

## *Weekend of April 12* Sunday of Divine Mercy

**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).

**Viejias:**

**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, Lulu Cabinatan, 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 Duerro, John Holsbo, Pat Wooley, Marvi Artugue, Yanni Aquino, Cynthia Dominguez, Dr. Gerry Directo and Baby Selene Vasquez, Paul Darby, Clifford LaChappa, Minnie Kaye

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

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***News From Religious Education***

***Wednesday, April 22 – 7 PM***, Our Lady of Sacred Heart Parish in El Cajon – Confirmation for Rowen Hill

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

### APRIL

**Monday, April 13 – Tuesday, April 21** – Father Herman will be on vacation. There will be no 8:00 AM masses at Barona April 14 – 17 and Tuesday, 4/21 during this time.



*A very special and heartfelt thank you to Miss Judy Oyos and to all our ministers -our lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Brian Van Wanseele, our dedicated sacristan, and our altar servers, Jacob Clarke and Jacoby Van Wanseele. We are also deeply grateful to all who participated in our Triduum Masses and services, and most especially to the volunteers who gave of their time and energy throughout Holy Week across all our reservations.*

*Because of your dedication, generosity and love for the Lord and His Church, our celebrations were truly beautiful and grace-filled. This sacred week was made even more meaningful through your service, and for that, we are profoundly thankful.*

*We are also especially grateful to the Tribal Chairmen of Barona, Viejas and Sycuan for their unwavering support, generosity, and continued partnership with our parish community.*

*May God bless each and every one of you abundantly for the goodness you have shared.*  
-Fr. Herman Manuel, SVD and staff

## PASTOR'S CORNER

**“Peace be with you...  
Receive the Holy Spirit.”  
Second Sunday of Easter**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

There is something deeply human about locked doors. In today's Gospel, the disciples are behind locked doors—afraid, uncertain, and wounded. The world they thought they understood had fallen apart. Their hopes were shattered on the cross, and now they didn't know what to believe or where to go next. And yet... Jesus comes anyway. He does not wait for them to be strong. He does not wait for them to have perfect faith. He does not wait for the doors to be opened. He enters right into their fear. And the first words he speaks are not words of judgment...not words of disappointment...but words of mercy: "Peace be with you."

Today, the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday, a reminder that the Resurrection is not just about victory over death—it is about God's endless mercy poured out upon us. Mercy is not weakness. Mercy is not pretending sin does not matter. Mercy is God's love meeting us exactly where we are and refusing to leave us there. When Jesus shows his wounds to the disciples, he is not hiding his suffering. He is revealing something powerful: The wounds are still there, but they no longer define him, they have become signs of love and mercy. And that is what Divine Mercy does in our lives. It does not erase our past but it transforms it.

Notice what happens next. The same disciples who were hiding become the ones who are sent. Jesus breathes on them and says: "Receive the Holy Spirit... Whose sins you forgive are forgiven." In other words, those who receive mercy are called to give mercy. Those who are healed are called to become instruments of healing. This is not just their mission. This is our mission in our families, in our communities of Barona, Viejas, and Sycuan, in a world that is often divided, wounded, and searching. We are called to be people of mercy.

If we look at the world around us, we see so much pain, violence, division, uncertainty, and fear. Many people today are living behind "locked doors" of their own: locked by anxiety, locked by grief, locked by anger or

loneliness. And into that world, Jesus still comes not with condemnation but with mercy.

The message of Divine Mercy is not just for the Church—it is for the whole world. It reminds us that no darkness is too deep, no sin too great, and no wound too broken for the mercy of God.

We also hear about Thomas—the one who doubted. And yet, even Thomas is not rejected. Jesus meets him exactly where he is. Thomas needed to see, to touch, to experience. And when he does, he proclaims one of the most beautiful acts of faith in all of Scripture: "My Lord and my God!"

Brothers and sisters, Faith is not about having no doubts. Faith is about allowing Jesus to meet us in our doubts and transform them into trust.

So, what does this mean for us today? It means: To trust that God's mercy is greater than our sins, to believe that our wounds can become places of grace, to offer forgiveness even when it is difficult, to be patient, compassionate, and loving—especially when it is not easy. Because mercy is not just something we receive. It is something we become.

So always remember: "The doors may be locked... but the mercy of Jesus always finds a way in."

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

### **A Gentle Prayer for Our Communities**

Lord Jesus, Divine Mercy,  
like the morning sun rising over our lands,  
shine your healing light upon your people.

Touch the hearts of all in Barona, Viejas, and Sycuan.  
Bring peace where there is fear,  
healing where there is pain,  
and hope where there is despair.

Teach us to trust in your mercy...  
and to become instruments of your mercy in the world.

Amen.