

*Weekend of December 2nd
and 3rd, 2017*

First Sunday of Advent



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, Carol Lane, Anita Curo, Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angelo Samot, Lourdes Adora, Donna Berardi, Secora Nelson, Daniel Vicaldo, Kash Osuna-Sutton, Gabe Dowell, Diana Pico, Clayton Curo, Bobby Malibago, Dolly Albano, Ray Mayor, Mike Montes

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

Mass Intentions – Dec. 3, 2017

Weekend Masses:	
Sunday, 8:00 AM	John and Dora Curo
Sunday, 10:00 AM	Community of Viejas
Sunday, Noon	Community of Sycuan

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

Viejas: Classes meet on Wednesdays, 3:30, Kateri Hall.

Upcoming Events

What You Don't Know About the Prayers You Pray: Sessions meet in Ed Nolan's office on Mondays at 6:30 PM (Nov. 13 and 27, Dec. 4, 11, and 18).

Friday, December 8, Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception and Feast of the Sycuan Reservation:

8:00 AM Barona

6:30 PM Sycuan *Come celebrate their Feast Day*

December 10, 11, and 12 (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday) – Parish Retreat: Retreat Director is Father Paul Farrelly, OSB. The theme of the retreat is

“Finding Yourself by Giving Yourself.” Father is an excellent speaker. Please reserve the time to join us for this extraordinary retreat.



Sunday Mass Schedule, Weekend of Dec. 23/24

Saturday, December 23:

4:00 PM Sycuan

6:00 PM Viejas

Sunday, December 24:

8:00 AM Barona

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule, Sunday Dec 24:

4:00 PM Sycuan

6:00 PM Viejas

10:00 PM Barona

Christmas Day Mass Schedule, Monday, Dec. 25:

9:00 AM Barona

New Years Mass Schedule:

New Years Eve 5:00PM Barona

New Years Day 9:00AM Barona



Blessing of an Advent Wreath

Lord God

and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.
Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath;
may their light reflect the splendor of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

---Book of Blessings

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Happy New Liturgical Year!

Happy First Sunday of Advent!

This Sunday, we start with another liturgical year. This time it is Liturgical Year B. As always, it starts with the Advent Season. What is it about Advent that makes this time special? Preparation for Christmas is one thing, but that's not all. Advent gives us a vision of our lives as Christians. Advent shows us the possibilities of **life**.

Life is a continuous journey through time. A journey in cycles, like waves of the ocean, tides high and low and high again, on and on. In life there are times of high intensity, and times of consolidation where experiences sink in before the next high. One could never survive on highs or lows alone. These cycles are seen in all aspects of life. Religious experiences and development, deepening of faith is no different. There are intense times, revelations, conversion, renewal, when our eyes are opened and our senses stirred – and then times of consolidation.

Church liturgy clearly shows such a journey in faith, with a full cycle covering three years and then it is repeated. Each liturgical year takes a look at seasons and scripture from different viewpoints while still following a cycle of high intensity and consolidation of experiences.

Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent year cycle B. It gives us a new start; we look back on the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem as a high point and we look to the future when Christ will come again – the ultimate high! In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian. The season of Advent brings us the magnificent vision of life, and hope for the future given to us by Christ. Advent is the connection between memory and hope which is so

life and experience his presence as a human being in our history, showing us what life can and should be – and we hope for the future he promises, the perfect and complete community, humanity enfolded in God's love.

Pope Benedict in his reflection on Advent [Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, "Seek That Which Is Above, 1986 Memory Awakens Hope"] wrote: "Advent is concerned with that very connection between

memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. **The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory** so that it can discern the star of hope.... It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us, memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

The concept of **continually rehearsing** the great history of memories is a very valuable one. So often one hears "I know the stories" "Heard them all before", and even "There is plenty of time for that later". But one only really learns to appreciate things by continually rehearsing them. By rehearsal, one actually delves deeper, gains deeper insight. By rehearsing the great history one discovers the pearl. I mentioned earlier, "Life is a continuous journey through time – A journey in cycles, like waves of the ocean".

Journey to a place for the first time and you might be lucky and you might see some attraction. Journey there again and you find things you never saw before. Repeat the journey over and over and you get to know the place, the people, the inner beauty. What a pity some only visit "God who became a child" in high season and never give themselves a chance to find God their creator, father and friend.

It is only as we experience **the full cycle**, beginning with unbridled joy in Advent – joy that slowly fades into the realization of what we have done and to the Christ, that the awful reality of Good Friday can have its full impact. And in **that** realization we can finally be ready to hear the Good News on Resurrection Sunday! That is the journey that the disciples took. And so there is value in taking the same journey – beginning with the anticipation and joy of

... not accept the challenge easily, not only to make
up to the joy of Advent – but to stay awake and
continuously rehearse the experiences, over and over,
and allow yourselves to be molded by the potter, and
glazed into a wonder of creation.

