

Weekend of March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

This new Mass schedule will stay in effect until the Covid-19 crisis is over. Thanks for your patience.

Barona:

Mass: Tuesday through Friday. Rosary at 7:45 AM, Mass at 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

Saturday: 5:00 PM mass

Sunday: Sunday 8:00 AM. @ church

Confessions: By appointment only

Adoration: 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

Viejas:

Sunday: Sunday, 10:30 AM. @ Church

Confessions: By appointment only.

Sycuan:

Sunday: Sunday Mass 12:30 noon @ the Church

Confessions: By appointment only

PLEASE PRAY FOR....

Sue Kierig, , Donna Berardi, Vicaldo Family, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Walter Raczak, Robert and Margie Cruz, Rick Lechner, Mike Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, Manny Ilagan, George Arviso, Ernie and Emy Lampa, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Nicanor and Evacueto Elman, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, AJ & Angela Samot, Deacon Gene Neral, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Romero Family

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Barona : K-8, Wednesday afternoons,
3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sycuan: 2nd year youth class – 10:30 a.m.

Jesus opens the eyes of the blind man, as he can open our eyes blinded by the sins we have committed. Be open to new areas that God is leading you to trust His promises.

**DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER
SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

800-553-3321

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.
Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

MARCH EVENTS



**Fridays during Lent at 5:00 PM
at Barona.**

**3/22 Wednesday – Anointing of
the Sick – After 8:00 a.m. mass at
Barona**

**3/29 Wednesday– Anointing of
the Sick – 10:00 a.m. at Viejas**

**3/30 Thursday– Chrism mass,
4:00 p.m. – Good Shepherd Church**



ANNUAL LENTEN COLLECTION

(March 18-19)

This weekend has been designated for the 2023 Annual Lenten Collection. Special envelopes will be available for the collection, which supports the works of Catholic Relief Services, the Church in Africa and the Church in Latin America. Envelopes will be available in the back of the church.



ZOOM LENTEN SERIES with Brother Ed Nolan

We will explore the dynamic relationship between Christ and the biblical persons in the Lenten scriptural readings and the Way of the Cross. There are many relationships Jesus has that can strengthen our faith and shed light and insight into our own evolving spiritual life.

When: 3/22, 3/29 & 4/5

Time: 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Please email Sandy at bktparish@aol.com with your email and you will be sent the zoom link and a reminder the day before.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Our Hope through the Blind Man in Laetare Sunday

A reflection on the 4th Sunday of Lent

With all of the fear and worries and challenges that we are experiencing at this moment, we need something to uplift us. The theme of this 4th Sunday of Lent also called "LAETARE SUNDAY" is JOY which came in at the right time. This is the reason why the Church changes its color from dark violet to rose pink.

The Gospel today begins with an account on the encounter of Jesus with the man born blind. All his life, the latter had recognized people by their voices only. Now, with Jesus' healing on him, he was able to see what human faces look like. While some people have recognized him, it is also surprising that some of his neighbors did not wish him well of his cure.

The usual enemies of Jesus came to the fore. They were Pharisees who distrusted the marvelous deed that Jesus had done to the man who was born blind. Because Jesus did the healing on a Sabbath, they judged him as man "*who is not from God.*" Jesus must have realized that it was easier to cure the man who was physically blind than the Pharisees who are "spiritually" blind. He has a longer and harder struggle with the Pharisees who are sick of spiritual blindness.

Upon listening to the story, we can easily relate to the characters:

First, we can relate ourselves with the Pharisees whose stubbornness of heart precludes them from seeing the truth. This happens in ordinary relationships, friendship for instance. Most people do not want to see the hard truth, for some reasons. Some fail to see the truth because of fear that they might hurt their friends or family members. Our deliberate blindness does not actually help the relationship. We might be sustaining or protecting the relationship, but it does enrich the relationship. Why? Because we allow people to live in lies; not in the truth. In these cases, we are in need of the healing grace of God.

Second, we can also relate ourselves with the man born blind. It is interesting to note that the vision, recognition or knowledge of Jesus did not happen overnight. In other words, he did not recognize Jesus immediately. When

Jesus asked him whether he believes in the Son of Man, his reply was, "*Who is he, sir that I may believe in him?*"

There are two important things to remember:

On the one hand, we should try to live in light. St Paul has something to tell about this spiritual blindness or darkness. In the second reading, he told the Ephesians, "*You were once darkness, but now you are light of the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.*" This is true! Living in light is related to living in truth. As children of light, we must be a sign of hope to the world. Our light produces goodness which can be a source of inspiration for others.

On the other hand, our journey of faith is also comparable to the journey of the man born blind. First, he knew of Jesus as a "*man Jesus.*" Next, he called Jesus as a prophet. Lastly, he addressed Jesus as Lord. Thus, there is a progress in his knowledge of God. In comparison, we also had been born blind until we were baptized. When we were baptized, our knowledge of God was only insignificant. But the Church expects it to grow while we grow older. It is expected that while we grow in age, we should also grow in our "seeing" or knowledge of God. Thus, there should be progress and development in our understanding and knowledge of God. We must not stop exploring the depth and the width of the knowledge of God.

The man who has been born blind since birth never lost hope of seeing again. He never lost hope of being able to enjoy life with the sight of the people and the beauty of the universe. He had Faith in his Hope. And that faith was blessed with the unexpected encounter with a man he only knew by hearing people call, Jesus. Thereupon his eyes were spiritually open at the same time that he called the man Jesus, Lord. And with all humility and faith, he asked Jesus to open his eyes and let him see. The Gospel talks about spiritual blindness and physical blindness that is common to most of us but which can be rightfully corrected with Faith, Hope and Trust in Jesus.

