

Weekend of August 15, 2021

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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 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, Dustin Lutze, Deloris Loucks, Cameron Welch, Delia Villa, Christine Therese Macaraeg, Beverly Means

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.



"The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold
of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Psalm 27:1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is a dogma of the Catholic faith that Mary is the Immaculate Conception; that is, in preparation for the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity in her womb, she was conceived without the corruption of sin through the foreseen and infinite merits of her son, Jesus Christ.

Devotion to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart is one of the most beloved Marian devotions for Catholics. It is deeply inspired by two verses from the Gospel of St. Luke ---Chapter 2, verse 19: "But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart," and Chapter 2, verse 35: "...and a sword will pierce your own soul too." Our Lady's holy, virginal heart is usually shown pierced with a sword, surrounded by roses or lilies, and on fire with love for her God.

PASTOR'S DESK

The Assumption of Mary

August 15, 2021

Quietly reflecting on the Visitation story and savoring the silent mystery behind the beautiful encounter of

the two blessed women led me this time to a new consciousness of Mary's person—that of being an authentic composer sacred at her young age—just more than fifteen? I guess the people's applause for singers, Celine Dion to Josh Groban, or Lea Salonga just impressed me. How much people pay tribute to somebody whose singing voice is indeed uniquely worthy of praise?

In the Gospel event today, Elizabeth sang her laudable song to Mary, to her who was the most blessed among women; to her who bore the blessed fruit in her womb that made Elizabeth's six-month boy John leap in her womb. Elizabeth especially rendered her song of praise for Mary, in recognition of Mary's faith that the spoken Word may be fulfilled. There were no other crows to acknowledge Mary's great presence, only Elizabeth with her warm welcome embrace and her song, and the little boy John's ovation while in the womb of her mother.

Now the humble star of the day begins her spontaneous composition, Magnificat "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord . . . for he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; from now on will all ages call me blessed. . . ."

The whole distinctive composition of Mary reveals very much of her person. A recipient of God's awesome gift. She was truly grateful to the great God for recognizing her lowliness and doing great things in her, that is, to entrust the Divine Word to be enfleshed in her. There are other women in Jerusalem or anywhere else; beautiful, rich, powerful, educated, but God's mighty arm lifted the simplicity of Mary. Her song reveals that inner joy for having been called, chosen, and loved. Her new name, "Blessed among all women" as the Angel Gabriel has announced and as Elizabeth has spoken, brings her deep joy and faith in a God whose mercy is from generation to generation.

Isn't Mary amazing that at her young age she could acknowledge from her heart those incredible truth about a Mighty Presence and about the stark realities in their society? Which school of thought has awakened her consciousness of social issues? Which School of Theology has taught her to read God's message and presence beyond every event?

In Mary's young age, the wisdom of the Holy Spirit made her mature. In her ordinariness, the greatness of

the Holy Spirit ruled her heart even from the time she uttered her 'Yes' to the message of the Angel Gabriel, to the time she exclaimed her Magnificat, until the time she stood still at the foot of the cross, and at the coming again of the Spirit at Pentecost. The Spirit God made her truly free. Mary allowed the Holy Spirit to penetrate her whole being so that all graces can flow through her freely and naturally. No wonder, her spontaneous song of praise—Magnificat.

Today, on the feast of the Assumption of Mary, people of all races and languages who believed in the Word applaud Mary's unparalleled composition and song—Magnificat. The Church honors her in a special way for her humility and greatness to accept motherhood for the Son of God. Mary deserves to stay forever, body and spirit, in the family of the Father and the Spirit, with Jesus her Son. God's fidelity to her raised her human body to the celestial home.

For all believers of God's mighty arm, let us join Mary and believe in the fidelity of the Father and the Spirit, with Jesus her Son. God's fidelity to her raised her human body to the celestial home.

For all of us believers of God's mighty arm, let us join Mary in her song and believe in the fidelity of God to each of us. We too, stand in ovation as Mary is taken up to heaven body and soul.

Sister Tessa D. Artita, SSsP
Abra, Philippines

