## Weekend of March 16

Second Sunday of Lent

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).

<u>Viejas:</u>

Sunday: Sunday, 10:30 AM. @ Church Confessions: By appointment only.

Svcuan:

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, Robert and Margie Cruz, 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, Lulu Cabinatan, Donald Lee, Gabriel Marquez, Sr., Joseph Kardian, Bear Cuero, Autumn Cheyenne Russo, Frances Banegas, Diane Robetkey, Ed Sloan, Cindy McAllister, Flora Keldani and Gene Cortez 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

<u>Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price</u>: 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



#### Monday, March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Saturday, March 29 – Sunday, March 30-Annual Lenten Collection. This collection provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, the USCCB Offices of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees, relief work of the Holy Father, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network. Envelopes will be provided.

### **Communion Prayer**

Son of the Living God,
Lord Jesus Christ,
Whose death,
Willed by the Father,
Empowered by the Holy Spirit,
Restored the life of the world,
Deliver me from all iniquities and from
every evil through this most sacred Body
and Blood of yours.
Keep me always close to your
commandments and never allow me be
separated from you.

-Latin original from 9th century

## **PASTOR'S CORNER**

# Our Peak Spiritual Moments of our Lives

#### A reflection on the Second Sunday of Lent

As we journey through this season of Lent, today's readings invite us to reflect on themes of transformation, trust in God, and the call to listen attentively to His voice. The story of the Transfiguration, as described in the Gospel of Luke, is a powerful moment where Jesus reveals His divine glory to Peter, James, and John on Mount Tabor. This glimpse of His heavenly splendor is not just a moment of awe for the disciples, but also a reminder of the ultimate glory to come after the suffering and death of the cross.

In the first reading, we hear the story of God's covenant with Abraham. God promises him descendants as numerous as the stars, despite the seeming impossibility of such a promise. Yet, Abraham believes, and his faith becomes the foundation of God's plan for salvation. We are invited to examine our own faith. Do we trust in God's promises, even when the road ahead seems uncertain or difficult?

Last Sunday, we reflected on the Temptation of Jesus and His courage and determination to obey the will of the Lord in spite of the allurements of the evil one. Today, the Church invites us to reflect on the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ. According to some theologians, the Transfiguration event gives us already a preview of the glory of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor is one of the "peak" moments in the life of the Lord. The Father of Jesus was heard saying:

"This is my Son, my Chosen One, listen to Him!" (cf. Luke 9:35b) It was not only an assurance of the love from His Father. It is also an invitation for us to follow the teachings and the ways of Jesus the Christ.

Yes, my brothers and sisters, the Transfiguration is a pivotal moment that foreshadows the resurrection of Jesus, reminding us that the cross is never the end. In our own lives, we are often faced with trials and sufferings. However, Lent calls us to remember that God's transformative power is always at work, turning suffering into glory, darkness into light. Abraham trusted in God's promises and so should we. As the adage says, there is always a light at the end of the tunnel.

That event was not only a peak moment for Jesus but also for the three disciples who witnessed Jesus' change in appearance. For Peter, James, and John, they would rather stay there for the rest of their lives – "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for You and one for Moses, and one for Elijah" (Luke 9:33). But Jesus did not give in to their request but instead told them not to mention what they had witnessed to the other disciples.

We all have our "peak" spiritual moments. We all have our "transfiguration moments" in our lives. When we experience this, there is a great temptation not to go back to the real world. For many of us, we would rather stay in our comfort zones. These comfort zones may be a retreat or recollection experience. It may be our deep personal communion with God. But like Jesus, we must be ready to "go down" to the real world and live what we have experienced during these "peak moments" in our lives.

May the Transfiguration of Jesus encourage us to live our mission on earth as true messengers of hope in our world. May it inspire us to be true disciples of Jesus so that

we, too, may be glorified by the Father, and share in His resurrection.

