

*Weekend of Jan. 21 @*

*22, 2017*

*3rd Sunday in Ordinary*

*Time*

## Prayer for Life

O God, our Creator, all life is in your hands from conception until death. Help us to cherish our children and to reverence the awesome privilege of our share in creation. May all people live and die in dignity and love. Bless all those who defend the rights of the unborn, the handicapped and the aged. Enlighten and be merciful toward those who fail to love, and give them peace. Let freedom be tempered by responsibility, integrity and morality.

*Catholic Online*



**Sessions on Prayer:** This course will be on the many types of prayer, such as scriptural, meditation, contemplation, centering, and formal. Mindfulness, a style of meditation that has been sweeping the nation, has one of its origins in Catholic spirituality. Come see which style of prayer best suits you. There will be 6 sessions, beginning on Wednesday, February 15. We will not meet on Ash Wednesday. The last session will be on March 29. Place: Ed Nolan's office, 6:30 PM.

## Upcoming Events

**2017 Calendars:** Calendars for next year are in the back of the church. Please take one.

**Annul Catholic Appeal:** Coming soon.

**February 5, 2017:** Family Mass

**March 5, 2017:** Family Mass



Gilbert Rodriguez, Tom Hyde, Elijah Diaz (Bear), Carol Lane, Father Ron Hebert, Donna Berardi, Anita Curo, Sue Kierig, Bob & Colleen Crowden, Ro Harrison, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angela Samot, Lourdes Adoron

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

### Mass Intentions – January 22

**Weekend Masses:**

Sunday, 8:00 AM	Darrell and Roni Romero Doreen Romero-Ford
Sunday, 10:00 AM	Community of Viejas
Sunday, Noon	Community of Sycuan

### Religious Education Classes

**Barona:**

Classes for Grades K – 8 meet on Thursdays at 2:30 and 3:30 PM.

Classes for High School and Confirmation meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM.

**Viejas:** Classes meet on Wednesdays, at 3:30PM, Kateri Hall

## **YOUTH CONFIRMATION:**

**Requirements:** For those baptized in another parish, a baptismal certificate is required. Youth must be enrolled in parish youth confirmation program for two years. Service hours and attendance at the Confirmation retreat or at special workshops are required. Youth must sign a commitment pledge. Sponsors must attend certain sessions and the rehearsal.

**Additional Information:** Youth are confirmed between their sophomore and senior years. Parents should contact Edward Nolan or Natalie Kostos. Only one sponsor, of the same gender as the youth, is required.

## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

IT IS AN obvious fact that the Church has been experiencing a shortage of workers in God's vineyard. This reality has led the Church to a precarious state, actually a crisis. In addressing the present crisis, the people involved in recruiting vocations have found out that the call to the religious life or priesthood is no longer appealing to the young because of its demand for a long-term or even lifetime commitment. Young people nowadays seem to want a short-term commitment, and that even in marriage, they want it to be seen that way.

The gospel this Third Sunday in Ordinary Time brings us once again to the commencement of Jesus' public ministry. In this passage from St. Matthew, we are also told about the calling of the two sets of brothers: Simon and Andrew, and James and John.

Let us examine once again the important moments in the calling of these four fishermen from Galilee.

First, Jesus must have been aware that His work was something enormous, and therefore, He felt the need of "disciples" to become partners in His mission, in the preaching of God's kingdom.

Second, Jesus first caught sight of Andrew and Simon, and when He walked a little farther, He saw the sons of Zebedee, James and John. In both encounters, He called them. This moment

them. And that is true to every vocation. It is God who calls, and not someone other than God.

Third, the response of the two sets of brothers was exceedingly radical. On the part of Simon and Andrew, they immediately left their nets, thus, their means of livelihood. On the part of James and John, they immediately left their nets and their father, thus, they abandoned both their occupation and relation.

For those aspiring to enter into the religious life or priesthood, the call and the response of the four fishermen remain the paradigm of one's vocation. Yes, radical following runs counter to present tendency for short-term commitment. But this is the purpose of responding to God's call: to become a counter-culture; the existence and lifestyle are something counter-cultural. If a "called" person cannot embrace the Christian lifestyles and values, then the calling would become useless. The calling has no sense of purpose.

But how about the lay faithful? How significant is the gospel for them? Certainly, it is very significant! Remember that Jesus called the ordinary people, the fishermen. He did not call the "schooled" and the "learned". Thus, Jesus continues to call the laity for a mission. Certainly, the work of the preaching of the Kingdom of God is not only entrusted to the few. It is everybody's business because it is a gargantuan task.

Now that the number of religious vocations is dwindling, the call for the laity's active participation is becoming more important and necessary. The gospel throws down the gauntlet to the lay faithful. The Church nowadays is in a dire need of lay faithful who, like the four fishermen, are committed to their work. Certainly, the commitment expected of them does not mean that they should leave their work and family. Rather, the lay faithful are called to demonstrate some amount of sacrifice, dedication and love for the Church.

