

Weekend of December 15 & 16, 2018
Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Schedule

Barona:

Mass: Wednesday 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: 2nd Thurs. of January (6:00 PM) and 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM). **Please note change for January.**

Viejas:

Weekends: Sunday, 10:00 AM.

Confessions: By appointment.

Sycuan:

Weekends: Sunday, Noon.

Confessions: By appointment



Gilbert Rodriguez, Tom Hyde, Carol Lane, Anita Curo, Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angelo Samot, Donna Berardi, Secora Nelson, Daniel Vicaldo, Kash Osuna-Sutton, Gabe Dowell, Diana Pico, Clayton Curo, Dolly Albano, Ray Mayor, Mike Montes, Bobbie Turner, Mary Whitespear, Frank LaChappa, Steve and Vera Tucker, Helen Cadiente, William and Berniece Marrujo, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Stephen Nolan, Agnes Mayor, Audrey Wallace

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

Mass Intentions – December 16, 2018

Weekend Masses:

Sunday, 8:00 AM Charlie and Gene Curo

Sunday, 10:00 AM Community of Viejas

Sunday, Noon Community of Sycuan

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE**

NOTE: DUE TO CHRISTMAS BREAK, THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES Dec 24 – Jan 6, 2019. Classes will resume on Wednesday, Jan 9, 2019.

Barona : Grades K-8: Class meets on Thursday, 2:45

p.m. and 4:00 pm

Sycuan: Grades K-8, Class meet at 10:30 a.m. before Sunday Mass

High school Confirmation class, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday, December 24-Christmas Eve

Sycuan Mass 5:00 PM

Barona Mass-7:00PM

Viejas Mass-10:00PM

Christmas Day

Barona Mass- 8:00AM

New Year's Mass Schedule

Mon., 12/31/18 New Year's Eve Mass – Sycuan 5:00 PM

Tues., 1/1/19 New Year's Day Mass – Barona 9:00 AM



Blessing of a Christmas Tree

Lord God,

Let your blessing come upon us

As we illumine this tree.

May the light and cheer it gives

Be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree

Come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Holiday Drive for Native Communities in Baja

All proceeds will benefit Kumeyaay, Paipai, and Kiliwa children & elders.

Deliveries to Baja on the 15th and 20th of December.

Toys, new clothes, beanies, scarves, warm socks, blankets. Cash donations gladly accepted and will be used to purchase food in Baja.

Please contact Martha Rodriguez at (760) 445-7776.



2019 Calendars are now available in the back of the church.

Family Activities for Advent

- Buy Christmas mugs for everyone in the family.
 - Watch “Frosty the Snowman.”
- Attend a church Christmas bazaar. Buy something whether you need it or not.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Practicing Charity and Justice, Getting Prepared and Sharing with Others The Causes of Rejoicing

What a timely message especially for us coming back from our Holy Land Pilgrimage! We would like to echo what Zephaniah, Paul and John say in today’s readings: Rejoice! Rejoice! Yes, it was a joy and wonderful experience to walk around the places where Jesus walked. However, that joy that each and every one experienced is difficult to express while in the land Jesus lived 2000 years ago. I’ll be willing to share them with anyone who is interested to listen to them. I’ll also show pictures where we’ve been.

The theme of the 3rd Sunday of Advent is also about rejoicing! Well, there are many reasons why we need to rejoice. In the Gospel reading, John talks to us about charity. We heard how the people asked John, in an attempt to find out how they should conduct themselves, “What then should we do?” He answered them by saying that they should share what they have with their brother. He clearly tells them “Whoever has two cloaks should share with whoever has none. And whoever has food should do the same.”

One of the important things that we can do to live more peacefully, happier and closer to God, is to have a spirit of sharing. We should be people who give freely. Just like that, as if instead of giving,

someone was giving something to you. We should be poor in spirit, even when we have more than enough money to get by.

Saint John also shows us that we should be honest in our way of life that we should not try to take advantage of others. And he tells us that even if we see that someone is trying to take advantage of us, even when by doing good we will be thought of as fools, we should still share, we should not be discouraged, we should always be willing to continue to help others.

In the Second Reading, Saint Paul enthusiastically recommends to the Philippians who are Christians that they always be joyful in the Lord. He affirms this by saying, “Rejoice!” We should also follow Saint Paul’s advice. Not only now, when we are waiting for the coming of the Lord, but always. Christians who honestly follow Christ and his teachings should be recognizable to all because they show a special kind of joy, the joy of Our Lord. This time of year is perfect for us to think of the coming of Christ and the holydays that are nearing. Advent is like the waiting room of Christmas. It is a time in which the Church enthusiastically recommends to us that we share the happiness and the love of Christians, first, in our own home, then, in our community, and, always, wherever we find ourselves.

Saint Paul tells the Christians of Philippi that, more than just being joyful, they should be benevolent. In other words, they should be known as a caring and understanding community. These words of the Apostle could surprise us; if we take into account the fact that they were written while Paul was in prison, probably in Rome, awaiting his execution for preaching the Gospel, for preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ. In spite of the conditions in which he found himself, Saint Paul tells them that they should not be worried, that they should pray to God full of gratitude for having encountered their faith and their peace, for having found Jesus Christ, Our Lord. What beautiful advice from Saint Paul for us to put it into practice!

In the First Reading, we heard the words that the Prophet Zephaniah had for the People of Israel. Seventy years had passed since the death of the Prophet Isaiah. And God, in all that time, had not sent any prophets to his people. He was disappointed with them because they did not want to listen to the Isaiah’s words. Zephaniah tells the people that even though God has punished them, their sentence has been rescinded and their enemies had been overcome. He says, “Sing joyfully, O

Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O Jerusalem!" Here we see that even though the Lord at times is angry with us, because of our sins, because of our disobedience, he always ends up showing his great mercy towards us when we ask for pardon and we repent.

Let us remember, during this week and, if possible, always, what John has taught us: practice charity and justice, be prepared and, above all, share with others.

