

Weekend of February 5, 2023 Fifth 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

Wednesday, March 1 – Native American Martyr's
meeting, Barona clubhouse, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 5 – Tuesday, March 7 – 6:00 p.m.,
Barona Clubhouse

The Eucharist and the Pascal Mystery presented by
Reverend Ramon Bejarano, Auxiliary Bishop of SD

ZOOM LENTEN SERIES with Brother Ed Nolan

We will explore the dynamic relationship between
Christ and the biblical persons in the Lenten scriptural
readings and the Way of the Cross. There are many
relationships Jesus has that can strengthen our faith
and shed light and insight into our own evolving
spiritual life.

When: 2/15, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29 & 4/5

Time: 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Please email Sandy at bktparish@aol.com with your
email and you will be sent the zoom link and a
reminder the day before.

Reporting Allegations of Sexual Misconduct

The Diocese of San Diego treats all allegations of sexual
misconduct seriously and deals with them in a prompt,
confidential and thorough manner. Reported or suspected
criminal abuse is reported to law enforcement in accord with
civil laws. To report sexual misconduct including abuse contact:

Mary Acosta

Victim assistance Coordinator

858.490.8353, misconduct@sdatholic.org

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, Irmira 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.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Salt of the Earth and Light of the World

A reflection on the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What is the greatest hindrance to Christianity in our country? This is a question that is bound to elicit a variety of answers depending on whom you ask. Possible answers would include: the mass media, popular culture, materialism, bad government policies, other religions, etc. A missionary had the occasion to put this very question to the great Mahatma Gandhi, "What is the greatest hindrance to Christianity in India?" His answer was swift and decisive: "Christians." It is said that the world would be a more Christian place today were it not for the Christians. The Christians that constitute a hindrance to Christianity are not the real and committed ones, of course, but those who bear the name Christian but, judging from the way they talk and behave, no one would suspect they have anything to do with Christ.

In today's gospel Jesus says to his disciples, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). But elsewhere in John 8:12 Jesus says of himself, "I am the light of the world." Who then is the light of the world, Jesus or his followers? This apparent contradiction is resolved by another passage in John 9:5 where Jesus modifies the statement about himself: "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." This shows that Jesus is talking about the flesh and blood embodiment of the light. As long as he is physically present in the world he is the light of the world, but when he is no longer physically present his followers now assume the role of being the light of the world.

The role of the Christian in the world is defined by two words in today's gospel: salt and light. Now what do these mean? Do you know that the word "sugar" never occurs in the Bible? In ancient times, salt was the ultimate seasoning that gave taste to food. Without salt food would be tasteless. Jesus is saying that as salt (or sugar, if you like) is to food, so are Christians to the world. Christians are in the world to make it a sweeter place. How can we make the world a sweeter place? We find the answer in the parallel passage in Mark: "Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another" (Mark 9:50).

As salt we are called to be sweet disciples, friendly and kind, living at peace with everybody. As light we are called to show the way. Without light we bump into each other and fall into the ditch. But light says: "Here is the road, take it; here is danger, avoid it." Without light and salt the world would be in a very bad shape, uninteresting and impossible to live in. With light and salt the world becomes a safer and better place. It is our duty as Christians to make the world a better place.

But how do we do that? The same way that salt and light do it. First, salt must be different from the food before it can be of use. If salt loses its taste, then it is useless and can no longer make a difference. Light must be different from darkness in order to be of help. A flashlight with dead batteries is no good for someone in the dark. So being salt and light of the world means being different from the world. If believers have nothing that distinguishes them from unbelievers, then they are like salt that has lost its saltiness and therefore cannot make a difference. And what distinguishes us from non-believers should be not so much what we claim to be or the badges and pins we wear but the life we live. As Jesus says in John 13:35, "By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Love is the distinctive mark by which you can tell the true Christian from the false.

Secondly, both salt and light operate by associating with the thing that they want to change. Salt cannot improve the food unless it goes into the food and changes it from within. Light cannot show the way unless it encounters the darkness. Sometimes Christians think that the way to go is to keep away from getting involved with society and popular culture. But by shying away from the realities of our society and our world we might indeed be hiding our lamp under the bushel basket. To make a difference we must get up and get involved.

Today's gospel is frightening. It says, in effect, that if there is so much darkness and bitterness in the world today it is because we as Christians have failed in our job to be salt and light in the world. But we can decide to make a difference starting from today. We can decide to light a candle rather than curse the

darkness. Even the smallest candle helps in a world of
darkness.