

Weekend of May 7  
*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**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....**

Sue Kierig, Donna Berardi, Vicaldo Family, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and Marcie Cu, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Walter Raczak, Robert and Margie Cruz, Rick Lechner, Mike Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Ernie and Emy Lampa, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, Deacon Gene Neral, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Annie McTavish, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Blanca Lechner, Rose Magginni, Donny Matheny, Cecil Lloyd, Lulu Cabinatan, Lulu Cullen, Troy William Foulz, Ed Nolan, Maximo Luna, Raymond Begay, Parris Montes, Gabriel Marquez Sr., Blanca Lechner, Mary Rose Mallorca, Annie McTavish, Mattie Yager, Amado Musa, Tamara Jerjees, Ashaye Mendoza, Frances Banegas, Imelda Tjaden, Lorraine January, Marie Montesa, Willy Manzanares, Ruben Mangrobang, Paul Armstrong, Donald Velasco, Erland San Miguel, Rosario Estepa, Joe Kardian, Tim Scheidt, Mary L. Begay, Lynda Rowe, Elvira Miranda, Dennis Calton

**Religious Education**

Congratulations to the following individuals who made their First Communion on Saturday. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Vera Blanco**

**Kacie Brown**

**Trace Curo**

**Mia Martinez**

**Carlos Nunez**

**Cesar Nunez**

**Isabella Samano**

**Jacoby VanWanseele**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

***MAY***

***May 8-20 – Fr. Herman will be gone. Fr. Soney Sebastian, SVD will be here for Saturday and Sunday mass.***

***Sunday, May 14 – Mother's Day***

***Thursday, May 18 – 5:00 PM, May Crowning practice at church.***

***Wednesday, May 24 – 5:00 PM, May Crowning practice at church.***

***Sunday, May 28 – 10:00 AM, May Crowning at **Barona**. May queen will be Daniela Osuna. One mass for all reservations.***



On behalf of the TeSam family, we would like to thank those that were able to come and help make flowers for the May Crowning. We appreciate your support.

‘In my Father’s house,  
there are many dwelling places.’  
Prepare a place in the Father’s  
Mansion by living His promises  
here on earth.

**Divine Word**  
**Missionaries and Sister Servants**

## **PASTOR’S CORNER**

### **Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life**

#### **A reflection on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

In the gospel of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter we heard Jesus promising us of a bright future. We will all be going to the Father’s house, and he prepares “dwelling places” for us. Certainly, the kingdom of the Father is not a palatial mansion with plenty of rooms. If a house or home is a source of our communion, comfort and security, then there is more we expect at the Father’s kingdom. There, we will experience an everlasting communion with him and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thomas asked Jesus, “*Master, we don’t know where are you going, how can we know the way?*” With that, Jesus answered, “*I am the way, the truth and the life.*” Let us reflect on these revelations of Jesus about himself.

First, Jesus is the way. He is **THE WAY** to the Father. While he was still on earth, Jesus spoke much about his Father who is also our Father. He talked about his union with the Father, the goodness and compassion of the Father. He preached the kingdom of God the Father. He gathered the people, and he even ate with sinners with the aim to bring them back to the Father. Our aim in life or in the afterlife is to go to the Father. We hope to become part of the kingdom of the Father. To realize this, we need to believe, and to be in communion with Jesus Christ, because he is “the way” to the Father.

Second, Jesus is **THE TRUTH**. The words of Jesus are truth, and this truth sets us free. Some people think that truth can be relative. I have the truth, and other people can also bear the truth. This is the case of the controversial Planned Parenthood. On the one

hand, the proponents present their own version of the truth. On the other hand, the Church also presents the truth of the matter. Which of the two is saying the real truth? The ultimate yardstick for discerning the truth is the truth of God. If we say we carry the truth, we have to ask whether that truth is anchored or has its basis on Jesus the truth? Indeed, the bishops made a pronouncement that, ultimately, “*we will obey God, not man.*”

Third, Jesus is **THE LIFE**. He once said to Martha, “*I am the resurrection and the life.*” In the Bread of Life discourse, he presented himself as the Bread of Life. He is the food that gives eternal life so much so that whoever eats of this bread will live forever. In the Creed, we profess that we believe in life everlasting. This belief has its connection to our faith in Jesus who is Life and the Bread of Life. Thus, if we choose life, then we need to abide or remain in Jesus. We experience this many times in our life. The moment that we distance ourselves from Jesus, we have experienced death because of sin and sinfulness. But if we cling to him, there we experience that we are alive and full of life. Indeed, Jesus is life. Going back to the controversial Planned Parenthood, we find that the issue is not only truth, but also life. The Catholic Church opposes it because it promotes the “culture of death,” and not the “culture of life.” God calls us to the fullness of life. In a way, if Planned Parenthood is not pro-life, then it cannot be the will of God.

Hence, Jesus as the way, the truth and the life has something to do with our day to day existence. Just as Jesus is the way, we may also be the way or instrument for others to go to God. At the same time, we should also be bearers of truth, and promoters of life.

