

Weekend of March 28 & 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

800-553-3321

Mass Schedule

Barona:

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

Weekends: Saturday, 5:00 PM, Sunday 8:00 AM.

Confessions: Saturday, 3:30 – 4:30 PM

Adoration: 1st Thurs. of the month (6:00 PM) and 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

Viejas:

Weekends: Sunday, 10:00 AM.

Confessions: By appointment.

Sycuan:

Weekends: Sunday, Noon.

Confessions: By appointment



Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angelo Samot, Donna Berardi, Daniel Vicaldo, Kash Osuna-Sutton, Anthony and Diana Pico, Dolly Albano, Ray Mayor, Mike Montes, Bobbie Turner, Helen Cadiente, Berniece Marrujo, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Agnes Ruiz, Deacon Bill Clarke, Rosario Ravasco, Minerva Mayor, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Alicia Castro, Debbie Gonzalez, Barbara Reeves, Nancy Rourke, Anthony Harut Haurutuynian, Gina Lloyd, Bobby Curo, Abraham Pascual, Eugene "Gino" Vicaldo, Skylar Rosas

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.



"Yes, Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ!" With this belief, Jesus is able to work marvels through those who trust in Him, even to raising the dead to new life.

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

UPCOMING EVENTS

All masses and parish events are cancelled until further notice.

**NOVENA PRAYER FOR AN
END TO THE CORONAVIRUS
PANDEMIC**

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

-Bishop Douglas J. Lucia



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and Spanish at
www.sdatholic.org**

**COVID-19 and the 5th Sunday of
Lent**

The readings from today's Mass primarily speak about the proper relationship with our God and with our neighbors that we should have amidst the pandemic chaos that we are now experiencing. And in doing so, emphasize various aspects that should characterize ourselves. In essence, Ezekiel, Paul and John speak about a true understanding of our dependence on God and our obligation to Him, for every aspect of our lives, in good times and in bad. The authors challenge each one of us to embrace God's very spirit within us through reflection, prayer and service. We are to be His loyal servants!

As of this writing, the number of people all over the world who have contracted the COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease -2019) stands at 417,663 with 18,605 deaths. And the number is still going up. Come to think of it, most of us at this point may be asking questions that we have never asked before: "Why God?"; "Where are You in the midst of all this suffering?"; "Are You still there for us Lord?" etc. History shows that we have had many epidemic outbreaks before which caused a million of lives: MRSA caused by Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (2019). H1N1 caused by the Swine Flu (2009), SARS caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (2002), Cholera outbreak (1910), Flu Pandemic caused by Influenza Virus (1889), Black Death caused by the Bubonic Plague (1353), Yet people survived. Tragic though it is, good can prevail provided one examines and understands the needs of those who seek unconscionable, violent acts out of desperation. It summons us to sacrifice in order to care for people regardless of their religious beliefs

and cultural practices in order to bring them hope, promise and the possibility of a stable life. In essence, it is to accept a Christ-like attitude in viewing the world and, united with His spirit within us, become more generous, more sensitive servants of Him.

But what a challenge!

Self-Sacrifice and Obedience to God and our government leaders should not be taken for granted. Each day, we are bombarded with the ever increasing number of people infected as well as the number of deaths by the hour, the repetitive rules and regulations of just staying at home, safe distancing, washing of hands thoroughly with soap and water and disinfectants, and of course not touching any part of your face with your fingers. Along with this, there is also an ongoing competition between and among ourselves—we try to buy as much of food, canned goods, water, paper goods not anymore thinking about others—hoarding and panic buying comes to mind.

But what can we learn from our authors?

Ezekiel had it harder than we have when he confronted the irreligious ways of his people. Ezekiel lived in exile with his fellow Jews in Babylon. He was denied his homeland and The Temple. Yet, even in those circumstances, he challenged his people after clearly understanding the sins of his nation. He called his fellow Jews to abandon their faithlessness to Yahweh, to understand that only trust in God and obedience to His commands could ever "right" their situation. To be sure, his message was communicated in a very dramatic and unusual way: now lying on his side for over a year; now building a clay model of Jerusalem under siege and exhibiting it in the marketplace; now burning and cropping his beard – all to symbolically demonstrate that reliance solely on God's power would be the only way in which his people would be delivered from exile and returned to their homeland.

Paul emphasizes Ezekiel's point that only if we are guided by God's spirit can we overcome evil

and the temptations that assault us daily. To do otherwise leads to destruction! Reliance on God's spirit bonds us in a community of faith – a community that is not destructive but rather creative at every turn. As such, it gives meaning and purpose to our life.

Finally, the depiction of Christ's raising of Lazarus provides the fullest example of where "true" power resides – not in the world, not in wealth, but in God Himself. He is the author of life both on earth and in heaven. Allegiance to Him demands a proper understanding of our dependence on Him and the determination to follow His example. To do less would be to abrogate our true humanity.