

Weekend of December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

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. @ Shrine

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, Martha Boone, Donna Berardi, Billy, Penny and Daniel Vicaldo, Anthony Pico, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Elvira Hapin, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Louck, Sam Halabo, Bobby Curo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Walter Raczak, Billy Brown, Robert and Margie Cruz, Gina Curo, Rick Lechner, Mark Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, Dennis Colton, 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

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Barona, K-8th:

Classes have changed to **Wednesdays:**

3:30 pm – 1st year students/ First Communion

4:30 pm – 2nd year students/ First Communion

Sycuan: 2nd year youth class is at 10:30 am.

ADULT CLASS –

Please contact Judy Oyos (judy.otm@gmail.com) or Fr. Herman Manuel (herman_manuel@hotmail.com) for Adult class information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Sunday, Dec. 18 – Children’s Mass, all reservations.

Saturday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Masses

5:00 PM – Sycuan

7:00 PM – Barona

10:00 PM – Viejas

Sunday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Mass, 8:00 AM at Barona – one mass only.

New Year’s Eve, Saturday, Dec. 31 – 5:00 PM at Barona



Meal Prayers for Advent and Christmas

All-powerful God,
look kindly on us,
bless this table,
and unite us to all people everywhere
who wait for the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.

Eternal Father,
we praise and bless you
for the goodness you show us
at this meal and throughout this season.
Be with us as we celebrate
the fulfillment of your promise
in the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

–Fr. Michael Kwatera, OSB and Br. Dietrich Reinhart, OSB

PASTOR’S CORNER

The Joy of Advent

Reflection on the 3rd Sunday of Advent

Joy: what an appropriate theme for this Third Sunday of Advent as not only we are close to celebrating the birth of our Lord but also we celebrate the feast day of one of our missions at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish: Sycuan. Do you smell the scent of pine trees in your homes? Or the cool wintery air? Or those delicious ginger bread cookies? Yes, joy is starting to dominate the air.

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called "*Gaudete Sunday*." As Christmas Day gets closer and closer, we are also getting excited and joyful. However, the readings today do not only emphasize the spirit of joy, but they also propose some attitudes on how should we prepare for the Lord's coming.

In the First Reading, we heard of the prophet Isaiah saying, "*Be strong, fear not! Here is your God... who comes to save you.*" And those who would be ransomed by the Lord will be crowned with everlasting joy. We, Christians, are being saved in and by Christ. His offer of salvation is a gift which must be acknowledged with much joy. But this joy seems to have disappeared now. Christianity and salvation is no longer felt as God's gift, but a burden to one's living. We need to go back to the original joy which was brought about by the salvation which is offered to us by Christ.

In the Second Reading, the Letter of James tells us of another attitude which is one of patience. "*Be patient... until the coming of the Lord.*" Since we do not know the exact time of the Lord's (second) coming, it is but fitting to expect it more patiently. But this value runs counter to the value that the present world teaches. For instance, globalization and internet value instantaneity and quickness. Things which come to us instantly and quickly are being considered as good. But things which come too slow

are simply bad and useless. In these cases, patience cannot be considered as a value. This could have an effect to our attitude toward the Lord's coming because we need to patiently wait.

In the gospel, we heard of John who seemingly doubt whether Jesus is the person whom he and his disciples should expect. John has the reason to think or feel that way because he was expecting more of a fiery Messiah. But John patiently attempts to reflect and discern if Jesus is truly the Messiah. In the end, he acknowledges that indeed Jesus is. In today's world, the numbers of doubters are rising. In fact, more and more people want to dissociate Christ from the Christmas celebration. They want to appear that what we do during Christmas season is just a mere holiday devoid of Christ. But we Christians are well aware that we cannot separate Christ from Christmas. It is his birth which we remember in this joyous season.

The readings tell us of the proper attitude while waiting for the Lord's coming. We are expecting a very important person who offers us the most precious gift, that is, salvation. And thus we cannot afford to simply forget and doubt him. He deserves to be waited with joy, and patience.

**Be patient! Be strong!
Trust in God
Happy Gaudete Sunday and
Happy Feast Day Sycuan**