

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/Quinceñeras/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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dduran57@outlook.com

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 21, 2025 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

www.stjohnberchmans.com

WHOSE HOME?

Matthew's Gospel also contains an angelic annunciation scene; we hear from it today. Another pivot point is presented, when the angel says "Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home." As with most angelic appearances in scripture, the angel provides an instruction not to fear. More importantly, Joseph is instructed by God's messenger to take Mary into his home. When Joseph and Mary were betrothed, they were officially constituted as husband and wife; the next step—approved by an angel—would have been for Joseph to take Mary into his home. So he provided a safe place for a young woman in a troubled pregnancy, and offered her child a home, a heritage, and a lineage. This rather difficult and risky move on Joseph's part might inspire us in this season to seek out and help out in those places where people are longing to have a house and—more importantly—a home.

TODAY'S READINGS: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

QUÉ HOGAR?

El Evangelio de Mateo contiene también una escena de anunciación angélica; la escuchamos hoy. Se presenta otro punto de inflexión, cuando el ángel dice "No tengas miedo de recibir a María en tu casa". Como en la mayoría de las apariciones angélicas en las Escrituras, el ángel da una instrucción de no temer. Lo más importante es que el mensajero de Dios instruye a José para que acoja a María en su casa. Cuando José y María se desposaron, se constituyeron oficialmente en marido y mujer; el siguiente paso -aprobado por un ángel- habría sido que José acogiera a María en su casa. Así, proporcionó un lugar seguro a una joven en un embarazo problemático, y ofreció a su hijo un hogar, una herencia y un linaje. Este movimiento bastante difícil y arriesgado de José podría inspirarnos en esta época para buscar y ayudar en aquellos lugares donde la gente anhela tener una casa y, sobre todo, un hogar.

LECTURAS DE HOY: Is 7:10-14; Sal 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Commentator</u> | <u>1st Lector</u> | <u>2nd Lector</u> |
| 10am Alice Esparza | Edna Cruz | Stella Rico |

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 4 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://onlinefactsmtg.com/aid>
God Bless, Nora Garcia - Principal
St. John Berchmans School



STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 13, 2025

| MASS TIMES | ENVELOPES | LOOSE | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 5:00 PM | \$ 801.00 | \$ 515.00 | \$ 1,316.00 |
| 9:00 AM | \$ 708.00 | \$ 214.00 | \$ 922.00 |
| 11:00 AM | \$ 1,065.00 | \$ 531.00 | \$ 1,596.00 |
| OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS | | | \$ 335.00 |
| ARCH SPEC. COLL RETIRED RELIGIOUS | | | \$ 822.30 |
| | | GRAND TOTAL | \$ 4,991.30 |

SECOND COLLECTION - DECEMBER 20-21, 2025 ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

SECOND COLLECTION - DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2025 Archdiocese: Assumption Seminary

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 20

- 5:00 p.m. † JC Alvarez - Family
 † Monica Campa - Family
 † Henry Vidal - Family
 † Celia H. Gonzales - Ruby Rios
 † Alicia Flores - Ruby Rios
 † Julia Villarreal - Sweet Family

Sunday, December 21

- 9:00 a.m. † Elida Cardenas - Lupe Rodriguez
 † Daniel C. & Maria C. Arzola - Family
 † Dario & Herlinda Cardenas - Family

- 11:00 a.m. † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family
 † Lillie Gutierrez - Salinas Family
 † Ryan Sanchez - Family
 † Daniel Lizalde - Wife & Kids
 † Shirley Flores - Graciela Romero
 † Paul Salinas - Family

Health Oralia Rodriguez - Graciela Romero

Monday, December 22

Tuesday, December 23 - ST. JOHN OF KANTY

12:00 p.m. **Gift of Life** Elizabeth Garza

Gift of Life Carolina Santoyo - Family

Wednesday, December 24 - ST. SYLVESTER I

6:00 p.m. † Sarah Castañeda - Family

† Paul Salinas - Family

12 Midnight † Suzanne & Lillie Gutierrez -
 Salinas Family

† Jose Juventino Arzola - Family

† Ricardo Arzola - Family

† George Beltran - Family

† Rodolfo Guerra - Family

Thursday, December 25 - NATIVITY OF THE LORD

10:00 a.m. † Ernesto & Pilar L. Rubio - Alma Rubio

† Daniel "Danny" Romero - Family

† Genevieve Cruz - Cruz Family

† Raymundo & Natividad Cruz - Cruz Family

† Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family

† Lillie Gutierrez - Salinas Family

Friday, December 26

12:00 p.m. For Our Parish Community

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Tue: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
 Lk 1:57-66

Wed: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
 Lk 1:67-79

Thu: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or
 [John 1-5, 9-14]

Fri: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3b,4,6,8,9,17
 Mt 10:17-22

Sat: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Sun: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128: 1-5; Col 3:12-21 or
 (Col. 3:12-17)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear People of God,

We are only five days away from the day when we celebrate the Lord's coming in the Incarnation. For thousands of years, people waited for this grandiose event. Throughout Advent, the Church longed ardently for the coming of our Savior. She celebrates His birth with unrestrained joy.

Christmas season begins on the evening of December 24th and ends on the feast of the Baptism of Christ. Let us take a moment to gaze at the Manger and behold *The Word-Made-Flesh!* The highest expression of God's Love. The helplessness of a baby who is God. The vulnerability of God who is the most powerful. One who sits on the throne of stars now lies on straw in a stable. The one who feeds the world now lies in the feeding trough, as food for the world. The manger teaches us three things: *Closeness, Poverty, and Concreteness.* Stay before the scene, take it in, in absolute silence, and then break into a song and hug those around you. For, today, salvation has come into our lives! Merry Christmas!

Parish staff and I thank you for your talents freely given, your cooperation, your financial support throughout the year and most of all your prayers. It is our hope that Christ will be born anew in your minds and hearts on this Christmas Day.

Please be aware that I will be out of the office, visiting my family in India December 30th through January 24th .

May the grace and peace of the Infant Savior be felt in your family this Christmas.

Sincerely in Christ

Fr. Anthony and Parish Staff



Christmas Poinsettia

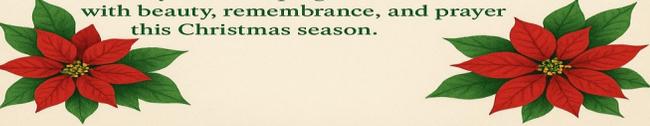
in honor of loved ones

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.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

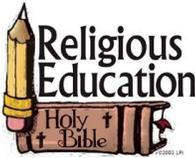
Wednesday, December 24th
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
 6:00 p.m. Vigil Mass - Children's Mass
 11:30 p.m. Christmas Carols
 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

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

Saturday, December 27th
 8:00 a.m Church Cleaning
Ministry scheduled
Extraordinary Ministers/Vigil Team

Saturday, January 3, 2026
 8:30 a.m. Men's Club Meeting
 in the Formation House

Sunday, January 25, 2026:
 11 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 St. John Berchmans School BBQ Plate Sale



Religious Education program will **NOT** conduct classes on **Sunday, December 21st and 28th.**

Classes will resume on **Sunday, January 4, 2026.**

On behalf of our Religious Education staff may you and your families enjoy a peaceful and joyous holiday season!

OUT OF OFFICE

Father Anthony Will be Out of Office
 December 30th thru January 24th 2026.
 There Will be **NO WEEKDAY MASSES**
 during that time. **Only Communion**
 Service on Wednesdays at 8:15am.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUESTS
 Send requests by email to
osantoyo1104@gmail.com
 Requests will be finalized upon approval .
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.

