

Weekend of February 16 Sixth 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....

Michele Nikas Beaman, John Nikas, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Robert and Margie Cruz, Mike Wise, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, George Arviso, Rose Ramos, Zita Haygood, Lilly Gautreaux, Mark Noriega, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, John Francis, Orlando Nicolas, Paolo Espiritu, John Clark, Kevin Bethsayag, Tyre Nichols, Steve TeSam, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Carol Richardson, Nancy Rourke, Jeff Ashii, Rosario and Paul Estepa, Haley Price, Mark Marquez, Lulu Cabinatan, Michael Martinez, Fr. Earl Henley, MSC, Connie Devera, Don Speer, Meta Roubedeaux, Eileen Hansotte, DJ LaChappa, Marcella Villanova, Michael McKnight

Joseph Kardian, Bear Cuero, Autumn Cheyenne Russo, Frances Banegas, Diane Robetkey, Magdalena Castro, Ed Sloan

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education with Alyssa Parada:

Barona: 3:00 PM – First Communion Prep

4:15 – All ages Religious Ed

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price:

Viejas: 3:00 PM

Barona: 4:30 PM

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

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 17 – Presidents' Day

MARCH

Sunday, March 02– Children's Mass, all reservations

Wednesday, March 5, 2025– Ash Wednesday

Barona 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Sycuan 5:00 PM

Viejas 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 8 – Rite of Election, Good Shepherd Church. This year we are blessed to have eight candidates participating!

Sunday, March 9 – 2:00 AM Daylight savings time begins, don't forget to "spring forward" one hour.

Sunday, March 16 – Tuesday, March 18 – Lenten Retreat with Most Rev. Felipe Pulido

Blessing of Those Who Are Homebound

Lord, our God,

You have given these your faithful the grace to maintain their hope in you through all life's changes and to taste and see your goodness.

We bless you for the gifts you have showered on them.

We ask that they may find joy in a renewed

strength of spirit, that they may have good health, and that they may inspire us by the example of their serene way of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Pursuit of Happiness **A reflection on the 6th Sunday** **in Ordinary Time**

Everybody wants to be happy. But happiness is a very elusive thing. And the reason is we don't agree on what it means to be happy. Some maintain that you can be happy if you have lots of money. Others believe in the saying "live with gusto or to the fullest; you live life only once." Which is tantamount to saying, "Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you die."

Can money buy happiness? Ivan Kruger was a Swedish multimillionaire, who amassed his vast wealth through highly dubious and immoral ways. He cheated the bankers of the United States of \$250 million in the 1920's through fraudulent financial statements and forged bonds. From 1918 until his death, the living expenses of this bachelor, who maintained seven city homes, three country estates, and several yachts, averaged 8 million a year. Did he find peace and happiness? By 1932 his life had become unbearable to him. To end such unhappy, turbulent life, He committed suicide in Paris.

Poor Kruger, he died a lonely man. And not all his millions and few cronies could make him happy. Well, you can say that of certain political leaders in this country whose vast wealth and cronies could not prevent them from being toppled down from their high perks. When Christ came, he had a blueprint or guideline for living which turned upside down the prescriptions for happiness the world offers. That prescription is contained in the Gospel of the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time on "Beatitudes" (Be Happy Attitudes) according to St. Luke (6:28-38), a shorter version of Matthew's (5:1-12).

Jesus declares "Happy are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours." What Jesus meant by being poor was not just material poverty.

Jesus never intended to approve of the grinding poverty that we see in the slums of our societies. It's this kind of thing that every Christian should try to eradicate from his midst. On the other hand, the rich are considered "poor" if they have the spirit of detachment from their wealth or don't forget God as the source of their blessings and can reach out to their destitute brethren.

Isn't this the spiritual problem today? In pursuit of the "good things" in life, some have forgotten their eternal destiny of heaven and have made money their "god". So much that some people have to steal, cheat and kill in pursuit of money or having more and more of it. In the third beatitude, "Blessed are the meek," meekness is not synonymous with weakness. The meek person is not silent in the face of evil or does not stand up when other people's rights are trampled upon. Mahatma Gandhi, the charismatic leader of India, who courageously and vigorously fought against the injustices in his native land, was a strong man. And this he did – not with force or violence. Although Gandhi was not a Christian, he was a "meek" and holy man.

The rest of the beatitudes: Being hungry for holiness, merciful, pure of heart, peacemaker, persecuted for righteousness all spell out God's prescription of happiness for us.

Is our life on earth guided by Jesus' prescription in achieving a true and lasting happiness? What motivates you in life? Is it only worldly riches or the heavenly riches, too? Remember Jesus' words: "Store up treasures in heaven where neither rust nor moth can destroy" (Matt 6:20).

Remember, too, St. Augustine who, after a life lived in worldly pleasures, said in the end: "Lord, our hearts are made for You. Our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

By: Fr. Bel San Luis, SVD

