

Weekend of May 3rd Fifth Sunday of Easter

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, Vina Cornell
Please check prayer list and add names as desired.

News From Religious Education

Barona – K – 8th, Teacher : Alyssa Parada
Viejas/Sycuan – Teacher: Mark Price

Contact Judy Robinson if interested in attending upcoming 2026 Fall classes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel



Sunday, May 10 – ***Mother's Day and Children's Mass with Mark Price at all reservations, regular mass schedule***

Saturday, May 16 – ***5 PM at Barona – First Communion for students***

Saturday, May 23 – ***Pentecost Mass for All Peoples – Cathedral Catholic High School, Call to Worship 10 AM, Mass 11 AM, Festival of Cultures 12 PM***

Sunday, May 24 – ***10:00 AM, Barona May Crowning, one mass for all reservations***

PASTOR'S CORNER

**A New Way of Living in a Troubled World
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I want to start with a story. There was once a village that lived through a long season of drought. The land was dry, the people were anxious, and hope seemed to fade day by day. One morning, a young child began digging a small trench from a distant stream toward the village. The elders laughed and said, "That is too small to matter." But the child kept digging. Days later, a small stream of water began to flow. It was not much—but it was enough to give life again. And soon, others joined in, widening the path, until the whole village was renewed.

Sometimes, in our world today, we feel like that village.

We see wars and violence. We hear of divisions among nations and even within families. We witness confusion about truth, leadership, and direction. Many people are asking: *Where is God in all of this?* And perhaps even more honestly: *How are we supposed to live as Christians in such a time as this?*

Into this very reality, Jesus speaks to us in the Gospel of the 5th Sunday of Easter: “Do not let your hearts be troubled... I am the way, the truth, and the life.” (John 14:1,6) These words are not spoken in a time of peace—but in a time of fear and uncertainty. Jesus’ disciples were confused, anxious, and unsure about the future. And yet, Jesus does not give them a detailed plan... He gives them himself. “I am the way.”

In a world where so many voices are competing for our attention: political voices, social media voices, voices of anger or fear, Jesus reminds us that the Christian life is not about following the loudest voice, but the *truest voice*. And that voice is him. To follow Jesus means choosing love when the world chooses division, choosing truth when the world spreads confusion, choosing mercy when the world seeks revenge. This is not easy—but it is the only path that leads to life.

In the First Reading from Acts, we see the early Church facing conflict. Even in that holy community, there were misunderstandings and tensions. But instead of breaking apart, they responded with wisdom, unity, and service. They adapted, they listened, and they continued their mission.

That is a powerful message for us today. Our world does not need more anger. It needs more witnesses. Not more arguments but more authentic love. Not more fear but more faith.

Here in our own communities of Barona, Viejas and Sycuan, we know what it means to walk together through struggles. Our people have endured hardships, loss, and uncertainty. And yet, like that child digging the trench, we continue to believe that even small acts of faith can bring life such as a kind word, a prayer for someone in need, a moment of forgiveness, and a commitment to stay rooted in Christ.

These may seem small, but they are how the Kingdom of God grows.

Jesus also tells us, “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.” This is a message of hope. No matter how uncertain the world may feel, we are not wandering without direction. We have a home. We have a future. We have a God who walks with us.

So today, let us ask ourselves Who am I following? What voice am I listening to? Am I living as a witness of Christ in this world? Because the truth is, people are watching. Not just what we say but how we live. And perhaps, in ways we may never fully see, someone’s faith may be strengthened because they saw Christ in us.

Let us not be discouraged by the darkness of the world. Instead, let us be the light. Like that child who believed water would come, let us keep digging with faith, with hope, and with love. For when we follow Christ, even the smallest stream of grace can bring life to the world.

Yours in the Divine Word,
—Fr. Herman Manuel, SVD

Prayer

Loving God,

When our hearts are troubled and the world feels uncertain help us to follow your Son, Jesus, who is our way, our truth, and our life.

*Give us the courage to choose love over division, mercy over anger, and faith over fear.
Bless our communities of Barona • Viejas • Sycuan,
and make our small acts of kindness a source of hope for others.*

*Remind us that You are always with us,
guiding us and preparing a place for us.*

*We trust in You, now and always.
Amen.*

