## Weekend of November 24 Christ the King

#### <u>Barona:</u>

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....

Michele Nikas Beaman, John Nikas, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, 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, 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 Marguez, Lulu Cabinatan, Michael Martinez, Fr. Earl Henley, MSC, Connie Devera, Don Speer, Meta Roubedeaux, Eileen Hansotte.

DJ LaChappa, Marcella Villanova Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Wednesday, November 27 – No classes for Thanksgiving break.

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To testify to the truth; this is why Christ came, this is the mission of the priest and religious. Has your life testified to the truth that Christ is King?

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

<u>Thursday, November 28</u> – Thanksgiving Day mass – 8:00 AM at Barona . Please bring your Thanksgiving bread, turkey, fruits and wine to be blessed.



<u>Sunday, December 1</u> – Children's Mass at all reservations.

<u>Sunday, December 8, 2024</u> – Sycuan Feast Day and Memorial Feast of Immaculate Conception– 10:30 AM, one mass for all reservations

<u>Saturday and Sunday, December 7 & 8</u> – Religious Fund for Religious collection

<u>Sunday – Tuesday, December 15, 16, 17</u> – Advent Retreat, 6:30 PM Barona Clubhouse, Fr Emmet Farrell will be the guest speaker for the retreat.

<u>Tuesday, December 17</u>– Reconciliation Service

<u>Tuesday, December 24</u> – Christmas Eve Masses – 5:00 PM at Sycuan, 7:00 PM at Barona and 10:00 PM at Viejas

<u>Christmas Day, Wednesday, December</u> 25 – Christmas Day Mass, 8:00 AM at Barona

to our church family

Congratulations to the families of Naveah Hill and Eleanor LaChappa as they received the sacrament of baptism this past weekend. God bless you always!

# **PASTOR'S CORNER**

## Christ, the Center of Lives, Our KING who Rules Us A reflection on the Solemnity of Christ the King

As we enjoy the beauty of the changing of the colors of leaves on the Season of Fall and of course the cooling weather, we remember the countless blessings God has bestowed upon us this year. Primarily for the success of our big celebrations on the anniversaries of foundation of Barona on its 90th Year and Viejas on its 85th Year. Next year, we will also be celebrating the 135th Year Anniversary of Sycuan Mission Church. There is one thing that I can say: WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY. THANKS BE TO GOD. As everyone of you usually say, "God is good all the time and all the time God is good.

And so, in this very last day of our liturgical year, we focus on our Lord Jesus Christ as our KING because we owe everything to HIM of our successes in our lives that includes also our mission churches still growing strong by the ever-increasing number of new members we have each year. Jesus, the KING of our lives in our Indian Reservations. He Conquers! He Rules! He reigns in our hearts.

Our Gospel Reading tells us that Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered that question with dignity, in spite of being bound and exhausted. It was the dignity of a true king, which is what he was and continues to be. He said, "My kingdom is not of this world." At that moment, when he was standing before Pilate, Our Lord did not show his power and glory but at the end of time, he will do so. He will come in majesty and in triumph. He will come as the King of All the Universe, openly showing his power. Those who are evil in this world will not be able to eclipse the glorious return of Christ the King.

In 1925, when the atheism of the Nazis and communists surged forth and threatened the Christian world, the Church decided to fight against these ideologies by emphasizing the sovereignty of Jesus Christ and his final triumph over evil and injustice. Since that crucial moment in the history of the world, the Church has closed each liturgical year with this great feast dedicated to Christ the King.

The Bible underscores both in the Old Testament and in the New, the sovereignty of God over all of creation. It also says that the Kingdom of God is not like earthly kingdoms. When he came to this world, the Messiah, the savior king, did not do so as the Jews of the Old Testament thought, as a King who would liberate them from the tyranny of the foreign empires that subjugated them. The New Testament teaches us that the Kingdom of Christ is of another kind. The Kingdom of Christ is a kingdom of truth, justice and life.

Jesus made Pilate see that he did not come to this world to show forth his power in a merely human manner. He came to restore the human race to the natural dignity that it lost when Adam and Eve committed the original sin. He came to remind us that we are daughters and sons of God the Father.

Jesus Christ has always been a sign of contradiction, as much today as when he came to earth more than two thousand years ago. There are those who ignore him or even hate him. And there are those who love him unconditionally. There are those who only go to him when they have problems because they think that he will help them. There are those who are faithful to him despite their problems, without asking for anything or blaming him for anything, giving of themselves to him. There are those who show that they always have Christ in their hearts and in their minds. They always talk to everyone about him. There are those who say and think they are good Christians, but they neither talk nor show they are Christians.

In the Second Reading, Saint John says that Christians who truly follow the Lord are a "kingdom of priests." It is our duty to help the Lord to build up his kingdom in this world. But we can only do this, we can only build up the kingdom that Christ came to the world to establish, if we decide to renounce all of the worthless things that the world offers us, to forget our pride, to become docile and obedient to God with the intention of serving the true King, who is Christ.

We should always remember that when Christ returns as King of the Universe he will do so in majesty. But we should also remember that he will return as judge. He will reward those who followed him faithfully. And those who have ignored him or who have denied him, he will also deny before the Father (Mt 10:33). We should not forget that he has promised that his kingdom will be triumphant. This is our hope, and it is what we, and the Church, celebrate on this great feast.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!!