

Weekend of July 19

Sixteenth 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, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Margie Cruz, Mary Begay, Tonito Arcangel, Juliet Ray, Rose Ramos, Lilly Gautreaux, Jim Hughes, Laurie Boedicker, Aspen Sergin, Robert Laurel, Janet Vilareal, Paolo Espiritu, Tyre Nichols, Jeanette Garcia, Mike Banegas, Bennett Zerrudo, Carol Richardson, Jeff Ashii, Rosario and Paul Estepa, Haley Price, Mark Marquez, , Michael Martinez, Fr. Earl Henley, MSC, Rudy Duerro, Don Speer, Eileen Hansotte, DJ LaChappa, Michael McKnight, Lulu Cabinatan, Donald Lee, Gabriel Marquez, Sr. , Joseph Kardian, Bear Cuero, Frances Banegas, Diane Robetkey, Ed Sloan, Flora Keldani and Gene Cortez, Paul Castello, Robert Kuhl, Joyce Rottenberg, Johnny Valencic, Kelly Bonde, Lucinda Thompson, Eva Walters, Spud Brown, Edna Gomez, Vera Tucker, Jack Ramirez, Rudy Duero, John Holsbo, Pat Wooley, Yanni Aquino, Cynthia Dominguez, Dr. Gerry Directo, Baby Selene Vasquez, Paul Darby, Clifford LaChappa, Minnie Kaye, Marcie Cu, Anthony Pico, Nancy Rourke

Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

News From Religious Education

*Fall classes will start the **week of September 7th**, please reach out to Judy Robinson or the church office for more information and registration papers.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

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



Monday, July 20 – Friday, July 31 – *Father Herman will be on vacation. There will be no weekday 8:00 AM masses at Barona. Fr. Damien Evangelista will be our guest priest at all weekend masses.*

Sunday, July 26 – *World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly Mass*

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Patience of God

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parish Family,

Have you ever wondered why God allows evil to exist? Why do good people suffer while those who do wrong sometimes seem to prosper? Why doesn't God simply remove all evil from the world? These are not new questions. Jesus addressed them in this Sunday's Gospel through the Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds. When the servants ask if they should pull out the weeds immediately, the master replies, "*No, because in pulling up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest.*"

At first, this answer may seem surprising. We expect God to act swiftly. Yet God's way is different from ours. The First Reading from the Book of Wisdom reminds us that God's power is shown not by harshness but by mercy. "You judge with clemency," Scripture tells us. God's strength is revealed in his patience, giving every sinner the opportunity to repent and every wounded heart the chance to heal.

This is a message our world desperately needs. We live in a culture that often rushes to judge, cancel, condemn, and divide. Social media, politics, and even families can become places where people are quickly labeled as “good” or “bad.” Jesus reminds us that only God sees the whole story. He alone knows every heart.

The parable also invites us to look inward. Before asking, “Who are the weeds?” perhaps we should ask, “Where are the weeds in my own heart?” Every one of us carries both wheat and weeds—faith and doubt, generosity and selfishness, forgiveness and resentment. The Christian life is not about pretending we are perfect but allowing Christ to transform us day by day.

St. Paul offers us great consolation in the second reading. Even when we do not know how to pray or feel overwhelmed by life’s struggles, “the Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness.” God does not wait until we become perfect before loving us. The Holy Spirit accompanies us patiently, praying within us and leading us toward holiness.

As the pastor of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, I see this patient work of God every day. Like seeds planted in the earth, faith grows quietly in the lives of our people. I see it in our elders, who continue to pass on wisdom and tradition. I see it in our children learning to pray. I see it in those who have struggled, fallen, and found the courage to return to the Lord. God’s grace is always at work, often in ways we cannot immediately see.

Our patroness, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, beautifully reflects today’s Gospel. She lived among misunderstanding, rejection, and suffering. She did not allow bitterness to take root in her heart. Instead, with remarkable patience and unwavering trust, she let God’s grace flourish within her. Like good wheat growing amid many weeds, her holiness bore fruit that continues to inspire the Church today.

As members of our Native American communities, we also understand something about patience. The Creator teaches us through nature that growth takes time. The oak does not grow overnight. The desert blooms only in

its proper season. The Creator works quietly, faithfully, and patiently. So too does God work in our lives.

This week, let us imitate the patience of God. Let us be slower to judge, quicker to forgive, and more willing to trust that God is still working—even when we cannot yet see the harvest.

May the Lord help us become good wheat in his field, bearing fruits of love, mercy, and peace for his Kingdom. May St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks and patroness of our parish, pray for us, that we may grow in holiness with patient and trusting hearts.

God bless you and your families,

Fr. Herman Manuel, SVD

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your endless patience and unfailing mercy. Though we often stumble and fall, you never give up on us. Like the good farmer in the Gospel, you continue to nurture us with your love, hoping that we may bear abundant fruit for your Kingdom.

Teach us to trust in your perfect timing. When we become discouraged by the evil we see around us or within ourselves, remind us that your grace is always at work, quietly transforming hearts and bringing new life where hope seems lost.

Bless our families, our elders, our children, and all the people of our St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish. Strengthen our Native American communities of Barona, Viejas, and Sycuan. May we honor the gifts you have entrusted to us: our faith, our traditions, our love for one another, and our care for the sacred land you have given us.

Through the intercession of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, help us to walk humbly with you, to forgive as you forgive, to love as you love, and to become faithful witnesses of your mercy in our world.

May our lives bear the rich harvest of faith, hope, and charity, so that one day we may rejoice forever in the fullness of your heavenly Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN