

Weekend of December 8 **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....

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, 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
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:

Viejas: 3:00 PM

Barona: 4:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

DECEMBER

Saturday and Sunday, December 7 & 8 –

Religious fund for Religious collection. This weekend we donate to help the more than 24,000 senior religious who have dedicated their lives to service retire with dignity. Donations will provide for the essential care, medicine, and daily needs of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have served for decades. Please make checks to: **St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish**, envelopes will be in pews. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday – Tuesday, December 15, 16, 17 – Advent

Retreat, 6:30 PM Barona Clubhouse, Fr Emmet Farrell will be the guest speaker for the retreat. Please join us!

Tuesday, December 17– Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Masses –

5:00 PM at Sycuan, 7:00 PM at Barona and 10:00 PM at Viejas

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25 –

Christmas Day Mass, 8:00 AM at Barona

Simple Things to Pray for During

Advent:

- Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.
- Pray for opportunities to learn something new about God regularly.
- Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfill His purposes in your life.
- Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence, and enjoy it.
- Pray for peace in all situations, no matter what the circumstances.
- Pray for freedom from all that burdens you - past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.
- Pray for joy and a sense of humor.

- Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.
- Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

PASTOR'S CORNER

JB's Important Message to Us All: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

Reflection on the Second Sunday of Advent

Originally, today, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. However, because it falls on a Sunday, according to liturgical rules, a major feast day like the Immaculate Conception cannot replace an Advent Sunday. We are to focus on the coming of Jesus in our midst. But in our case in our Reservations, I would like to combine both 2nd Sunday of Advent and the feast of the Immaculate Conception because usually it is a challenge to bring more people to Church since it is a weekday, a busy work day to many of us.

So, I greet you my brothers and sisters of Sycuan, a "Happy Feast Day to all of you." Wow, you have come a long way. The Church is still going strong in spite of its many challenges. Next year, is the grand celebration of their 135th Year of Anniversary of Foundation of the Church: The Immaculate Conception of Mary Mission Church.

Today we focus on John the Baptist, one of the great figures of the bible. He is proclaiming and calling for attention. He wants to be heard and heeded. A man with a message and he is on fire with it. Repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Prepare a way for the Lord. John doesn't sound like the kind of man you would invite home for dinner. His message sounds so grim to us – penance, straightening crooked ways and smoothing rough ones. He thinks it's good news. Isn't Christmas for celebrating? Why is the Church such a killjoy, a spoilsport? It does it at Easter with Lent, and here it is, at it again with Advent. Ah, let's celebrate with an easy conscience. After all it is office party time, mistletoe time and a bird never flew on one wing. What's the Church trying to do? Excitement come easy at Christmas, thank God. There's the excitement of getting ready, getting the house clean, getting food- cakes, mince pies, pudding – excitement of getting gifts, giving and

receiving socks and soap, excitement of people coming home, Pat, Mary, John. And it is all a reflection of how the excitement started, the first excitement at the first Christmas. The coming of Christ who was to be Lord, the bread of life. The coming of Christ who was a gift from God to us. The coming of Christ who was to bring people together and make the homeless at home – a huge communion of friends. So, the cakes, the food, the coming together and the plane arriving at *San Diego Airport* are real signs of Christmas and that's easy to see. They can be real signs of Christ too, but that's easy to forget.

So, the Church is trying to make us remember, stop us being thoughtless and make us thoughtful. It tries every way it can – with color; did you notice the purple vestments? With light, did you notice the second candle? With word – did you hear the prophet foretelling the coming of Christ, and did you hear John the Baptist who introduced Christ?

Before all the excitement, which can be great at this time of year we need to stop and think about "What I need to change in my life?" In our own life there are many things that we need to straighten out. The hills that block our view of the one who is to come could be the mounting resentment, which we never resolved. How about the valley of our patience and tolerance with one another? Has the water of charity stopped flowing from my very being? Are there any familiar ways that have become self-destructive which I can leave behind?

In my own small way, on this Sunday, what can I change? What obstacle can I remove to prepare a way for the Lord?

a way of mercy,
a way of faithfulness,
a way of justice,
a way of peace,
a way, along which we can see "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy"?
If there is one saint to look as a good example to follow is no other than the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary was obedient in all things to God no matter how difficult it was for her to say "YES". She has done so many sacrifices in her life and she still said, "The Lord has done great for me and Holy is His name!?"

HOLY MARY PRAY FOR US!