

Weekend of Jan. 28 @

29, 2017

4th Sunday in Ordinary

Time

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

INFANT BAPTISM:

We are happy that you have chosen to have your child Baptized. Here are some of the requirements that we would like you to be aware of.

Requirements: Parents and godparents must attend one preparation session. Godparents must be confirmed, practicing Catholics, according to Church regulations.

Additional Information: Parents should be attending Mass regularly. They should see Edward Nolan or Father Herman to schedule the preparation session. The date for the Baptism will be set at this time. Only one godparent, of the same gender as the child, is required.

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN 7 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER (RCIA):

Requirements: Children must be enrolled in the appropriate grade level of the parish religious education program for two years. Godparents must be confirmed, practicing Catholics, according to Church regulations.

Additional Information: Parents and children should be attending Mass regularly. Children will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion at the Easter Vigil or on Easter morning. Parents, godparents, and the children must attend all rites and ceremonies leading up to the reception of these sacraments. Only one godparent, of the same gender as the child, is required.

Mass Schedule

Barona:

Daily Rosary and 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: 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



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 29

Weekend Masses:

Sunday, 8:00 AM Community of Barona

Sunday, 10:00 AM Community of Viejas

Sunday, Noon Community of Sycuan



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: Please take a brochure explaining the ACA, an envelope, and a pledge card.

February 5, 2017: Family Mass

March 5, 2017: Family Mass

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.

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

It is told that when Mother Theresa was once cleaning the wounds of a leper, a millionaire businessman came to visit her. The disgusting stench of the wounds and the sight of the worms crawling out from the man's body seized the businessman with gross repugnance. He exclaimed, "Even if I were to be given a million dollars, I wouldn't dare do what you are doing." Mother Theresa replied: "Me, too; even if I were to be given a million dollars, I would not also do what you will not doing."

In our gospel today according to St. Matthew, Jesus is talking about this popular heavenly constitution, the Beatitudes. In Greek, the word Beatitude is *macarius* which means happiness. So the meaning of the word "Blessed", as Jesus told, is that this is happiness. All that Jesus wants us is to be happy, not according to the understanding of the world of what happiness is all about but according to what God meant by this word.

Fr. Rudy Horst, SVD told that in the book *We Belong to the Land* by Mary Jensen, a totally new and surprising interpretation of today's gospel. Jensen studied Aramaic, the language which Jesus spoke and she found out that the original words Jesus used did not sound as passive as the English translation "Blessed are..." She understands the words of Jesus as an appeal to get up and get involved. It is like this: "Get up, go ahead, do something, move, you peacemakers, for you shall be called children of God..." She said: "I can hear Him saying: 'Get your hands dirty to build a human society for human being; otherwise, others will torture and murder the poor, the voiceless and the powerless.' Christianity is not passive but active, energetic, alive, going beyond

The beatitudes, therefore, signify not just sweet religious attitudes of a passive life by which we have to pray and attend Mass everyday due to the belief that it's the surest way to be a perfect disciple of Jesus and the surest way to heaven. That is far from it. Rather, our Christian lives should also be directed towards the problems of the world, the conversion of sinners and the missionary task of the Church which we support day and night.

I would like to give more emphasis on the first beatitude that says: "How blest are the poor in spirit, the reign of God is theirs." In St. Luke, the words 'in spirit,' are not found. I don't know if this is intentionally done or not, that I do not know. I remember the story of a group of missionaries who built a hospital for the poor. When it was finished, a group of rich people wanted to speak to the missionaries and to ask them why they had referred only to the poor, excluding everyone else, since the hospital was supposed to be for everyone. One of the missionaries said to them: "It is true that the hospital is for everyone, including you and everyone will be taken care of for free of charge and courteously. But it is also true that for those who are poorest and in greatest need, this hospital is good news of great joy in a special way, for, unlike you, they have had no other place to go. That is why now, they are especially happy. When we built the hospital we had them especially in our mind and hearts without excluding anyone.

Maybe you heard already about the axiom "Preferential Option for the Poor." Who are the poor? According to J. O'Halloran in his book entitled *Signs of Hope*, the poor are the materially deprived, especially those who struggle for sheer survival, wondering where the next meal will come from. They have no leisure time to devote to thoughts of spiritual or human enrichment. The Hebrew word for poor is *Ani* and *Dal* which conveys a notion of powerlessness and usually accompanies material deprivation. Also, those having sufficient worldly goods themselves take up the cause of the poor and are one with them in their struggle. Jesus opted for poverty and the poor. He didn't slam the door on anyone. So do we. He calls us to conversion – to an option for the poor.

The rest of the beatitudes: being hungry for holiness, merciful, pure of heart, peacemaker, persecuted for righteousness and others, all spell out God's prescription of happiness for us.

Jesus did them two thousand years ago. Are we ready

PURE OF HEART
PEACEMAKERS
INHERIT THE EARTH
MERCIFUL
MEEK
CHILDREN OF GOD
POOR IN SPIRIT
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
SEE
HUNGER AND THIRST
MOURN
Satisfied
Beatitudes
OBTAIN COMFORTED
MERCY
OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS
PERSECUTED
GOD