

Weekend of January 29, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 12 – Blessing of Wedding
Anniversaries at all reservations

Tuesday, February 14 – Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 19 – Children's Mass, all
reservations

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday

Schedule: 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM – Barona
5:00 PM – Sycuan
7:00 PM - Viejas

Tuesday, February 28 – Native American Martyr's
meeting, Barona clubhouse, 5:00 p.m.



Lord God, you are the source and
supporter of all things, thank You for
minding everything about me, for
backing me up whenever I need
something, especially when I do not
know what to do or where to ask help.
Now, I am grateful because my own life
depends on You, and You help me
always, by letting me live another day.
Please give me today, Lord, the food
and drink that will sustain me, the
clothing that will protect me. Be with
me, Lord, as I go out of home to face the
challenges of the day.
Be with us all today!

-Christian Catholic Media

PASTOR'S CORNER

This new Mass schedule will stay in effect until the
Covid-19 crisis is over. Thanks for your patience.

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, Purita
Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Ruben and
Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Elvira Hapin, Dustin Lutze, Deloris
Loucks, 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, Manny Ilagan, George Arviso, Ernie and Emy Lampa,
Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Nicanor and Evacueto Elman, Lilly
Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, AJ & Angela
Samot, Deacon Gene Neral, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen
Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Barona, K-8th:

Classes have changed to **Wednesdays:**

3:30 pm – 1st year students/ First Communion

4:30 pm – 2nd year students/ First Communion

Sycuan: 2nd year youth class is at 10:30 am.

ADULT CLASS –

Please contact Judy Oyos (judy.otm@gmail.com) or
Fr. Herman Manuel (herman_manuel@hotmail.com)
for Adult class information.

The Beatitudes of Jesus— A Key to Happiness in Life

A reflection on the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is told that when Mother Theresa was once cleaning the wounds of a leper, a millionaire businessman came to visit her. The disgusting stench of the wounds and the sight of the worms crawling out from the man's body seized the businessman with gross repugnance. He exclaimed, "Even if I were to be given a million dollars, I wouldn't dare do what you are doing." Mother Theresa replied: "Me, too; even if I were to be given a million dollars, I would not also do what you will not doing."

In our gospel today according to St. Matthew, Jesus is talking about this popular heavenly constitution, the Beatitudes. In Greek, the word Beatitude is *macarius* which means happiness. So the meaning of the word "Blessed", as Jesus told, is that this is happiness. All that Jesus wants us is to be happy, not according to the understanding of the world of what happiness is all about but according to what God meant by this word.

Fr. Rudy Horst, SVD told that in the book *We Belong to the Land* by Mary Jensen, a totally new and surprising interpretation of today's gospel. Jensen studied Aramaic, the language which Jesus spoke and she found out that the original words Jesus used did not sound as passive as the English translation "Blessed are..." She understands the words of Jesus as an appeal to get up and get involved. It is like this: "Get up, go ahead, do something, move, you peacemakers, for you shall be called children of God..." She said: "I can hear Him saying: 'Get your hands dirty to build a human society for human being; otherwise, others will torture and murder the poor, the voiceless and the powerless.' Christianity is not passive but active, energetic, alive, going beyond despair."

The beatitudes, therefore, signifies not just sweet religious attitudes of a passive life by which we have to pray and attend Mass everyday due to the belief that it's the surest way to be a perfect disciple of Jesus and the surest way to heaven. That is far from it. Rather, our Christian lives should also be directed towards the problems of the world, the conversion of sinners and the missionary task of the Church which we support day and night.

I would like to give more emphasis on the first beatitudes that says: "How blest are the poor in spirit, the reign of God is theirs." In St. Luke, the words 'in spirit,' is not found. I don't know if this is intentionally done or not, that I do not know. I remember the story of a group of missionaries who built a hospital for the poor. When it was finished, a group of rich people wants to speak to the missionaries and to ask them why they had referred only to the poor, excluding everyone else, since the hospital was supposed to be for everyone. One of the missionaries said to them: "It is true that the hospital is for everyone, including you and everyone will be taken cared of for free of charge and courteously. But it is also true that for those

who are poorest and in greatest need, this hospital is good news of great joy in a special way, for, unlike you, they have had no other place to go. That is why now, they are especially happy. When we built the hospital we had have them especially in our mind and hearts without excluding anyone.

May be you heard already about the axiom "Preferential Option for the Poor." Who are the poor? According to J. O'Halloran in his book entitled *Signs of Hope*, he said that the poor are the materially deprived especially those who struggle for sheer survival, wondering where the next meal will come from, they have no leisure time to devote to thoughts of spiritual or human enrichment. The Hebrew word for poor is *Ani* and *Dal* which conveys a notion of powerlessness and usually accompanies with material deprivation. Also, those having sufficient worldly goods themselves take up the cause of the poor and are one with them in their struggle. Jesus opted for poverty and the poor. He didn't slam the door on anyone. So do we. He calls us to conversion – to an option for the poor.

The rest of the beatitudes: being hungry for holiness, merciful, pure of heart, peacemaker, persecuted for righteousness and others, all spell out God's prescription of happiness for us. Jesus did them two thousand years ago. Are we ready to follow and get serious to follow Jesus' footsteps?

Smile! Happy 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

