

St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

1147 Cupples Road, San Antonio, TX 78226 210-434-3247 FAX 210-432-0431

www.stjohnberchmans.com



Welcoming and liturgical community celebrating the spiritual needs of God's people in the spirit of St. John Berchmans.
"My penance is to live the common life. I will pay greatest attention to the least inspiration of God." - St. John Berchmans

Parish Office Staff:

- Fr. Fidèle O. Dikete, Pastor •

Stella Rico, Secretary
Olivia Lopez, Bookkeeper/Office Manager
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance
Christine McWilliams, WebMaster/ FB

Connie Peché, Family Records
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement
Kathy Flores, Sacramental Records
Cynthia Sandoval, Director of Religious Education

Raquel Castillo, Office Volunteer
Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-2pm

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 5pm-English
Sunday 9am-Bilingual
Sunday 11am-English

Weekday Services:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

School Mass:

Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

Holy Days of Obligation:

Bilingual Mass at 7pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

Adoration:

Every Thursday 9am-5pm

Baptisms/Quinceñeras/Sweet 16:

Please contact office for more information

Baptism Classes:

Please contact office for more information

Weddings:

Father Fidèle Dikete, Pastor
Please make an appointment
six months in advance.

CCD:

Sunday 9:30am – 12 Noon

Good Samaritans of SJB:

Monday and Friday; 3pm - 5pm

SJB School: Nora Garcia, Principal - 210-433-0411

Parish Ministries

ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:

Emilio Semersky

esemersky@gmail.com

ALTAR SERVERS:

Eddie Campa

ecampa@swri.org

BOY & GIRL SCOUTS:

Aussie Mata

rotorwing2@gmail.com

CHOIRS:

Saturday 5pm Choir

John A. Campa

jhowardcampa@aol.com

Sunday 9am Choir

Roy Sanchez

rsanchez34@satx.rr.com

Sunday 11am Choir

Javier Saucedo

javierrufus@gmail.com

CYO:

Esmeralda "Ezmi" Tamez

ezmiet09@gmail.com

CAFETERIA RENTAL:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Linda Campbell

linda40849@satx.rr.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Elida Gonzales

redg90@sbcglobal.net

GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

John Diaz

johndiaz7538@sbcglobal.net

Angie Diaz

GUADALUPANAS:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY:

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kflores0411@att.net

JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos

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Chayo Gomez

tootsweez@hotmail.com

LECTORS:

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LITURGY COMMITTEE:

Joan Orosco

dorosco08@yahoo.com

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Kimberly Mata

mata_kimberly@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Cyndi Sandoval

ventimochafrap@yahoo.com

ROSARY MAKERS:

Victoria Sanchez

SHARE THE WORD:

Rosalinda Garza

Garza_rosalinda@att.net

VIGIL TEAM:

Oralia Cantu

dduran57@outlook.com

Dora Duran

FEBRUARY 18, 2024 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

DRIVEN BY THE FLOOD INTO THE DESERT

The readings today begin with God's promise to Noah after the destruction of everything by rushing, flooding waters. That water is transformed into the life-giving water of our baptism. We expect, as we start this season of Lent, to be reminded of being stripped by the flood of everything; of being in the desert, with nothing, and tempted. What we may not expect is to be reminded of the abundance and extravagance of God's love and kindness, God's compassion and guidance. After the flood, the earth and its creatures are restored. After the desert, Jesus is ministered to and restored to life with a new understanding of what is essential. Jesus preaches that this is the time and the kingdom of God is at hand.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

We begin Lent with stark contrasts between life and death, good and evil, water and desert. God's response is equally strong. God's covenant is with everyone and everything. Nothing is outside the reach of God's love. God's covenant is limitless. We set out on our own journey of preparation today but we are not alone. However we choose to use this time to prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection that is to come, we are accompanied by the same Spirit that compelled Noah to build the Ark to preserve life on earth. We are accompanied by the same Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert to face temptation. It is that Spirit that makes our journey through Lent possible. Who could face such floods of temptation alone? No one, not even Jesus, as we will hear during Holy Week, faces death alone.

TODAY'S READINGS: Gen 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

LLEVADOS POR EL DILUVIO AL DESIERTO

Las lecturas de hoy comienzan con la promesa de Dios a Noé después de la destrucción de todo por las caudalosas aguas del diluvio. Esa agua es transformada en el agua vivificante de nuestro bautismo. Esperamos, al comienzo de este Tiempo de Cuaresma, se nos recuerde que el diluvio nos ha despojado de todo, de estar en el desierto con nada y ser tentados. Lo que no podemos esperar que se nos recuerde de la abundancia y extravagancia del amor, bondad, compasión y guía de Dios. Después del diluvio, la tierra y todas sus criaturas fueron restauradas. Cuando Jesús termina su tiempo en el desierto, él es servido y restaurado a la vida con un nuevo entendimiento de lo que es esencial. Jesús predica que este es el tiempo y el Reino de Dios está aquí.

NO ESTAMOS SOLOS

Empezamos la Cuaresma con fuertes contrastes entre la vida y la muerte, el bien y el mal, el agua y el desierto. La respuesta de Dios es igualmente fuerte. La alianza de Dios es con cada uno y con todo. Nada está fuera del alcance del amor de Dios. La alianza de Dios no tiene límites. Hoy empezamos nuestro camino de preparación, pero no estamos solos. Sin embargo, elegimos usar este tiempo para prepararnos para la muerte y resurrección que están por venir, estamos acompañados por el mismo Espíritu que lo forzó a Noé a construir el Arca para preservar la vida en la Tierra. Estamos acompañados por el mismo Espíritu que llevó a Jesús al desierto para enfrentar la tentación. Es ese Espíritu que hace posible nuestro camino por la Cuaresma. ¿Quién podría enfrentar solo ese diluvio de tentación? Nadie, ni siquiera Jesús, así como escucharemos durante la Semana Santa, enfrenta solo la muerte.

LECTURAS DE HOY: Gen 9:8-15; Sal 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pe d3:18-22; Mc 1:12-15



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras
Marty Carrera Tobias
Frances Lozano
Irma Urias
Mary S. Martinez
Galilea Romero
Iris Luna Sullivan
Emma O. Velasquez
Kenny De La Rosa
Raymond Sarabia
Julissa Rodriguez
Miliana Bullock
Lydia Soriano
Robert Sanchez
Vanessa Quintero
Virginia R. Lucio
Guadalupe Rodriguez
Lori Bañuelos
Joe Villanueva

Edith Flores
Isaiah Vasquez
Esther Nicholson
Valerie Vigil
Margie Zuniga
Rosemary Flores
Anthony Ramirez
Carmen Garza
Gloria Rubio
Lisa Brown
Mary Herrera
Rebecca Zuniga
Rosa Elva Villaseñor
Lupe Gomez
Angie Canales
Joseph Kavanaugh
Rosie Gallegos
Maritza Garcia
Liam Adrian Martinez

Antonia Degollado
Michael P. Ramirez
Alfred Marin
Maria Martinez
Lucy Treviño & Family
Mickey S. Carrasco
Robert Prieto
Elizabeth Rose Valdez
Blanca V. Herrera
Muñoz Family
Adela Moreno
Mary Rose Cerda
Zander from WA.
Pete Muñoz
Mary Alice Vasquez
Terry Herrera

We thank God for the healing of so many sick parishioners. Please be courteous and call the Parish Office if your loved one is no longer suffering or sick. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 2024



5 PM Mass -\$ 855.00
9 AM Mass -\$ 1,183.00
11 AM Mass -\$ 1,233.00
Good Samaritans of SJB -\$ 482.00 2nd Coll.
Mail In -\$ 210.00
On Line -\$ 115.00
Gift of Giving -\$ 237.60
TOTAL \$4,315.60

SECOND COLLECTION FEBRUARY 17-18, 2024

ALTAR FLOWERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Feb. 11, 2024 \$ 237.60
TOTAL \$ 5,189.41

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 17

5:00 p.m. † Pedro E. Martinez - Family
† Pedro B. Martinez - Family
† Gabina Arocha - Family
† Joanne Treviño Villaseñor - Treviño/Salinas Family
† Castulo B. Treviño - Treviño/Salinas Family
† Gabby Arocha - Dora Arocha

Sunday, February 18

9:00 a.m. † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
† Felicitas Juarez - Angelita Canales
† Rafael Armando Cantu - Oralia Cantu
† Rita Peña - Oralia Cantu
† Steban & Eddie Amador - Virginia Velez

11:00 a.m. † Arthur Sandy - Cindi Sanchez
† Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family
† Margaret Quintanilla - Family
† Virginia Wear - Sister & Family
† Angelina Ramirez - Daughter & Family
† Gregorio Ramirez - Daughter & Family

Gift of Life Christopher Dunton - Grannie
In Thanksgiving for the Araguz Family - Araguz Family

Monday, February 19

Tuesday, February 20

12:00 p.m. † Roger & Elida Garcia - Parish Family

Wednesday, February 21

8:15 a.m. † Pedro B. Martinez - Family

Thursday, February 22

12:00 p.m. † Maria Belen Granados - Parish Family
For Health Kenny De La Rosa - Family

Friday, February 23

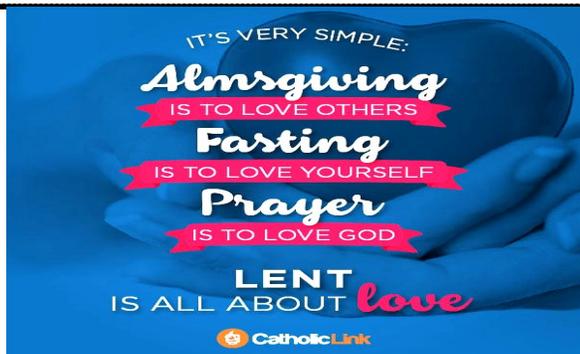
12:00 p.m. † Maria Polanco - Parish Family

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:

† Miguel Antonio Espinosa
† Frank Rodriguez



Let us remember the lamp is a mark of honor. It is to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

My thanks to all of you who made a special effort to participate in Ash Wednesday celebrations marking the beginning of Lenten Season. I hope and pray that this special time of year will enhance your relationship with God and improve our interpersonal relationships. Please engage with Jesus in this unique journey and ask him to heal you and make you whole again. Those he healed during his ministry either waited on him or could not stop spreading the great news.

My appreciation goes to our guest speaker Sally T. Gomez-Jung, Professor Emerita, Oblate School of Theology, for her inspiring and important Lenten Mini Retreat. I thank all of you who made time to attend and participate.

Please continue to consult your liturgical calendar which was given to you last weekend for referral during the Lenten Season and make the appropriate plans to attend services provided by our church.

I highly encourage you to attend daily mass at **12:00 noon, Sunday mass**, which is a day of obligation, **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** followed by **Holy Hour** every **Thursday from 6:00 thru 7:00** in the evening, **Stations of the Cross** every **Friday at 7:00** in the evening and pray daily as a family. You are also encouraged to observe the discipline of Lent which includes prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

I hope you and your families enjoyed watching and celebrating Super Bowl LVIII last Sunday, February 11th, 2024. I asked you, my parishioners, to pick a winning team and also project the exact margin of points for the winning team. Our sister Rachel Solis is the winner. She selected the Chiefs as the winning team over the 49ers with a margin of 3 points.

We congratulate Rachel Solis for the win. Rachel stopped by the office as soon as I was finishing with my 15 Minutes Coffee. She was able to receive the Jerusalem rosary purchased in the Holy Land and blessed by me.

God bless you always!

Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com



**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS
GUADALUPANA BINGO
FUNDRAISER**

DATE: Sunday, March 3, 2024
TIME: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
\$10 per card for 15 regular games
reserves your seat.

Special Game cards will be available
Food, Drinks, Desserts will be available for sale

LENTEN DISCIPLINE: #1 PRAYER
An emphasis on **PRAYER** during Lent is a way to stir up our love and ardor by having a deepening conversation with the Almighty. Remember that the light of God's love shines more brightly in the darkness in recognition of our sinfulness.

We should also pray the Rosary which is a traditional prayer of the Church which calls us to reflect on the various mysteries of our faith. Let us pray for the grace to fulfill our Lenten practices that we have decided upon.

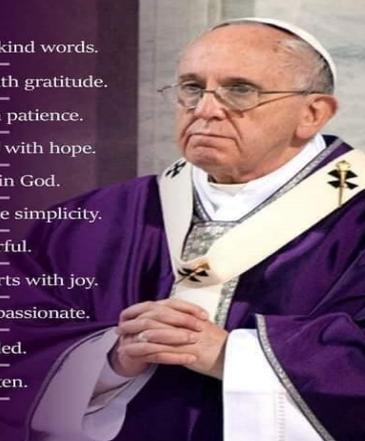
WEEKLY EVENTS

- Sunday, February 18**
9:00 a.m. MASS - Church
11:00 a.m. MASS - Church
- Monday, February 19**
10:00am - 8:00pm Wellness UltraSound Screening
Formation House
- Tuesday, February 20**
12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel
- Wednesday, February 21**
8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Church
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle
- Thursday, February 22**
9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel
6:00 p.m. HOLY HOUR - Church
Religious Education
- Friday, February 23**
12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel
6:00 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS- Church
Religious Education
- Saturday, February 24**
8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning
5:00 p.m. MASS - Church

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tue: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wed: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32
Thu: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Fri: Eze 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Sat: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sun: Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10,
15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

- FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**
- We are now taking orders for **Holy Thursday Candles**. If you are interested in purchasing one \$5.00 or by the case \$60.00, please contact the Parish office. Orders will be taken until Wednesday, March 27, 2024.
 - If you are interested in purchasing **Easter Lilies**, please contact the parish office. Cost is \$10.00
 - Fr. Fidele will be chartering a bus to take parishioners for the **Tour of Seven Churches** on Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024. The tour will run from 9:00 p.m. to 12 midnight. Reservation cost: \$10.00 per person this will help us to defray cost of bus rental.



DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?
In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words; be silent and listen.

Welcome to anyone interested in assisting us to clean our beautiful church. **EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM!!!**

**MINISTRY SCHEDULED
FEBRUARY 24TH- CYO**




BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS
All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. **Bulletins are printed on Thursdays.**



NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?
We encourage all newcomers to register and get to know your parish community. Please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.