

Weekend of September 10

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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....

Vicaldo Family, 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, Mike Wise, Neil Quizon, Jim Hughes, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Juan Miguel, Bert Zita, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Romero Family, Annie McTavish, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Blanca Lechner, Virginia Brynwood, Paolo Espiritu, John Clark, Kevin Bethsayag, Tyre Nichols, Steve TeSam, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Midge Svien, Rogelio Noriega, Carol Richardson, Nancy Rourke, Colleen Crowden, Jeff Ashii, Beverly Means
Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Please contact church office at 619-443-3412 if you would like to register your child for religious education classes. Classes will begin week of September 11th.

Sunday Mass is livestreamed @ 8:00 AM, Barona.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel

SEPTEMBER

September 11-18 – Father will be on vacation. There will be no weekday masses.

For the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Lord our God,
today we celebrate the birth of
Mary, the new Eve, whom you
prepared as the dwelling place of
your inaccessible light.*

*May we so share in this mystery
as to cast off all shadow of darkness,
and live as children of the light.*

*We ask this through him who is
the fruit of her womb, and light of the
world,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

PASTOR'S CORNER

Fraternal Correction: A Sign of Love

**A reflection on the 23rd Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

Consider the following stories:

STORY 1. There was once a manager in an office who had been drinking heavily. Everybody was talking behind his back. Because he was the boss, nobody dared

broach the problem to his attention. He was heading over the precipice.

Until one day a guy mustered enough courage to approach him. Instead of talking about him, he talked to him.

“Sir, we’ve observed that you’re drinking too much,” he began. “Don’t you see you’re killing yourself? If you don’t stop, you’ll destroy yourself – and us.”

That encounter was an eye-opener. Remorseful, the manager eventually took the painful steps to rehabilitate himself. He changed because someone had the guts to stand up to him.

STORY 2: A man was seen constantly with another woman who was not his wife. His friends talked, even joked as he drifted to extramarital affair. Poor guy, his marriage broke up. All the friends could say was, “I could see it coming,” but why did they not budge a finger to call his attention?

Many of us have the notion that loving someone means always agreeing or not hurting his or her feelings. But true love and friendship also means criticizing or disagreeing when a loved one goes astray. And sometimes the best service you can do to a person you love is to disagree with him when he is not doing right.

The Gospel of the 23rd Sunday says, “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault” (Mt 18:15). In teaching us about responsibility for others, Christ says that part of love is to correct the faults of others. The gospel message also teaches us that when we have to correct people, like a spouse, a child, a friend, a co-worker, it should not be too harsh, but done gently and in the spirit of charity and concern. Put differently, you should disagree without being disagreeable.

The writer Frank Clark puts it thus, “Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man’s growth without destroying his roots.” Just as too much water destroys a plant so does too much negative criticism destroys a person’s growth.

“Keep it between the two of you,” Christ says. If you really think that your husband is not spending enough time at home, tell him – and not to your next-door neighbor or friend. On the other hand, if you think your wife is being too arrogant and does not attend to the household chores, tell her, and not to your friends. It’s not easy to speak out. But it is usually better to risk having a friction and solve a problem, rather than allow it to fester till it explodes or push the couple farther and farther away from each other.

In trying to correct other’s faults – whether it be a spouse, a son or daughter, a friend or colleague – the following Aesop’s fable is worth pondering:

Once the sun and wind made a bet as to who was mightier as to compel a guy wearing a jacket to remove it.

“That’s easy,” the wind bragged as it blew hard and violent. But the more he did, the more the man wrapped his arms around his jacket. After several more attempts, the wind gave up.

It was the turn of the sun. Using no force, he simply kept raising the temperature. In no time, the man started to perspire. Unable to bear the heat, he quickly removed his jacket! The moral? A persevering, gentle approach is more effective than a harsh and violent one.

We must ask ourselves the following questions: If my attention is called upon about a fault, do I get angry? Or would I rather reflect upon it if there’s some truth in it and if so, then do I humbly strive to correct that fault? Do I regard fraternal correction as something negative or rather positive in that it will help me see my defects, reform myself and thus become a better person pleasing to the Lord?

To be corrected is not easy because it hurts us emotionally, but when taken in the right spirit, it can cure – much like a bitter medicine does. Also, because of the weakness of our human nature, we will always find fraternal correction necessary in our lives.

Fr. Bel San Luis, SVD

Philippines