

## ***Weekend of February 9*** Fifth 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, Irmina Gines, Gimo Manuel, Marcie Cu, Joyce Martinez, Dustin Lutze, Sam Halabo, Lisa Smallwood, Eleanor Davis Wallace, Robert and Margie Cruz, Mike Wise, 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, Joseph Kardian, Bear Cuero, Autumn Cheyenne Russo, Frances Banegas, Diane Robetkey

*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*

# FEBRUARY

**Friday, February 14** – Valentine’s Day

**Saturday, February 15 & Sunday, February**

**16** – Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) Kickoff weekend. This collection supports the development of parish leadership and catechetical formation, with emphasis on the service and formation of the young. This appeal also supplies the funds for the formation of our new priests and the care for our retired priests.

Donation pamphlets will be available in pews and the back of the church. Please make checks to: **Diocese of San Diego**. Thank you for your support.

# MARCH

**Sunday, March 02**– Children’s Mass, all reservations

**Wednesday, March 5, 2025**– Ash

**Wednesday**

Barona 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Sycuan 5:00 PM

Viejas 7:00 PM

**Sunday, March 9** – 2:00 AM Daylight savings time begins, don’t forget to “spring forward” one hour.

**Sunday, March 16 – Tuesday, March 18** – Lenten Retreat with Most Rev. Felipe Pulido

# PASTOR'S CORNER

## Leaving Everything for Jesus? What does it mean?

### A Reflection on the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

How does this sound to you?

**“With that they brought their boats to land, left everything behind, and became his followers”.**

This is one of those **bothersome sentences** in scripture. It is bothersome because **we tend to think in material terms** – and this makes the “everything” sound like we have to sell off the house, the TV, the car, the golf clubs !!!!, and give away all but the clothes on our backs.

For Peter and his partners in the fishing business, the day of this gospel must have been their greatest success. They were amazed at the amount of fish they had caught – their nets were straining to the breaking point – the quantity nearly sank their boat and another boat. A fisherman like Peter would know the monetary value of this day by just looking at the load of fish. The modern day equivalent would be the worker getting the promotion to their dream job with an unimaginable wage increase, more than enough to take care of all their family finances. This is the big, lottery winning moment in Peter's life.

Then, Peter and his partners, looking at perhaps the catch of their dreams, realize that their dreams of material success pale in the light of Jesus Christ. They see in Jesus the answer, not to the dreams of their minds, but to the hopes of their souls. Jesus does not ask them directly to give up anything – they choose the thing of greater value, the pearl of great price, which is **life with their Lord, Jesus that makes everything in their lives secondary to being with Jesus.**

I would like to assume that they kept the boat. I would like to believe that it is the same boat they use a few chapters later in Luke when Jesus calms the storm at sea. I would like to believe that they still kept their hands in fishing to earn a bit of a living. The fishing business,

however, was no longer number one in their lives – their reason for living. Instead, **following Jesus became** number one.

So it is to be with us. Jesus asks us to make God number 1 in our lives. Then, the “things” of our lives should come after God. In our world, it is very easy to make “things” so important that they dominate our lives – to the point that our possessions possess us. There are people (and we may be one of them) who bury themselves in their work so deeply that the rest of their life may as well not exist. The story line in books, movies or TV series about the obsessive workaholic who spends endless hours at the office and becomes a stranger to their spouse and children is a common theme. That arch-type is not limited to the corporate world. We can bury ourselves in many things. Children can bury themselves in sports (often with the help of their parents). Mothers can bury themselves in caring for their children. Ministers can bury themselves in doing good things for others.

We can make the “catch of our dreams” as Peter did – we can be standing in our newcomer office with the VP sign on the door, “top of the heap!” ... we can win the game with a basket and get the scholarship we hoped for.. we can be sitting at a rectory desk with a parish organization chart showing how we have covered all the ministerial bases... and we can feel a vague emptiness inside, like that old 1960's famous song by Peggy Lee saying, “Is that all there is?” Is that all there is? Is that all there is? Interesting!!! Things, which bury us, have a common thread – they all involve our own egos and a belief that we are in charge and in control of our destiny. In the end, though, we give up control to these things and they come to dominate our lives, affect our personalities and limit the availability of choices in our lives.

Jesus calls us to freedom. Jesus calls us, as he did to Peter, John, and James, to make the “everything” of our lives second to being with our God. In return for “leaving everything behind”, we get something. It is something, which, when you receive it, does not leave a vague sense of a hard to define emptiness, of needing something else.

In return, we get love, friendship, peace, hope, joy, compassion, and forgiveness.

Sounds like a pretty good deal to me.

