

# 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:

Kathy Flores

kflores0411@att.net

### JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos

jessicamosfischer@gmail.com

Chayo Gomez

tootsweez@hotmail.com

### LECTORS:

Stella Rico

stellav28@att.net

### 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 4, 2024 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

February 4, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## RESCUE FROM BONDAGE

Uniquely in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus' public ministry begins with a direct confrontation with an unclean spirit. Today's Gospel passage reflects a recurring theme in Mark, that Jesus' coming is part of a cosmic battle between God and evil forces. It was commonly believed that many spirits were present in the world, and some sought to control human beings. Mark asserts that in Jesus, God has come to rescue humanity, to free us from every form of bondage.

In today's passage, the unclean spirit does not surrender power quietly. After complaints, convulsions, and screams, the spirit finally departs. As we may witness in our own experience, that which binds us—fear, injustice, resentment—often departs only after a mighty struggle. Confronting anything “unclean” in our hearts, our institutions, or our society often involves a long journey toward freedom. May we sustain our efforts and our trust in God, during these long struggles.

## PROPHETS IN DAILY LIFE

Moses assures Israel of God's continued presence by promising a new prophet. Like Moses, the prophet will be raised up directly by God. But how to distinguish a true prophet from a false one? Many claim to speak for God. The task is complicated by the fact that often, true prophets make waves, cause trouble, and disturb how things are normally done. Many simply don't want to hear what God is saying, because it threatens their privilege, comfort, or sense of identity.

Like the Israelites in today's reading, it can be hard for us to bear the voice of God. For God calls us out of all the ways we avoid opening our hearts to God and to others. And so, God raises up surprise prophets in daily life. These are all the people and events who summon us to fuller maturity in love and in faith. We are called upon to always be ready for the prophetic word that may emerge from God's surprises.

## RESCATE DE LA ESCLAVITUD

Únicamente en el Evangelio de Marcos, el ministerio de Jesús comienza con una confrontación directa con un espíritu inmundo. El pasaje del Evangelio de hoy refleja un tema recurrente en Marcos, que la venida de Jesús es parte una batalla cósmica entre Dios y las fuerzas del mal. Se creía comúnmente que muchos espíritus estaban presentes en el mundo, y algunos buscaban controlar a los seres humanos. Marcos afirma que, en Jesús, Dios ha venido a rescatar a la humanidad, a liberarnos de toda forma de esclavitud.

En el pasaje de hoy, el espíritu inmundo no entrega el poder en silencio. Después de quejarse, convulsionarse y gritar, el espíritu finalmente se va. Como podemos atestiguar en nuestra propia experiencia, lo que nos ata, el miedo, la injusticia, el resentimiento, a menudo se va sólo después de una poderosa lucha. Confrontar cualquier cosa “inmunda” en nuestros corazones, nuestras instituciones o nuestra sociedad a menudo implica un largo viaje hacia la libertad. Que podamos sostener nuestros esfuerzos y nuestra confianza en Dios, durante estas largas luchas.

## LOS PROFETAS EN LA VIDA DIARIA

Moisés asegura a Israel la presencia continua de Dios prometiendo un profeta nuevo. Al igual que Moisés, el profeta será establecido por Dios. ¿Pero cómo distinguir a un verdadero profeta de un falso profeta? Muchos dicen hablar en nombre de Dios. La tarea se complica por el hecho de que a menudo, los verdaderos profetas hacen olas, ocasionan problemas y perturban la forma en cómo normalmente se hacen las cosas. Muchos simplemente no quieren escuchar lo que Dios está diciendo, porque eso amenaza su privilegio, su comodidad o su sentido de identidad.

Como los israelitas en la lectura de hoy, puede ser difícil para nosotros llevar la voz de Dios. Porque Dios nos llama de todas las maneras en que evitamos abrir nuestros corazones a Dios y a los demás. Y así, Dios establece profetas inesperados en la vida diaria. Estas son todas las personas y eventos que nos llaman a la madurez plena en el amor y en la fe. Estamos llamados a estar siempre listos para la palabra profética que pueda surgir de lo sorpresivo de Dios.



### 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  
Frank Rodriguez  
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  
Lupé 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  
Marry 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 JANUARY 28, 2024

5 PM Mass	-\$	656.00	
9 AM Mass	-\$	610.00	
11 AM Mass	-\$	1,687.00	
IGBO Mass	-\$	100.00	
Religious Education	-\$	190.00	2nd Coll
Churches in Latin America	-\$	315.00	Arch. Coll
Mail In	-\$	435.00	
On Line	-\$	91.00	
Gift of Giving	-\$	176.05	
TOTAL		\$4,260.05	

## SECOND COLLECTION FEBRUARY 3 - 4, 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

### 2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Jan. 28, 2024	\$	176.05
TOTAL	\$	4,761.01

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, February 3

5:00 p.m. † Angie Ramirez - Parish Family  
**For Health** † Natividad Cruz - Parish Family  
**For Healing** † Theresa Herrera - Family

## Sunday, February 4

9:00 a.m. † Angie Ramirez - Parish Family  
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
 † Gilberto Terrazas - Angelita Canales  
 † Daniel "Danny" Romero - Family  
 11:00 a.m. † Ariana Hopcus' mother need name  
**Gift of Strength** Alyssa Araguz - Araguz Family

## Monday, February 5 - ST. AGATHA

## Tuesday, February 6

12:00 p.m. † Rafaela De La Rosa - Family  
**Gift of Life** Venee Santoyo - Family

## Wednesday, February 7

8:15 a.m. † Fred Estrello - Cindi Sanchez  
 † Drew Luna - Family  
**Gift of Life** Leonor Rodriguez - Marie Sanchez

## Thursday, February 8

12:00 p.m. † Elvira & Terry Moreno - Parish Family

## Friday, February 9

12:00 p.m. † Lucy Villarreal - Parish Family



### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:

**Natividad Cruz  
 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.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56  
 Tue: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-11; Mk 7:1-13  
 Wed: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40;  
 Mk 7:14-23  
 Thu: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40;  
 Mk 7:24-30  
 Fri: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-15;  
 Mk 7:31-37  
 Sat: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7, 19-22;  
 Mk 8:1-10  
 Sun: Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32:1-11; 1 Cor 10:31;  
 11:1; Mk 1:40-45



### FEBRUARY

Then Jesus spoke to them again:  
*"I am the light of the world. Anyone  
 who follows Me will never walk in the  
 darkness but will have the light of  
 life."* John 8:12



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

You are cordially invited to join your fellow parishioners to a very important Lenten Mini Retreat on Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 7:00 in the evening in our church presented by Sally T. Gomez-Jung, Professor Emerita, Oblate School of Theology. This Lenten Mini Retreat will serve as an introduction to the Lenten Season. I am including an insert in the bulletin with more details for the upcoming retreat. Please make a special effort and time to attend and prepare to walk with the Lord in the desert for 40 days.

This year Ash Wednesday will fall on Wednesday, February 14th coinciding with Valentine's Day. To avoid any confusion, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 10th during the 5:00 evening mass followed by a meal, music, and dance in the cafeteria.

On Ash Wednesday, we expect everyone to make a very special effort to attend one of the celebrations during which ashes will be imposed on your forehead to mark the beginning of the Lenten Season. I am including a full liturgical calendar for your information. Please maintain the calendar 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, 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 fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Deacon Jesus Rodriguez finally retired two weeks ago. Deacon Rodriguez has been a dedicated minister to our parish for many years. His passion for the ministry has kept him engaged and active in spite of his physical challenges. Even though he could no longer participate in Sunday Masses, due to the steps at the altar, he continued to prepare parents and godparents for baptism and baptizing as many children as he could. We have been blessed by his presence as well as the presence of his beloved wife Rosalinda Rodriguez, who was a DRE, Director of Religious Education for many years. They both are missed deeply. Please reach out to Deacon Rodriguez and congratulate him for a job well done. We wish him the best on his next journey with the Lord. May God continue to watch over him and protect him always. "Well done good and faithful servant..."

Thank you and may God bless you always!

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





**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CCD  
LOTERIA FUNDRAISER**

**DATE:** Sunday, February 4, 2024

**TIME:** 1PM - 4PM

**LOCATION:** SJB Cafeteria

**COST:** \$30 for 20 games

Specials for \$5. NO SHARING OF CARDS.  
Delicious Food, Sweets and Drinks available for sale.  
For Tickets contact a Catechist. Thank you!

**REMINDER SJB DIRECTORY** - Schedule your Photo appointment for church directory. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule your appointment.

**DATES AVAILABLE:**

Thursday, Feb. 8 from 2-8:30 p.m.,

Friday, Feb. 9 from 2-8:30pm and

Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10am-4pm.

**WEEKLY  
EVENTS**

**Sunday, February 4**

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church

11:00 a.m. MASS - Church

**Monday, February 5**

**Tuesday, February 6**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

**Wednesday, February 7**

8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Church

10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment Class -  
Formation House

2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

**Thursday, February 8**

9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

**Friday, February 9**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Church

**Saturday, February 10**

8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning

5:00 p.m. MASS - Church

Welcome to anyone interested in assisting us to clean our beautiful church. **Every Saturday @ 8am**

**MINISTRY SCHEDULED -**

**FEBRUARY 10 - ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL**



*Thank You!*

**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL**

would like to extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to the St. John Berchmans parishioners and community for the success of our annual Kickoff to Catholic Schools Week BBQ. Our students and staff are very appreciative of your continued support of our school!

**LET US PRAY**

**FOR THE  
TERMINALLY ILL**

The Holy Father's Intention

**February 2024**



**PILGRIM**  
Center of Hope

Guiding people to Christ

**MORNING OF REFLECTION**

Discover the importance of being a good steward of our emotions and how this can help us grow in our spiritual life. This Morning of Reflection will present insights on an often misunderstood emotion - **anger**. Join us Saturday, February 17, 2024 from 10am-12:30 pm at Pilgrim Center of Hope, 7680 Joe Newton in San Antonio. There is no fee to attend; donations are welcomed. We are approximately 1 mile outside Loop 410 at Culebra Road. For more information contact Pilgrim Center of Hope at (210) 521-3377.



**Announcements!**



**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All requests must be sent by email to [osantoyo1104@gmail.com](mailto: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.

