

## ***Weekend of November 17***

Thirty-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....**

Michele Nikas Beaman, Richard Nikas, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, 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, 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

*Please check prayer list and add names as desired.*

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

***Wednesday, November 27 – No classes for Thanksgiving break.***

**Religious Education with Alyssa Parada:**

**Barona:** 3:00 PM – First Communion Prep  
4:15 – All ages Religious Ed

**Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price:**

**Viejas:** 3:00 PM

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Barona:** 4:30 PM

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

*Just go on Facebook under Herman Manuel*



### **November 16 & 17 – National Needs**

**Collection.** This weekend has been designated for the 2024 Collection for National Needs. Special envelopes will be available for the collection, which supports the Black and Indian Missions, the Catholic Home Missions, the Catholic Communication Campaign, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and the Catholic University of America. Envelopes will be available on pews. Checks can be made out to parish.

**Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving Day**  
**mass – 8:00 AM at Barona**



**Sunday, December 1 – Children's Mass** at all reservations.

**Sunday, December 8, 2024 – Sycuan Feast Day and Memorial Feast of Immaculate Conception**– 10:30 AM, one mass for all reservations

**Sunday – Tuesday, December 15, 16, 17 – Advent Retreat**, 6:30 PM Barona Clubhouse, Fr Emmett Farrell will be the guest speaker for the retreat.

**December 17– Reconciliation Service**

**Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Masses** – 5:00 PM at Sycuan, 7:00 PM at Barona and 10:00 PM at Viejas

**Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25**  
**– Christmas Day Mass, 8:00 AM at Barona**

## **PASTOR'S CORNER**

### **The End of Times: Are We Experiencing It Now?**

**A reflection on the 33rd Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

November is a transition time of year. Trees have lost their leaves, yet winter has not yet come. Things are quiet; a good time to think about endings. In the gospel, Christ asks us to think about the death of the world – the day when the sun will be darkened, the moon will not shed its light, stars will fall from the skies, and the son of man will come in power and glory.

It is a powerful picture. Two questions come to mind. 1) When will it happen? 2) Is it something to be afraid of? Every now and then a self-styled prophet will claim to know the exact time; but Christ was quite clear about the uncertainty of the event; “you will not know the day or the hour”, he said. “Only the father knows.”

One of the great philosopher-scientists of our day was the French priest Teilhard de Chardin. Near the end of his life, he wrote down his own theory about how and when the world will end.

This was his idea. He said that at the dawn of creation God infused into living matter a mysterious creative force which directed the evolution of all life from the tiniest primitive form through all the evolutionary stages right up to the time when men and women came into existence. At that point, he said, evolution was, for the most part, finished. But, he said, there is another type of evolution that continues to go on within living things: a mental-social evolution, the goal of which is to bring all living things closer together and closer to God. When complete and total unity of living beings with one another and with God has finally been achieved a time, he called the omega point, the point where the force of God's creative love finally unites all things to himself then, Teilhard says, the world will come to an end.

I don't know whether Teilhard is correct or not, but his theory is a fascinating one and it has captured the minds of many thinkers including myself. Suppose for the moment that he is right. How far along the road of unity have we come?

Far enough to be near the end of the world? Not from what has been happening in the world in the last few weeks. We have indeed come a long way. The development of transportation and communication has made the world a very small place. The formation of the United Nations has generated some impact on national conflicts. The common market has helped erase trade barriers; Vatican II Council has brought new understanding between Catholics and our Protestant brethren. These are all examples that demonstrate we have made some progress.

On the other hand, there is much evidence that a great deal of disunity still exists. The war between the Israelites and the Palestinians is still ongoing, the abortion issue that is dividing many people in America, the shameful racist antics of a small but significant portion of people. And the new thing: transgenderism that many parents are fighting for their kids not to follow are evidences that progress toward unity in the world still has a long way to go. If Teilhard is right, the answer to our first question is: the world will not end very soon; we are still a long way from creating unity with one another and with God.

What about the 2nd question: is there anything to fear about the end of the world? Again, if Teilhard is correct, the world's end should not be seen as a great tragedy, not a cataclysm of destruction, but as a perfect & beautiful union which God intended from the time of creation. Today's entrance antiphon seems to support this view: “The Lord says: My plans for you are peace, not disaster; when you call to me, I will listen to you & I will bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.”

Whether or not Teilhard is close to the truth, it seems clear for other reasons that it is God's will that we do our part to bring about the unity of families, of communities, and of races; that we have an obligation to do all we can to remove the barriers of distrust and suspicion in politics, in education, in religion and in the home. After all, this was the very thing that Christ prayed for at the last supper when he said: “I pray that they may be all one, Father, as you are in me and I in you.” It would be appropriate today for us to ask ourselves: have we been a help or a hindrance in God's plan for unity in the world?