Weekend of March 23

Third Sunday of Lent

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).

<u>Viejas:</u>

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....

Michele Nikas Beaman, John Nikas, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Robert and Margie Cruz, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Paolo Espiritu, John Clark, Kevin Bethsayag, Tyre Nichols, Steve TeSam, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Carol Richardson, Nancy Rourke, Jeff Ashii, Rosario and Paul Estepa, Haley Price, Mark Marquez, Lulu Cabinatan, Michael Martinez, Fr. Earl Henley, MSC, Connie Devera, Don Speer, Meta Roubedeaux, Eileen Hansotte, DJ LaChappa, Marcella Villanova, Michael McKnight, Lulu Cabinatan, Donald Lee, Gabriel Marquez, Sr., Joseph Kardian, Bear Cuero, Autumn Cheyenne Russo, Frances Banegas, Diane Robetkey, Ed Sloan, Cindy McAllister, Flora Keldani and Gene Cortez, Joyce Rottenberg, Johnny Valencic, Kelly Bonde Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education with Alyssa Parada: Barona: 3:00 PM – First Communion Prep 4:15 – All ages Religious Ed

Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Viejas: 3:00 PM Barona: 4:30 PM

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



Saturday, March 29 – Sunday, March 30-Annual Lenten Collection. This collection provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, the USCCB Offices of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees, relief work of the Holy Father, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network. Envelopes will be provided.



<u>Sunday, April 6</u> – Children's Mass at all reservations



April 15 - Holy Tuesday - 8:00 a.m. mass

April 16 - Holy Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. mass

TRIDUUM

<u>Thursday, April 17</u> – Maundy Thursday mass, 6:30 p.m., Barona clubhouse

<u>Friday, April 18</u> – Good Friday service with **Stations of the Cross**, 3:00 p.m., Barona

<u>Saturday, April 19</u> – Easter Vigil mass, 8 pm or when the sun sets, Barona

<u>Sunday, April 20</u> – Easter mass at all reservations, regular times.

PASTOR'S CORNER

A Clear and Honest Look at Ourselves:

Are we fruitful in our lives? A reflection on the 3rd Sunday of Lent

And Jesus told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, 'Lo, these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?' And he answered him, 'Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure. And if it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."' (Luke 13:6-9)

Jesus' parable of the barren fig tree challenged His listeners to consider what causes fruitfulness or barrenness in their lives. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the Jews. Bad figs or a decaying fig tree was linked with evil deeds and spiritual decay. The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's unresponsiveness to the word of God. The prophets Joel, Habakkuk, and Jeremiah all depicted the languishing fig tree as signifying the desolation and calamity of Israel due to her unfaithfulness to God.

This parable of Jesus depicts the patience of God with us, but it also contains a warning that we should not presume upon it. God gives us time to get right with Him and to bear good fruit in our lives, but that time is now. We cannot assume that there is no hurry. A sudden

life-threatening illness and unexpected death leaves us no time to settle our accounts when each of us must stand before the Lord on that Day of Judgment.

Jesus warns us for our own good so we will be fruitful and ready at all times to give our account to the Lord. Tolerating sinful habits and excusing unrepentant sin has clear consequences for our lives. They not only lead to spiritual barrenness but spiritual death as well. The Lord in His mercy gives us grace and time to turn away from sin and from an attitude of worldliness that opposes God's will; but that time to turn away from sin is right now. If we delay, even for a day, we may discover that grace has passed us by and our time is up.

This third Sunday of Lent, Jesus is asking us to take a good look at ourselves and avail of that chance to "fertilize our tree and to see how it can be more fruitful" before it's too late. Aware that death may come anytime, and that for some of us, it may truly be their last year, their last Lent to reform their ways and return to God, we are all challenged by Jesus to grow continually in faith by being a truly loving person (loving God and loving all those around us) and not merely "survive personally" as a Christian (by just staying out of sin and refraining from doing good).

Lent is indeed that time of the year during which we can apply for God's assistance to bring us more and more to life. More life means more daily actions of being who we are and letting go of those habits and desires which lead to selfishness and insensitivity to the plight of the poor, the needy, and the suffering. We apply for this help through the sacraments, personal prayer, and allowing Lent to be the "joyful season" of our coming alive to being God's new creation again.

