

Weekend of August 1, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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).

Viejas:

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 Pico, Dolly Albano, Mike Montes, Bobbie Turner, 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, Bobby Curo, Abraham Pascual, Eugene "Gino" Vicaldo, Skylar Rosas, Richard Padua, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Joyce Martinez, Elvira Hapin, Jan Jacobs, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Cameron Welch, Delia Villa
Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN 7 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER (RCIA):

Requirements: Children must be enrolled in the appropriate grade level of the parish religious education program for two years. Godparents must be confirmed, practicing Catholics, according to Church regulations.

Additional Information: Parents and children should be attending Mass regularly. Children will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion at the Easter Vigil or on Easter morning. Parents, godparents, and the children must attend all rites and ceremonies leading up to the reception of these sacraments. Only one godparent, of the same gender

as the child, is required.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Sunday, August 1 – 10:30 AM at Viejas. Special mass for our beloved musician, Romer Fajota. Lunch to follow.

Sunday, August 15 – 8:00 AM, Barona, Mass in honor of the Feast Day of the Mission. Followed by coffee and donuts.

Welcoming the Stranger: Prayer for Hospitality

Loving God, your Son Jesus said your
Kingdom is like a banquet:
A festive gathering for all people
Of every race and color—
A table at which the lonely find company,
The hungry savor rich foods and fine wine,
And strangers enjoy warm family ties.
Jesus calls us to build this Kingdom here on
earth.

Teach us, Lord, the ways of hospitality.
Give us the spirit of joyful welcome and
The sensitivity to help people on the move
To feel they belong.

Grant that our tables at home may draw our
new neighbors from other lands into a loving
community and that the eucharistic tables in
our parishes may prefigure that banquet in
heaven where all are one with you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever. Amen.

PASTOR'S DESK

**Jesus is the Bread of Life, Our Food
for Our Journey**

A reflection on the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We heard from last Sunday's Gospel how Jesus multiplied five loaves of bread to feed some 5000 people. Not only did all these lucky people get to eat their fill, but afterwards there were enough leftovers to fill some seven baskets! Talk about a bonanza!

It is of no wonder then that these people kept hanging around Jesus. In today's gospel passage, we find them still running after Jesus, looking for more. They even went around to the other side of the Sea of Galilee "looking for Jesus". When he saw them, he told them straight out: You people are just looking for the kind of bread that will fill your bellies, but I have something better for you. I have the kind of food that will give you not just physical, earthly life, but eternal life.

Jesus knew that they were looking for more food, that they were hungry. But in today's Gospel passage Jesus is talking about another kind of hunger, the kind that affects or can affect all of us human beings. That hunger is spiritual – the kind that no physical food can satisfy. Only Jesus can begin to satisfy it, whatever its origins, whatever its symptoms or signs.

Sometimes it is a hunger for truth, and in Jesus we find truth. He himself declared: I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Sometimes it is a hunger for life, and in Jesus alone we find life. Again, we have his solemn promise: "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly. Sometimes it is a hunger for love, and in Jesus we discover the kind of love that outlasts and conquers sin and death. Our hungry hearts will find satisfaction and rest only in Jesus.

But back to the Gospel story. Note that after Jesus chided the Jews for looking only for food that perishes, they had a question for him: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" I wonder if they expected Jesus to lay down a list of things for them to do, actions they were to perform. That is not what Jesus had in mind. Listen to his reply: This is the work of God, which you BELIEVE in the one he sent."

In other words, according to Jesus, the one work which God desires of us is faith. What does having faith mean here? It means that we seek to have a kind

of relationship with God and come to realize that we are his friends, and that he is our Father. We should also realize that we need not be terrified of him anymore, but rather that we can trust him, knowing that he wants us to try to repay his love for us with our own deep love for him. And if we have failed him in any way, we must also realize that God wants nothing more than to forgive the repentant sinner and to give him or her a new direction in life.

The basic truth about God as revealed to us by Jesus can be stated in three short but sweet sentences.

First, GOD IS LOVE! Therefore, in our own lives there must be love and service for others corresponding to our love and service of God. There must also be forgiveness, corresponding to the kind of forgiveness we ourselves have received from God..

Second, GOD IS HOLINESS! Therefore, we too must make a serious effort to be holy, to be righteous, to be devoted, and to be – dare I say it? – PIOUS AND PRAYERFUL. We must try to remember that Jesus once said: Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Third, GOD IS WISDOM! Therefore, in our lives there must always be complete submission to his will, and complete trust on our part, based on the assurance that God in his wisdom wants only what is best for us.

This kind of relationship with God, this kind of service, goodness and trust on our part is possible only through Jesus. But here is the best part of the story: Jesus is not only willing to help us, but he has also promised to help us. He does this by giving us himself. His help comes to us in the form of bread, bread which gives life, the true bread that comes down from heaven as he did. Of course, this heavenly bread is the Holy Eucharist, Holy Communion we call it, from which we draw courage and power, resolve and strength, and above all the grace to persevere until the end of our life here on earth and the beginning of eternal bliss in heaven...