

Weekend of January 28, 2024
Fourth 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, 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
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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

JANUARY

**Wednesday, Jan 31st – 90th Anniversary
Celebration of Barona Mission church
meeting, 5 p.m. at church office. Light
dinner will be provided.**

FEBRUARY

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

**Sunday, Feb 11th – Blessing of married
couples for Valentine’s Day at all
reservations.**

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

A Prayer for Protection

We pray you, O God, be our help and protection.
Save the afflicted among us, have mercy on the
lowly. Raise up the fallen, show yourself to
those in need.

Heal the Sick and bring back those who have
strayed. Fill the hungry, give freedom to
prisoners. Raise up the weak, console the
fainthearted.

Let all people acknowledge that you alone are
God, and Jesus Christ is your Child, that we are
your people, the sheep to whom you give
pasture.

PASTOR'S CORNER

The POWER of the WORD

**A reflection on the 4th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

There was once a professor in theology at a Catholic university. On his first day, he asked the students to write down what their notion of Jesus was. While going over the papers later, the professor was amused by the many curious answers. There was one that particularly caught his attention. The student wrote: "Jesus was a great P-R-O-F-I-T. He meant of course "prophet." It wasn't surprising because when the teacher checked the course he was taking, it was Business Administration!

In the first reading, Moses says, "A prophet like me will the Lord raise up for you." He was referring to Jesus Christ who, in this 4th Sunday's gospel, will speak both with authority and power.

In the Gospel, the evangelist Mark tells us that Jesus was teaching in the synagogue "as One who had authority" and His listeners were "amazed at His teaching" (Mk 1:22).

Why? Unlike the prophets (spokesmen of God) before Him who would preface their remarks with the phrase, "Thus says the Lord God," Jesus would declare, "I say to you..." Jesus spoke on His own. He never made appeals to the testimony of past prophets or teachers.

To bolster that authority, Jesus had amazing power as demonstrated by driving away evil spirits from possessed persons. Thus, we read, "A man with an unclean spirit cried out, 'What have You to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are, the Holy One of God'" (Mk 1:23-24).

By the way, there's an indigenous sect who teaches, among others, that Jesus is not God but a mere man. The followers claim further that their founder is an angel, in effect higher than Christ. But it is clear from the above passage: "I know who You are, the Holy One of God."

Incidentally, we are now in the Bible Week. We are reminded on this week that Jesus' Word has the power, too, to transform people. You must have read about the story of the "Mutiny on the Bounty" later made into a movie.

The sequel of the true story is, after the rebellion and take-over of the ship "Bounty," nine mutineers went ashore on Pitcairn Island in 1790. One sailor soon began distilling alcohol, and the little colony was plunged into debauchery and vice. Ten years later, only one white man survived. In an old chest from the "Bounty," this sailor one day found a Bible. He began to read it, was moved, and then taught it to the others. The result was that his own life and ultimately the lives of all those in the colony were changed. Discovered in 1808 by the USS Topas, Pitcairn had become a prosperous community with no jail, no whisky, no crime, and no laziness.

The story shows the amazing transformation of a whole island brought about by the POWER of God's Word. God's Word has the power to transform us too if we could only read the Bible and apply its messages in daily life.

***Fr. Bel San Luis, SVD
Manila Bulletin, Philippines***

