

Weekend of May 28 *Pentecost Sunday*

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

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, Joyce Martinez, 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, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, AJ & Angela Samot, Deacon Gene Neral, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Romero Family, Annie McTavish, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Blanca Lechner
Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

Religious Education

Religious Education will begin in September 2023. Please contact Fr. Herman or Judy Oyos if you are interested in classes.

Registration forms are available at church office.

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." The coming of the Spirit gives us the power and vitality to be a witness to Christ, no matter the cost.

Divine Word Missionaries and Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit 800-553-3321

UPCOMING EVENTS

**** MAY ****

Monday, May 29 – Memorial Day

**** JUNE ****

Saturday, June 10 – Sycuan Mass and Grave Blessing, 11 AM

Pentecost Prayer

By your Spirit of freedom, Lord our God,
You transformed the Apostles.
From being afraid, they boldly preached the Kingdom; from being imprisoned, they joyfully went out.
Pour out this same Spirit on your Church at prayer.
Grant that it may be today a sign of new freedom, for all the world, in Jesus, the Christ, our Lord.
- Proclaiming All Your Wonders

PASTOR'S CORNER

Holy Spirit: The Guide, Unifier and Sanctifier of the Church **A reflection on Pentecost Sunday**

A priest was once asked by a doctor why he preached the existence of the Holy Spirit as the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. The doctor asked: "Do you ever see the Holy Spirit? Do you ever hear the Holy Spirit?" The priest answered, "No". The doctor continued: "Do you ever taste the Holy Spirit? Do you ever smell the Holy Spirit? To all of these questions, the doctors received a 'No' answer. But when the doctor asked: "Do you ever feel the Holy Spirit?" The priest replied: "Yes, indeed." "Well," said the doctor, "There are four of the five senses against you, Father. So, I doubt that there is a Holy Spirit."

Then it was the turn of the priest to ask. "You are a doctor of medicine," the priest said. "It is your business to treat pains. Did you ever see, hear, taste or smell a pain?" asked the priest.

“No,” answered the doctor. “Did you feel the pain,” followed the priest. “Yes, I did,” said the doctor.

“There are four senses against you. Yet you know and I know that there is pain. By the same proof, I know that the Holy Spirit exists,” continued the priest.

For each one of us we do believe that the Holy Spirit exists because we feel His presence in us. Even if we do see, hear, taste or smell the Holy Spirit, we do believe His existence. It is because “for those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary; for those who do not believe in God, no explanation is possible,” (From 1943 the movie *The Song of Bernadette*).

This Sunday, we are celebrating the Feast of the Pentecost. Pentecost is the day when we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Spirit that Christ promised them before His ascension, back to His Father in heaven. Pentecost comes from the word *pente*, the Greek word for fifty. So, Pentecost is fifty days after Jesus was resurrected from the dead during Easter.

Since today is the feast of the coming of the Holy Spirit to apostles and to us too, let us talk about the Holy Spirit in order to have a better understanding of this Third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

First, the Holy, of course, is God like the Father and the Son. The Third Divine Person of the Blessed Trinity sent to the world by the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit now guides the Church and continues the works and teachings of Jesus without changing them. He is the Sanctifier of the Church.

Second, the Holy Spirit comes to us first at the moment of our baptism, more fully at our confirmation, infusing in us together with sanctifying grace and the three theological virtues of faith, hope and love. He gave to us His seven gifts of: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. Also, this Holy Spirit gave to us the twelve fruits of these seven gifts, namely: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, forbearance, meekness, fidelity, modesty, continence and chastity (cf. Gal 5:16-25). Without the Holy Spirit, nobody can believe or hope and/or repent his/her sins.

Third, the Holy Spirit is Love made Person. We know that all love comes from God, but how? We can understand it better this difficult question by discussing the three characteristics of love.

The first characteristic is that love is sacrificial. It demands that we make sacrifices for the one we love. It must never be selfish. Just like me, I came to a point that I gave God seven choices to tell me what path of life I must take. These seven choices were: does he want me to be a doctor; to get married early and have a family of my own; to remain single forever; a businessman; to do nothing; to become an activist; to become a social worker? But God did not choose any of the above that I mentioned before Him. I became a priest.

The second characteristic of this love is, it must be purifying. Any love which drags a person down or ruins him is a false love. A love which makes a person worse instead of making him better is not love at all. But if through this love the person becomes a better person and better Christian, then this is true and purifying love.

The third characteristic is that love must always be caring. It does not demand service from the other to ensure our own comfort and to fulfill our own needs. Love always says: “Not what I want but what you want.”

To end this sharing, let us ask ourselves: Does the Spirit of joy, love, unity and peace always dwell in us? Does the Holy Spirit encourage me to proclaim Christ to other people?

Fr. Joseph Benitez
Mindanao, Philippines

Come Holy Spirit, Come
Veni Sancte Spiritus