

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

• **Rev. Fr. Anthony Male** •
Pastor

• **Deacon Luis Guardiola** •

Cathy Martinez , Bookkeeper
Laly Arocha, Administrative Assistant
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance

Connie Peché, Family Records
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement
Jessica Ramos, Sacramental Records

Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

Rev. Fr. Anthony Male, Pastor
anthony.male@archsa.org

Cathy Martinez, Bookkeeper
cmartinez@stjohnberchmans.com

Laly Arocha, Administrative Assistant
larocha@stjohnberchmans.com

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

Mass Times:
Saturday Vigil 5pm-English
Sunday 9am - English
Sunday 11am- English

Weekday Services:
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

School Mass:
Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

Reconciliation:
Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

Baptisms/Quinceañeras/Sweet 16:
Please contact office for more information

Baptism Classes:
Please contact office for more information

Weddings:
Father Anthony Male, Pastor
Please make an appointment
six months in advance.

CCD:
Sunday 9:30am – 12 Noon

Good Samaritans of SJB:
Monday and Friday; 3pm - 5pm
Every Other Week

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

Parish Ministries

ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:
ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT:
ALTAR SERVERS:
CHOIRS:
Saturday 5pm Choir
Sunday 9am Choir
Sunday 11am Choir
CYO:
CAFETERIA RENTAL:
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:
FINANCE COMMITTEE:
GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

GUADALUPANAS:
FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :
HOSPITALITY:

J.O.Y. MINISTRY:

LECTORS:
LITURGY COMMITTEE:
OCIA/OCIC:
PASTORAL COUNCIL:
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION :
ROSARY MAKERS:
VIGIL TEAM:

Victor Gomez
Rosalinda Garza
Eddie Campa

Roy Sanchez
Javier Saucedo
Michael S. Rodriguez
Contact Office
Linda Campbell
Elida Gonzales
John Diaz
Angie Diaz
Sylvia Quintana
Arleen Garcia
Dolores Guardiola
Esmeralda Tamez
Jessica Ramos
Chayo Gomez
Chayo Gomez
Dolores Guardiola
Martha Garcia
Kimberly Mata
Elida Gonzales

Oralia Cantu
Dora Duran

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ONLINE GIVING

We are partnering with **ParishSOFT Giving** and the Archdiocese of San Antonio to help you with online contributions to our church. This would be done automatically from your checking account or credit card, just as you do now with other payments.

If interested proceed as follows:

- Simply visit giving.parishsoft.com/giving/sjbsanantonio
- Text "Give" to 210-934-0959 or
- Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to go directly to our parish's online giving page. From there, you can give a one-time or recurring offering, and set up your account from the "Sign in" tab.



DECEMBER 14, 2025 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GAUDETE SUNDAY - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 2025

www.stjohnberchmans.com

PATIENCE . . . NOW!

A friend walked me through his newly planted garden to help me see how it would look in spring. He finally stopped and said, "You can't picture any of this, can you?" I couldn't until I saw it in full bloom the following springtime. Then I could understand why he planted the seeds where he had. Then I saw the beauty and bounty that his planting represented. "Tell John what you hear and see," Jesus says to John's disciples. The signs of the Messiah proclaimed by the prophets are beginning to bloom. Look and see! Hear the singing of those once mute and the rejoicing of the crowds who witness these works. The beauty and the bounty of our generous God are all around.

TODAY'S READINGS: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

PACIENCIA . . . ¡AHORA!

Un amigo me paseó por su jardín recién plantado para ayudarme a ver cómo quedaría en primavera. Al final se detuvo y dijo: "No puedes imaginarte nada de esto, ¿verdad?" No podía hasta que lo vi en plena floración la primavera siguiente. Entonces pude entender por qué plantó las semillas donde lo hizo. Entonces vi la belleza y la abundancia que su plantación representaba. "Cuenten a Juan lo que escuchan y ven", dice Jesús a los discípulos de Juan. Los signos del Mesías anunciados por los profetas empiezan a florecer. ¡Miren y vean! Escuchen el canto de los que antes eran mudos y el regocijo de las multitudes que son testigos de estas obras. La belleza y la generosidad de nuestro Dios generoso están por todas partes.

LECTURAS DE HOY: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Sal 146:6-7, 8-10; Sant 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras	Richard Santoyo	Baby Marlon
Frances Lozano	Mickey S. Carrasco	Sara McCumba Garcia
Mary S. Martinez	Elizabeth Rose Valdez	Robyn Pesina
Galilea Romero	Henrietta Ramos	Viola Garza
Iris Luna Sullivan	Cristina Santoyo	Reymundo Padilla
Emma O. Velasquez	Marisol Longoria-Parker	Dominique Dominguez
Raymond Sarabia	Jerry Salazar	And Baby
Julissa Rodriguez	Baby Ezra Rios	Elida Rocha
Miliana Bullock	Socorro Castillo	Edna Cruz
Robert Sanchez	Alexis Ramos	Armando Cantu
Vanessa Quintero	Nicole Guerra	Tere Peña
Virginia R. Lucio	Bryan Ramos	Irma Brunn
Guadalupe Rodriguez	Valerie Vigil	Olga Serna
Lori Bañuelos	Lillie Velez	Ruben Martinez
Edith Flores	Bobby Gallegos II	Oralia Rodriguez
Isaiah Vasquez	Baby Wade Trinidad	Monica Rodriguez
Gloria Rubio	Simon Peter Jesus Garcia	Daniel Vasquez
Angie Canales	Stephanie Perez	
Rosie Gallegos	Danny Flores	

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.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 20th and 21st

<u>Commentator</u>	<u>1st Lector</u>	<u>2nd Lector</u>
5:00pm Edna Cruz	Brandon Pesqueda	Annie Salinas
9:00am Xanthia Hernandez	Marie Sanchez	Andrew Solis
11am Rosemary Mahan	Ethan Bowlin	Raissa Dominguez

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24th

<u>Commentator</u>	<u>1st Lector</u>	<u>2nd Lector</u>
<u>VIGIL (Children's Mass)</u>		
6:00pm Arleen Garcia	Joan Orozco	Dolores Guardiola
<u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u>		
12am Sylvia Lore	Jessica Ramos	Izzy Ramos

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

LATEST UPDATE: The Texas Comptroller's office has announced that the new Education Savings Account (ESA) program, established by the Texas Legislature earlier this year, will now be called Texas Education Freedom Accounts. This new name highlights the program's goal of empowering parents to choose the best educational options for their children.

Important Reminder: The application period opens on February 6, 2026. Applications for Hope for the Future are now open!

Every family's journey looks different—but every path can lead to a catholic education rooted in faith and excellence. You can apply early to receive priority consideration for tuition assistance.

Early Verification Window: Now - January 31.

Begin your path today:

<https://onlinefactsmgt.factsmgt.com/aid>

God Bless, Nora Garcia - Principal



Thanks for Your Support!

STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 7, 2025

<u>MASS TIMES</u>	<u>ENVELOPES</u>	<u>LOOSE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
5:00 PM	\$ 591.00	\$ 248.00	\$ 839.00
9:00 AM	\$1,283.00	\$ 181.00	\$ 1,464.00
11:00 AM	\$ 1,251.00	\$ 333.34	\$1,584.34
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS	\$ 226.00	\$ 371.75	\$ 597.75
2nd COLLECTION CAPITAL IMP.	\$ 508.00	\$ 409.85	\$ 917.85
	GRAND TOTAL	\$ 5,402.94	

SECOND COLLECTION - DECEMBER 13-14, 2025

**ARCHDIOCESE SPECIAL COLLECTION
RETIRED MEN & RELIGIOUS WOMEN**

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 13 - ST. LUCY

5:00 p.m. † Joe Suarez - Family
 † Joe Villanueva - Family

Sunday, December 14

9:00 a.m. † Rev. Bart A. Flaar - Angelita Canales
 † Joseph Perez - Family
 † George Beltran - Family
 † Daniel C. & Maria C. Arzola - Family

Gift of Life Lupe Rodriguez - Family
In Thanksgiving 45th Anniversary of the
St. John Berchmans Guadalupanas

11:00 a.m. † Rev. Bart A. Flaar - Mahan Family
 † Ryan Sanchez - Family
 † Daniel Lizalde - Wife & Kids
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family
 † Lillie Gutierrez - Salinas Family

Gift of Life Veronica Garza - Lopez Family
Gift of Life Margie Salazar - Lopez Family

Monday, December 15

Tuesday, December 16

12:00 p.m. † Vicenta "Vickie" Valdez - SJB Family

Wednesday, December 17

8:15 a.m. † Monica Campa - SJB Family
 † Shirley Flores - Graciela Romero
Health Oralia Rodriguez - Graciela Romero

Thursday, December 18

12:00 a.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family

Friday, December 19

12:00 p.m. † Juanita B. Castillo - Family

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

For World Peace

For the Hungry, the Homeless & Unemployed



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.

IN MEMORIUM

We offer condolences to our parishioners and their families who have experienced loss of their loved ones:

† Patricia Marie Balderas

With sympathy

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27
 Tue: Zep 3:1-13; Ps 34:2-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
 Wed: Gen 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 Thu: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-19; Mt 1:18-25
 Fri: Judgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Sat: Isa 7:10-14; Ps 24: 1-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Sun: Isa 7:10-14; ; Ps 24: 1-6; Rom 1:1-7;
 Mat 1:18-24

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear People of God,

With heartfelt joy , I extend my warmest congratulations to Men's Club members and Altar Society ladies on the occasion of your commissioning. Your service is a beautiful expression of devotion, humility and love for the church. May God continue to strengthen you, guide you, and fill your hearts with peace as you carry out these important ministries.

We call the Third Sunday of Advent the Gaudete Sunday. The name comes from the Latin word 'gaudete', which means "rejoice". The unique thing about this Sunday is that it marks a shift in the focus of Advent from "The Lord is coming" to "The Lord is near". Therefore, we are directed to focus on the joy of anticipation of Christmas. As a result, the readings and the prayers at mass tell us not to be afraid because Emmanuel will soon be here. There is something distinctive about the coming of Christ. It is God who takes the initiative first and calls us to be prepared for the renewal. He chooses to renew us through his Son.

Consequently, we light the third Advent candle (rose) this weekend and the light gets brighter and brighter, pointing to the imminence of Christ's coming.

The priest usually wears a rose-colored vestment. While rejoicing for the lord, how do I prepare myself to receive Christ on Christmas day?

Blessings,

Fr. Anthony

DECEMBER 14, 2025

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Christmas Poinsettia

in honor of loved ones

Honor or remember a special loved one this Christmas with a \$20 poinsettia, sponsored by the Altar Society Ministry.

The names you submit will be lovingly placed in our Mass Petition Book and presented on the altar on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Please place your Poinsettia envelope in the collection basket or drop it off at the office.

Thank you for helping us fill our church with beauty, remembrance, and prayer this Christmas season.



**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING POINSETTIAS IS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025.**

Introducing members of our newly formed **ALTAR SOCIETY OF ST. JOHN BERCHMANS.**
We pray for blessings in our ministry as we work together to strengthen and build up our beautiful church.



Our **Church Cleaning Ministry** meets **EVERY SATURDAY MORNING** to clean our place of worship. New faces are always welcome for this behind-the-scenes activity. Take time to clean the house of God!
Ministry scheduled:
Sat., Dec. 20, 2025 - CYO & GUADALUPANAS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, December 19th
Christmas Concert: 7pm - 8pm in the Church

Saturday, December 20th
8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning
6:30 p.m: **POSADA will Start @ 2603 Aiken San Antonio, TX 78237**

School Christmas Break : Dec. 22nd - Jan. 4th

Wednesday, December 24th
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
6:00 p.m. Vigil Mass - Children's Mass
11:30 p.m. Christmas Carols
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

Thursday, December 25th
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
10:00am Mass

Sunday, January 25th: BBQ Plate Sale

Introducing members of our newly formed **MEN'S CLUB OF ST. JOHN BERCHMANS**
We pray for blessings on this ministry as they work together to grow in faith, service, and fellowship.



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUESTS
Send requests by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com. Requests will be finalized upon approval .
Bulletins are printed on Thursdays.