

## Weekend of August 18 & 19, 2018 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Mass Schedule

**Barona:**  
**Daily Rosary and Mass:** Tuesday 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, 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

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

### Mass Intentions – August 19, 2018

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

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

**Barona :** Classes will begin Thursday, Sept. 20 At 2:45 and 4:00 PM.

**Sycuan:** Grades K-8, Class meets before Sunday Mass

Our communion with Jesus unites us with all believers. As you participate in the Eucharist pray that the Church may be strengthened as the Body of Christ.

**DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER  
SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
1-800-553-3321**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, August 23** – 5:30 PM, Religious Education Teacher Appreciation dinner, spouses are welcome. Hacienda Casa Blanca restaurant, 700 N. Johnson Avenue, El Cajon.

**Sunday, September 9** – 10:00 AM, Celebration of Viejas' Feast Day. It is the 79<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Church in Viejas. Next year big blow-out on the 80<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday, September 23** – Children's Mass – Mark Price will be preaching.

**Sunday, October 14** – Children's Mass

**Sunday, November 4** – Children's Mass

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## Religious Education Teachers in Barona, Viejas & Sycuan

We are in need of teachers for K-8 and we need a teacher for the high school students for religious education. Contact Fr. Herman or Brother Ed if interested or if you have any questions.

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Brother Ed Nolan will be on vacation for the month of September.

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### MEAL PRAYER

Lord, so glorious in holiness,  
Let your blessing rest on our table,  
And let your favor abide  
With those who cannot be with us.  
Show to all people,  
Especially those who lack enough to eat,  
Your goodness and loving-kindness,  
Both now and forever. Amen.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**Believe the words of Jesus: "My flesh  
is real food and my blood is real drink"**

**YOU WILL LIVE!!!!**

### **A reflection on the 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

This is the third Sunday since we began to hear in our Gospel Reading what Jesus said about his Body and Blood in Capharnaum. Saint John left us these words of Jesus that form the basis for our belief in the real presence of the Lord in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

Jesus himself said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever. And the bread that I will give you is my flesh, so that the world will have life". When they heard the Lord's surprising words, the Jews began to murmur and to argue among themselves. Some said scornfully, "How can this one give us his flesh to eat?" Nevertheless, Our Lord said to them, "My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him."

Listening to these words from the Gospel Reading, we should ask ourselves: If we eat his flesh and drink his blood, why do we continue to be spiritually weak? This question should lead us to a serious personal reflection. When I receive Communion during the Holy Mass, do I firmly believe that I receive, "the living bread that came down from heaven?" Or do I think this is only symbolic?

Our Lord assures us that during the Holy Mass, during the consecration, the bread and the wine are changed into his Body and his Blood. Receiving him we are strengthened, he gives us the spiritual strength and the faith we need to recognize that he is

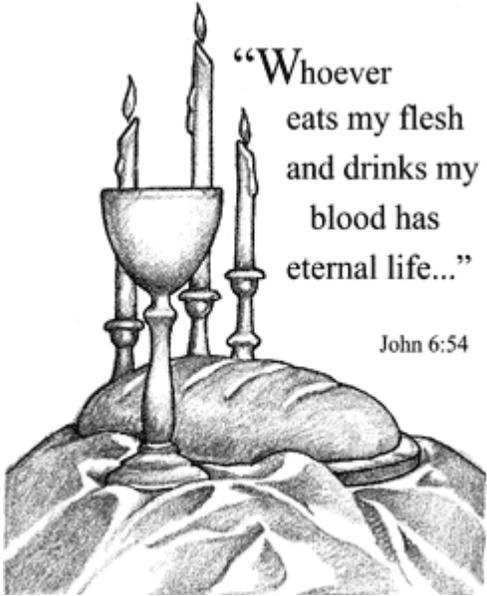
in this sacrament. However, we have met Catholics who receive Holy Communion but who do not believe in this. How can our faith be strengthened so that we can come to know the Lord better if we do not believe in this sacrament? Christ asks us to have faith and to believe everything that he tells us in Holy Scripture.

Sadly, we must say that we have seen people who do not believe the words that the Lord himself said to us in the Gospel Reading today, "my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink." If we do not have enough faith to believe these words, we will not be able to be strengthened by this sacrament of life. The problem is that some Christians do not want to believe the Christ's words when he speaks about the Holy Eucharist. They think that this doctrine is too difficult to believe. They prefer to see Holy Communion as something merely symbolic. That is the reason that we see so many people receiving communion with little faith.

It is also difficult to believe that some Catholics, who would not refuse an invitation to a banquet given by some important person, refuse to accept the invitation that Christ gives them to share in his Body and Blood. They do not see the enormous need they have to receive this sacrament. Not attending the banquet that the Lord himself holds for us is a great mistake that we will regret later on.

Since the beginning of our Church, Wisdom, in the Old Testament, has been identified as symbolizing Our Lord. For that reason, it is very important for us to listen to the words that we heard in the First Reading when Wisdom says to us, "Come, eat of my food and drink of the wine that I have prepared. Leave behind your ignorance and you will live, advance on the road of knowledge." Wisdom, meaning Christ himself, asks us to leave the mistaken road we have taken and look for the road of knowledge, the right road that will lead to happiness.

Only if we are humble and we have faith can we believe that Christ is truly present, in his Body and his Blood, in the Holy Eucharist. May our attitude, when we receive the Holy Eucharist, show that we really believe in Jesus Christ, Our Lord, the living bread that came down from heaven.



“Whoever  
eats my flesh  
and drinks my  
blood has  
eternal life...”

John 6:54