

# Weekend of May 16, 2021

## The Ascension of the Lord

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

**Sunday:** Sunday 8:00 AM. @ Shrine

**Confessions:** By appointment only

**Adoration:** 1st Fri. of the month (8:00 AM).

### **Viejias:**

**Sunday:** Sunday, 10:30 AM. @ Church

**Confessions:** By appointment only.

### **Sycuan:**

**Sunday:** Sunday Mass 12:00 noon @ the Church

**Confessions:** By appointment only



Sue Kierig, Martha Boone, A. J. Samot, Angelo Samot, Donna Berardi, Daniel Vicaldo, Kash Osuna-Sutton, Anthony and Diana Pico, Dolly Albano, Ray Mayor, Mike Montes, Bobbie Turner, Helen Cadiente, Mae Guerrero, Susanna Gotell, Agnes Ruiz, Deacon Bill Clarke, Rosario Ravasco, Minerva Mayor, Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Purita Amparo, Wendy Reyes, Alicia Castro, Debbie Gonzalez, Barbara Reeves, Nancy Rourke, Anthony Harut Haurutuynian, Bobby Curo, Abraham Pascual, Eugene "Gino" Vicaldo, Skylar Rosas, Richard Padua, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Joyce Martinez, Elvira Hapin, Lisa Black, Jan Jacobs, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Myrtle Welch  
*Please check prayer list and add names as desired.*



We are called to live in accord with the calling we have received, whether as priest, religious, married or single; encouraging one another by the example of our lives.

**DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER  
SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**800-553-3321**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

### PARTICIPATE IN MASS

by livestreaming with Fr. Herman

*Please note weekday Mass time change*

Weekdays, Tues-Friday at 8:00 AM,

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

**Saturday, May 22** – *Viejias Grave blessing  
and cleaning*

**Sunday, May 30** – *10:30 AM – Viejias  
May Crowning*

### **ZOOM CLASS ON WEDNESDAYS**

*Brother Ed has begun a series on the  
Catholic faith.*

*When: Wednesdays, May 19 & 26,  
June 2 & 9*

*Time: 5:30 PM*

*If you would like to join us, please contact  
Brother Ed at [bktparish@aol.com](mailto:bktparish@aol.com) and the  
zoom link will be sent to you.*

### **A Prayer to the Creator**

Lord, Father of our human family,  
you created all human beings equal in dignity:  
pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit  
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,  
dialogue, justice and peace.  
Move us to create healthier societies  
and a more dignified world,  
a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open  
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.  
May we recognize the goodness and beauty  
that you have sown in each of us,  
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,  
and shared dreams. Amen.

*Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti*



# The Ascension of the Lord: What Does It Mean for Us?

A reflection on the Ascension of the Lord

The story is told about a priest who, talking about heaven in his homily, said: “We bring nothing with us when we die. There is no money in heaven! People in heaven have no money!”

The whole congregation was quiet, till a little girl whispered to her mother loud enough for all to hear: “Mama, mama, we’re in heaven already!”

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. It was when the Risen Lord was lifted up from the earth to be seated at the right hand of the Father. With the Ascension, the Risen Lord completed His earthly mission (Mk 16:15-20). His final mandate was clear: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.” We are to continue His mission. But His assurance is also clear: “I am with you always.” His mandate and His assurance should also set us free.

Jesus teaches us to ascend, to rise above our personal agenda to carry out His mandate. Many a “disciple” does not and cannot carry out His mission because he is weighed down by his/her burdens in life. In fact, many of us often set aside or completely forget our real mission in this life because we are so focused on our own personal agenda.

Is His vision your vision? Is His mission your mission? Is His horizon your horizon? Is He in the picture at all? Make room for your Lord and you will be free.

As long as a person is focused on himself/herself, the Evil One is happy. His proven strategy is to keep a person focused on his/her earthly blessings. That is why some people cannot look beyond their money, power and creature comforts. Do you find yourself looking at the mirror so many times in a day? Do you find yourself caught up in your financial plans and investments? Do you find yourself hopping from one earthly pleasure to another? Are you so sensitive to what people are saying about you? Watch out. You are so focused on yourself and the Evil One is very happy about you.

The Evil One is equally happy when a person stays focused on his/her woes and miseries. And so it is that some people spend their whole lifetime focused on their problems and burdens. They have blessings, but they tend to belittle or forget these in view of their tenacious attachment to their burdens in the past, in the present and in the future. They always have that “distant look,” sorting out some things in their minds and not quite aware of the present realities around them.

Do you find yourself replying and rewinding your life in the regrets lane? Do you find yourself going fast forward into the worry lane? Careful. The Evil One is jubilant because while you are at it, you are unaware of the bigger burdens of people around you. In this self-engrossed mode that borders on self-pity, you hardly hear the Lord who is calling you to His mission.

What weighs you down is not how much you weigh, but what you weigh, i.e., what you consider as important in life? A person can be laden with real problems in life but he/she can refuse to be burdened by them. He/she can rise above these and still live a joyful and fruitful life. In other words, the choice is ours to make: to be happy or sad; to be trusting or to be worried; to build or to destroy; to be forgiving or to be angry; to be gentle or to be violent; to be better or to be bitter; to love or to hate. This is the challenge of the Ascension: to crawl with our burdens and get going with His mission.

The way we pray can affect the way we live. If you pray gratefully, you will live gratefully; if you pray bitterly, you will live bitterly: If you pray miserably, you will live miserably.

For those who insist on carrying so many excess baggage as they travel through life, remember that all of us will have to make it through the long haul until we reach our final destination—heaven. There, the Lord will ask: “What is it that you’ve been carrying in your bag all these years, my child? Lots of love, or lots of trash?”

--Fr. Gerry Orbos, SVD