

Weekend of February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

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, 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, Michael Martinez, Fr. Earl Henley, MSC, Fr. Dominic Asare, SVD
Please check the 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

Monday, Feb 19th – President's Day

**Saturday, Feb 24th – 11:00 AM, Viejas
Reservation Tribal Hall (across from Ipai
Tipai Park).... **Meeting with Bishop Ramon
Bejarano** regarding Native American symbol
to be put in a crest/seal to be used at San
Diego de Alcala Church. Lunch will be
provided by Viejas.**

MARCH

**Sunday, March 3 – Tuesday, March 5 –
6:30 p.m. nightly, Barona
Lenten Retreat, *A Ministry of Presence*
Fr. Raymond Wea, SVD**



A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me
closer to you,
Prepare a place in my home and heart for
silence and solitude, so that I may re-
discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in
need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace
of gratitude and generosity.
Help me to fast from those things that
threaten the well-being of body and soul,

remind me of the grace and simplicity. May this season be grace-filled time to rekindle my love for faith in you. Amen.

In order to hear a call from the Lord, our hearts must be opened to receive His Word. Lent begins with a call to repent so that all which clouds our ears might be stripped away to hear His voice clearly.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

The Temptations of Christ

A reflection on the First Sunday of Lent

There's an amusing story about a young man who was constantly bedeviled by sensual thoughts. Feeling guilty, he consulted a priest-friend.

“Don't worry,” the priest assured him, “these thoughts popped out in our minds. They're not sinful but only enticements. But the moment you start entertaining them, they become sinful. Did you entertain them?”

The young man paused, then sheepishly replied: “Well, I didn't entertain them, Father, but they entertained me!”

Temptations are an ever present reality in our lives. They are not just temptations of the flesh, but also of injustice, cheating, stealing, or murder. The Gospel message for this 1st Sunday of Lent, relates how Jesus underwent temptations in the desert and how He struggled to overcome them, thus setting for us an example.

In the FIRST temptation, the tempter was sweet-talking to Jesus to use His powers

for His own personal aggrandizement. “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to turn into loaves” (Lk 4:3).

There is always the temptation for us to use selfishly whatever powers or talents God has given us. A person, for instance, may possess an innate ability to sing. He may cash in on it, refusing to use it unless he is paid. There is no reason why he should not use it for pay, but there is no reason to why he should use it ONLY to get paid.

In the SECOND temptation, Jesus was challenged by the devil to throw Himself down (the temple parapet) but would not get hurt. In short, do something sensational. Make miracles.

We Catholics have a penchant for the extraordinary and miraculous. The trouble is that we're so drawn to the sensational that we overlook the many “miracles of faith” that are happening quietly every day. For instance, isn't it a miracle that strong, happy families survive in an environment of broken marriages? Or that many Catholics practice honesty and compassion where selfishness and dishonesty abound?

The tempter's THIRD avenue of assault was for Jesus to “fall down and worship me, and I will give You all the kingdoms of this world” (Lk 4:6). In short, compromise. Don't demand too much. Wink just a little at evil and people will follow you.

But Christ slammed the tempter's enticement. There can never be compromises with evil. Evil cannot be defeated by compromising with evil.

Finally, remember one very important thing. Temptation often comes not at our strongest, but at our weakest moments. Jesus' temptation began AFTER 40 days of fasting. Isn't it that when one is broke and creditors are running after him,

the temptation to steal or accept bribes can be very strong?

We have just entered the season of Lent. Lent is a special occasion which calls us to deep decision-making. It challenges us to test our fidelity to God and our moral convictions.

Can you pass the test? Do you avoid the occasions that will lead you to sin?

Fr. Bel San Luis, SVD
Manila Bulletin