

Weekend of December 10, 2023  
*Second Sunday of Advent*

**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....**

Vicaldo Family, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, 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, Mike Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Romero Family, Annie McTavish, John Francis, Orlando Nicolos, Blanca Lechner, Paolo Espiritu, John Clark, Kevin Bethsayag, Tyre Nichols, Steve TeSam, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Mark Noriega, Carol Richardson, Nancy Rourke, Colleen Crowden, Jeff Ashii, Pamela Nolan CSC, Rosario and Paul Estepa

*Please check prayer list and add names as desired.*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

*Barona: Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.  
with Alyssa Parada*

*Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price are  
ongoing each Wednesday.*

*Viejas: 3:00 PM*

*Barona: 4:30 PM*

*Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel*

**December**

**ADVENT RETREAT – 12/10-12/12/23**

*Sunday, Dec. 10 – 5:00 PM with anniversary dinner for Mark Price served, followed by retreat with Mark Price as Saint Joseph.*

*Dec. 11 – 6:30 PM retreat*

*Dec. 12 – 6:30 PM retreat and Reconciliation service after retreat*

**Saturday, Dec. 23: Anticipated Masses for 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday of Advent**

*5:00 PM – Sycuan*

*7:00 PM – Viejas*

**Sunday, Dec. 24: Sunday Mass**

*8:00 AM – Barona*

**Sunday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Masses**

*5:00 PM - Sycuan*

*7:00 PM – Viejas*

*10:00 PM – Barona*

**Monday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass**

*8:00 AM Mass*

**Sunday, Dec 31: Holy Family Mass**

*8:00 AM - Barona*

*10:30 AM – Viejas*

*12:30 – Sycuan*

**Sunday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Mass**

*5:00 PM – Barona*

**Monday, Jan. 1, 2024 – New Year's Day Mass**

*8:00 AM - Barona*

**Retirement Fund for Religious Collection**

**Dec. 9-10, 2023**

Women and men religious have spent their lives serving other in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need –usually for little or no pay. Thoday, there religious communities do

not have enough retirements savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Envelopes will be provided.

## **PASTOR'S CORNER**

### **Getting Prepared: Jesus' Birthday and His Second Coming**

**A reflection on the Second Sunday of  
Advent**

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we have incorporated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the patron saint of the Sycuan Mission Church. What a joy to bring back again their tradition of crowning the Blessed Virgin, on the Solemnity of her Immaculate Conception. Today's theme is "getting prepared for the coming the Lord."

Make straight his paths," Isaiah cried out prophesying that the Lord would come to rescue and comfort the people of God. Centuries later, Mark guides this call at the very beginning of the Gospel, presenting John the Baptist as the prophet who took this to heart, preparing the way of the Lord. About a few ago, we celebrated the presentation of Mary in the Temple--- Mary was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem at an early age to live there for her growing up years, to be prepared for her eventual role as the mother of our Savior.

Now, two millennia later, during this season, we prepare for the Lord's coming into our lives and into our hearts, how can we "make straight his paths"?

First, we have to examine ourselves. How are we in terms of our relationship with the Lord? The greatest gift that we can give to the Lord on his coming birthday is no other than cleaning up the mess of our lives. We are called to repent from our sins and be reconciled to God.

When there is messiness around us it is hard to know just where to begin the cleaning. Beginnings are not easy all the time. How to begin a speech or important paper, how to begin a conversation with the passenger seated next to you on a plane or bus, how to begin preparing for Christmas, how to begin praying, are all such human struggles.

Advent is a beginning of the liturgical year and the beginning of our learning about this person of Jesus. The feast of the Immaculate Conception as we celebrate this week is the dramatic and unusual continuation of the divine beginning. Grace is always taking new places within us and so our little lives are seemingly always beginning. We had Advent last year and the year before and we are not sure that did any good.

We prepare to celebrate this second week of Advent by allowing grace into the mess, into the wonderings of how to enter into the always-conversation which God began by being seated next to us on this flight of life. We have to make room, not easy. God desires gracefully to sit right down in the mess and bless us by our getting to know the Word of God spoken once and for all. This week could we pause at the most messiness-time, and listen to hear if we are really alone in it.

