basketball court fence, in the Bisbee Observer, and on www.facebook.com/BisbeeNacoYouthCrew. Questions? Call the parish office at 520-432-5753, or Jennifer at 520-227-3949.

Ministry News

Do you feel a little 'tug' toward one of the parish ministries? All of the liturgical ministries - - Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers/Hospitality Ministers, Choir members, Altar Servers, and Gift Bearers are in need of additional people. We are glad to see some of our young people beginning their ministry work. We appreciate their willingness and commitment, and that of their parents! Do you feel called to serve? Please answer, "Here I am, Lord."

St. Patrick Parish Homebound Ministry reaches 35 homes every week, as our Eucharistic Ministers bring Holy Communion to those who, due to illness or infirmity, cannot attend Mass. If you, or someone you know, would like to be included in our visits to the homebound, please call the parish office at 432-5753.

Religious Education News

Saint Patrick and Saint Michael's Religious Education program serves 47 children. A majority of the students are preparing for the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. Their faith formation is imperative to living a life of Holiness and the creation adults who are the best version of their self. Please, keep these children in your prayers.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is vibrant and active in St. Patrick Parish. We have six adults and one youth seeking to be in union with Christ and the Catholic Church. Keep in your prayers: Roxanne, Randy, Margo, Penny, Adrian, Desiree, and Syrena. Soon they will be welcomed to the Eucharistic Table.

Safe Environment Compliance

The Safe Environment Compliance Officer has trained 79 high responsibility parishioners and 66 low responsibility parishioners for the safety of children and vulnerable adults. All 47 families enrolled in Religious Education were trained in Safe Environment and Safe Touch this year. Our Safe Environment Compliance Officer is Deacon Ricky Pinzon. For any concerns please call (520) 366-2962.

Men's Prayer Group

Looking to experience the Holy Spirit? Join the Men's Prayer Group. The Men's Group prepares for each Sunday by studying the Gospel. Sharing in God's Word leads us to live a life of simplicity, humbly, and with purity. We pray for our family and our Parish community each Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Rectory dining room.

Online Giving

Don't forget that our parish website, www.stpatsbisbee.com gives you the opportunity to contribute online for your regular offertory gifts, Memorial and Tribute gifts, or one-time contributions. Take advantage of this tool—it's safe, easy, and you can print your own giving summary at any time.

Keeping Up with the Times!

St. Patrick Church has a Facebook page! You can now get updates, send messages, share pictures, ask questions, and do many other things online through our Facebook page. Please make sure to like our page to receive real time updates of upcoming events along with reminders of days you don't want to miss! www.facebook.com/stpatrickbisbee.

Merry Christmas, Bisbee!



This much anticipated project is put together the Friday after Thanksgiving, and is taken apart in January. If you'd like to help or contribute to the cost of supplies, please contact chief Christmas greeting designer and project director Shirley Mac at 432-4555.