

Weekend of January 21, 2024
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Barona:

Mass: Tuesday through Friday. Rosary at 7:45 AM, Mass at 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

Saturday: 5:00 PM mass

Sunday: Sunday 8:00 AM. @ church

Confessions: By appointment only

Adoration: 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

Viejas:

Sunday: Sunday, 10:30 AM. @ Church

Confessions: By appointment only.

Sycuan:

Sunday: Sunday Mass 12:30 noon @ the Church

Confessions: By appointment only

PLEASE PRAY FOR....

Vicaldo Family, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Walter Rapczak, Robert and Margie Cruz, Mike Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Romero Family, Annie McTavish, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Blanca Lechner, Paolo Espiritu, John Clark, Kevin Bethsayag, Tyre Nichols, Steve TeSam, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Mark Noriega, Carol Richardson, Nancy Rourke, Colleen Crowden, Jeff Ashii, Pamela Nolan CSC, Rosario and Paul Estepa, Haley Price, Mark Marquez, Lulu Cabinatan, and for the family of Geraldine "Midge" Svien

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Barona: Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m.
with Alyssa Parada*

*Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price are
ongoing each Wednesday.*

Viejas: 3:00 PM

Barona: 4:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.
Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel*

FEBRUARY

Sunday, Feb 4th – Children’s mass at all reservations, led by Mark Price.

Wednesday, Feb 14th – ASH Wednesday

Barona 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Sycuan 5:00 PM

Viejas 7:00 PM

Wednesday, Feb 14th – Valentine’s Day

Monday, Feb 19th – President’s Day

Collection for Society of the Divine Word (SVD) Parish Mission Appeal Weekend of January 27 & 28, 2024

*Did you know that **Fr. Herman** is an SVD priest?*

He is a member of the Society of the Divine Word, a Catholic Missionary Congregation.

The SVD’s priests proclaim the Word of God through biblical ministries, justice and peace, communication and mission animation.

This collection will help sustain the ministries and charities, care for their retired priests, maintaining the mission houses and institutions.

*Please make checks to: **The Society of the Divine Word***

Envelopes will be available in the pews and in the back of the church. Thank you so much for your generosity.

PASTOR'S CORNER

As Fishers of Men Bringing Good News to Others

**A reflection on the 3rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

Our first reading today is from the Book of the Prophet Jonah. I think that most people know something about this story. I have a mental image of Jonah either in the mouth or in the belly of a whale. I probably saw this in a Bible story book that my parents gave to me in church as a young boy hoping to keep me quiet.

Today we heard just a short snippet from the Book of Jonah. The whole story is very interesting. God told Jonah to go preach to the Ninevites, people who were despised by the Hebrews. But, instead of going east to Nineveh, Jonah went west. I'm sure we can all connect with this part of the story. God tells us to go one direction, so we go another.

Running out of land as he headed away from Nineveh, Jonah next took a boat out into the Mediterranean Sea. To stop a severe storm, Jonah jumped overboard and a large "fish" swallowed him and spit him back on the shore after three days. Here again, we can connect with the story since many of us wander away from God for much longer than three days before returning to him.

Finally deciding that he better do what God told him, Jonah goes to Nineveh and the people repent before Jonah can walk through the whole city. This really made Jonah mad because he still hated the Ninevites.

This story had a moral lesson for the Hebrew people and it has one for us today. God wants *all* people, no matter what we personally think about them. The Hebrew people waffled back and forth about this; we do the same today.

During an RCIA class in Oakland, the parish's catechist, Yvonne was doing Breaking Open the Word when her co-facilitator told the class that only Catholics can go to heaven. This immediately brought up the question about people who do not yet know Christ, such as the

Ninevites who had not heard of Yahweh before Jonah arrived with the good news.

Yvonne knew that God's salvation is much wider than just Catholics, but didn't have enough information at her fingertips to discuss the issue. But she knew where to find it. After class, she and I went to the office and went straight to the Catechism so that she could set things right in the next RCIA class. Both she and I read what Paragraph 847 says:

"Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience — those too may achieve eternal salvation."

This seems to be quite a challenge to some Catholics. The paragraph means that any people, living in the farthest recesses of our globe, can achieve eternal salvation if they live a moral life according to what they have learned. If they have not heard about Christ, it is not their problem, but that of we 2 billion Christians that have not yet brought them the Good News. And we've had over 2,000 years to do so.

We must be careful not to judge people, but to leave judging up to God. Only God can see into people's hearts. God made all people in his image and he wants every one of us.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells us, "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel." And some men immediately left what they were doing and followed him. The kingdom of God is still at hand. We must change our ways and bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

