

Weekend of October 20

Twenty-ninth 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, Caroline Mendoza, Connie Devera, Don Speer, Meta Roubedeaux, Eileen Hansotte, DJ LaChappa, Marcella Villanova

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

Sacramental Preparation with Mark Price:

Viejas: 3:00 PM

Barona: 4:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

OCTOBER

Monday 10/14 – Monday, 10/28 – Fr. Herman will be on vacation. Fr. Soney Sebastian and Fr. Alex Aquino will be leading mass during this time. There will be no 8:00 AM Tues – Friday mass at Barona during this time.

November

Friday, November 1 – All Saints Day mass, 8:00 AM at Barona

Saturday, November 2 – All Souls' Day Mass and Grave Blessing for the following:

11:00 AM – Viejas
12:00 PM – Los Conejos
***4:00 PM – Sycuan
***6:30 PM – Barona

***Sycuan and Barona will be anticipated masses for Sunday.

Sunday, November 3 – 8:00 mass at Barona and 10:30 AM mass at Viejas only.

Sunday, November 10 – Children's mass at all reservations.

Monday, November 11 – Veterans Day

November 10 – 15 – SVD retreat, Fr. Herman will be attending. There will be no 8:00 AM mass at Barona that week.

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

PASTOR'S CORNER

How I Became a Divine Word Missionary

A reflection on the 29th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Since it is Mission Sunday, I might as well share with you my own story as to how I became a Divine Word Missionary. I am now celebrating my 25th Year Anniversary of my vows as a Divine Word Missionary. Here is an excerpt of the homily I delivered to my community when we celebrated our foundation of our Society on September 10.

As a young boy, I was deeply inspired by the SVD missionaries who came to manage our school in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte (Northern Philippines). Their friendly smiles, love, care, and constant encouragement for every student to study hard, along with their patience with mischievous boys like me, left a profound impression on our hearts. Moreover, their down-to-earth attitudes, such as Fr. Andrew Biller playing basketball in his white habit or Fr. Bernie Donaghey's wild laughter until he turned red, and their participation and support in our school programs showcasing the talents of young students like me, such as piano recitals, declamation, or oratorical contests, made the SVDs a joy during my elementary school years. That's why many of us dreamed of one day becoming like them.

Well, six of us from Laoag applied for the Minor Seminary in Christ the King in Quezon City. Unfortunately, my dream came to an abrupt end when my mother passed away, the first significant loss in my family. My father, not wanting me to be separated from the rest of the family, discouraged me from pursuing the priesthood.

Instead, I tried to follow in my father's footsteps as a General Practitioner and Surgeon. However, I ultimately found myself following my mother's path by studying Pharmacy at the University of the Philippines for five years. After passing the National Board Exams, ranked 4th in the country, I became a registered pharmacist and focused on Herbal Medicine.

After working as a Pharmacist for three years, I entered Medical School. However, after my Second Year, I realized that Medicine wasn't truly my calling. Furthermore, due to my associations while at the University of the Philippines, I became radicalized during a particularly tumultuous period in my country's history. My father intervened for my safety and sent me immediately to the U.S. My

brothers and superiors, please do not misunderstand me. I was still a young man at that time. I spent a few years in Hawaii and joined my sister in California to concentrate on my internship to become a registered pharmacist. I successfully passed the Foreign Pharmacy Licensure Examinations. It was during my internship that I realized there was a void deep within me and that God was still calling me to become a priest within the SVD Community. Despite my age, I thought there was still a chance I would be accepted for community life and priesthood. And indeed, I was, at the age of 38.

After completing my Philosophy at the Divine Word College in Iowa, God revealed his plan for me, and I knew that this direction in my life would continue until my death. The realization was so powerful that I sat and cried.

I thought that after becoming a priest, my vision would come to an end with the diagnosis of colorectal cancer. But God had other plans. He intended for me to continue serving Him—God planned for me to continue my ministry to the Native Americans of the Pala Reservation and subsequently my appointment as Pastor to the Barona, Viejas, and Sycuan Reservations of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish.

That is my story. Each and every one of us has our own unique story of how we were called to serve God as SVD Missionaries.

Every step of my life has prepared me for belonging to the SVD Community and for my current ministry with the Native Americans, the “KUMEYAAYS” of San Diego. Let me explain what I mean. You might think that the radicalization I mentioned was a coincidence, but it was actually part of God's design. My radicalization helped me to understand persecution, alienation, and suffering. It has enabled me to empathize more with the Native Americans, who were abused by both the government and the Catholic Church. Drawing on my earlier experiences, I was able to reconcile, offer counsel, and heal some of the wounds of the Native American people.

**“Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your
servant; whoever wishes to be the
first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of
Man did not come to be served
but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for
many.”**