

# Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## August 13, 2017

### EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Today's readings console and challenge us, reminding us just how hard God works for us so we might have faith. God's labors are infinitely diverse, too, always tailored to fit our particular situations, personalities, and needs. In Elijah's case, he is hiding in a cave on the very same mountain where Moses once encountered God in the burning bush. Hunted by the pagan Queen Jezebel, Elijah is running for his life. While Moses experienced God in fire on this mountain, Elijah requires a gentler touch. God comes to him not in awesome displays of power, but in a "tiny whispering sound." God provides exactly the tranquility Elijah needs before sending him off on a new mission.

God's creative care for us does not always lead to faith, however. In a strikingly tender passage, Saint Paul shares his heartbreak that God's chosen people could reject Jesus, even after all God has done to prepare them for the Messiah. God has accompanied the chosen people through adoption, miracles, covenants, commandments, prophets, and kings. Despite ages of dedicated and inventive caregiving, God's people do not unite in worship of the true Messiah. The proper response to this lack of faith is sorrow, and Saint Paul pours out the "constant anguish" in his heart.

In yet another astonishingly creative gesture, God visits people in need of faith by defying the laws of nature. Matthew's Gospel describes Jesus actually walking on water to comfort his disciples during a storm at sea. After their terror subsides and the winds grow calm, faith floods the disciples' hearts. They worship Jesus, proclaiming, "Truly, you are the Son of God."

### TO THE LIMIT

Sometimes God's creative overtures are almost too much to handle. In a daring effort to trust, Peter challenges Jesus to share miraculous power with him. Jesus obliges, and Peter walks on water. Peter enjoys his miracle until his natural limitations spoil his faith. Just imagine what barriers we can shatter if only we believe.

Today's Readings: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

### ACEPTANDO LA DIVERSIDAD

Las lecturas de hoy nos consuelan y nos desafían, solo recordándonos lo duro que Dios trabaja para nosotros para que podamos tener fe. Los trabajos de Dios son diversamente infinitos también, siempre para medirlos y acomodarlos a nuestras situaciones particulares, y personalidades y necesidades. En el caso de Elías, él está escondido en una cueva en la misma montaña donde Moisés una vez encontró a Dios en la zarza ardiente. Siendo perseguido por la reina pagana Jezabel, Elías escapa por su vida. Mientras Moisés experimenta a Dios en el fuego en esta montaña, Elías requiere un toque más gentil. Dios viene a él no en una muestra extraordinaria de poder sino en el "sonido de la brisa suave". Dios provee exactamente la tranquilidad que Elías necesita antes de enviarlo a una nueva misión.

Sin embargo, el cuidado creador de Dios no siempre nos guía a la fe. En un pasaje sorprendente, san Pablo nos comparte su angustia que el pueblo elegido por Dios puede rechazar a Jesús, aún después de todo lo que Dios ha hecho para prepararlos por el Mesías. Dios ha acompañado al pueblo elegido por medio de la adopción, los milagros, la alianza, los mandamientos, los profetas y reyes. Pese a los años de dedicado e ingenioso cuidado, el pueblo de Dios no se une al culto del verdadero Mesías. La propia respuesta a esta falta de fe es el dolor, y san Pablo derrama la "constante angustia" de su corazón.

En otro asombroso gesto, Dios visita a su pueblo que necesita fe desafiando las leyes de la naturaleza. El Evangelio de Mateo describe a Jesús caminando sobre el agua para consolar a sus discípulos durante una tormenta en el mar. Después de que pasa su espanto y el viento se calma, la fe inunda a los corazones de los discípulos. Ellos alaban a Jesús, proclamando "verdaderamente, tú eres el Hijo de Dios".

### HASTA EL LÍMITE

Algunas veces las propuestas creativas de Dios son demasiado para sobrellevar. En un atrevido esfuerzo, Pedro desafía a Jesús a compartirle su poder con él. Jesús obliga a Pedro a caminar sobre el agua. Pedro disfruta este milagro hasta que sus limitaciones naturales estropean su fe. Solo imagina que barreras podemos romper si solamente creyéramos.

Lecturas de hoy: 1 Re 19:9a, 11-13a; Sal 85 (84):9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



### Please Pray for the Sick

#### Prayer List Updates



Leticia Hernandez	Terri Lopez	Antonio Agüero
Eddie Villarreal, Sr.	San Juanita Sanchez	Elvia Diaz
Manuel Ramon	Jessica Diaz	M/M Margarito Compean
Dr. Joseph Luna	Jesse Diaz	Roberta Bobbie Garza
Diana Calderon	Paul and Grace Salinas	Frances Ramirez
David Ortiz	Baby Alexander Gonzalez	Alex Tapia
Minerva Estrada	Alejandro De Leon	Norma Morgan
Jesse Mario Vega	Jimmie Rodriguez	Laura Reyes Gutierrez
Martha L. Vega & Children	Delia Riojas	Mary Garza
Maria Treviño	Petra Chavez	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.
Isabella Julianna Vega	Joe & Cecilia Espinosa	Elisa Casanova
Alfonso Ibarra, Jr.	Pablo Rodriguez	Alexander Hernandez
Melissa Rodriguez	Dolores Gonzalez	Pedro Caballero
Armando Rodriguez	Joe Moreno	Eric Nave
Norma Morgan	Clara Perez	Sofia Olivarez
Margaret Perez	Rick Contreras	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez
Angie Lopez	Brandon Rivas	Rosalinda Rodriguez
Maria Zapata	Liz Quintero	Connie Cardenas
Ruben Tey	Justin Rey Martinez	Rosalinda Esparza

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.

### WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION

**AUGUST 5 - 6, 2017**

5:00 PM	-\$1,046.66	(096)
8:00 AM	-\$ 768.87	(088)
10:00 AM	-\$1,280.12	(151)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 799.61	(078)
Capital Improvements	-\$ 896.32	Second Collection
2016 Gift of Giving	-\$ 177.49	
Mail In	-\$ 200.00	
<b>TOTAL COLLECTED</b>	<b>-\$5,169.07</b>	

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

### Second Collection

\* August 13, 2017 - Good Samaritans of SJB

### 2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions Aug. 5 - 6, 2017	\$ 177.49
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,193.40</b>

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, August 12\*\*

5:00 p.m. † George Hernandez - Wife & Family  
† Margarita V. Ruiz - Castillo Family

### Sunday, August 13\*\*

8:00 a.m. Guadalupe Mass  
† Ernestina Huerta - Husband & Children  
† Juan Garcia - Guadalupe  
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Guadalupe Cadena - Grace Salinas  
10:00 a.m. † Pedro E. Martinez - Family  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
Gift of Life Emilio Semersky III - Family  
Gift of Life Rosemary Semersky - Family  
12:00 p.m. † Teofilo De Los Santos - Family  
† Arturo B. Dominguez - Family  
† Chris Medina - Margaret Gonzalez  
† Ana Moreno - Elvia Moreno

### \*\*HEALING SERVICE AFTER ALL MASSES

### Monday, August 14

12:00 p.m. † David De Los Santos - Mom

### Tuesday, August 15 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

7:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

### Wednesday, August 16

12:00 p.m. † Delia Josephine Galvan

### Thursday, August 17

12:00 p.m. † Ramiro Ayala - Tomas & Olga

### Friday, August 18

12:00 p.m. † Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom

### Saturday, August 19

5:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family  
† Esther Sepulveda - Campos Family  
† Helen Lopez - Husband  
Gift of Life Bernard & Raymundo Cruz, Jr. - Cruz Family

### Sunday, August 20

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Juan Silva - Family  
10:00 a.m. † Pedro E. Martinez - Family  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† Cynthia De La Cruz - Aunt  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
† David Medina - Margaret Gonzalez  
12:00 p.m. † Ana Moreno - Elvia Moreno

## *In Loving Memory*

We pray for the souls of our dearly departed who have passed from our parish community:

† Delia Josephine Galvan

### Sanctuary Light

† Arturo B. Dominguez

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

On Sunday, August 6th an emotional celebration took place at St. Stephen Catholic Church as its doors officially closed, but memories will live forever within the hearts of people. We pray that it's parishioners find a new home to continue their faith journey in the Lord.

Saint John Berchmans officially welcomes parishioners from St. Stephen's who have chosen our community in order to come together for the Kingdom of God. As your pastor, I am very pleased for you to join our welcoming home and certainly hope you feel free to share your talents and gifts with your new community.


I am very pleased and excited to again announce that a contract has been finalized in obtaining three bands to entertain us for our Fall Festival 2017. The bands will be: Home Town Boys, Los EnVivo Kings, and La Tropa F. Please remember that our Festival is two short months away and everyone is requested to sell as many tickets as possible for our Fall Festival which is scheduled on Saturday, September 30th from 12:00 noon until midnight. The success of our festival depends on the participation of each one of us.

The registration of St. John Berchmans Catholic Elementary School for the academic year 2017-2018 is currently in effect. We have made necessary adjustments to equip our school and teachers with the tools required in order to compete and provide the best education to our children. Please extend the news to friends, families and neighboring parishes to register their children.

We are reminded to live up to and maintain our Catholic values during the summer time. Those of you who may be traveling around the country, or overseas, please remember to fulfill your Christian obligation by attending mass on Sunday or days of obligation. We can not take a vacation from God, God loves, protects, and cares for us eternally. Let us continue to share our gift of love with each other. Remember also to mail or bring your weekly offering to the office. Paying the bills never takes a vacation.

We welcome Mrs. Nora Garcia, as interim Principal for the academic school year 2017-2018. Mrs. Garcia is a dedicated, hard working, religious, and intelligent person with an extensive experience in Catholic School Education. She has been a vice principal in our school for over 15 years. We are excited and blessed to have Mrs. Garcia accept the opportunity to lead our school. We wish her a successful ministry in our school.

May God bless you always,



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

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** - Elijah waits on the mountain for the LORD to pass by (1 Kings 19:9-13).

**Psalm** - Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** - From the Israelites, with their law and the prophets, comes the Christ (Romans 9:1-5).

**Gospel** - As Jesus walked on the sea, the disciples were terrified (Matthew 14:22-33). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Dt 10:12-22; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mt 17:22-27  
Tue: **Vigil:** 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28  
**Day:** Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56  
Wed: Dt 34:1-2; Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17; Mt 18:15-20  
Thu: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Ps 114:1-6; Mt 18:21 — 19:1  
Fri: Jos 24:1-13; Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24; Mt 19:3-12  
Sat: Jos 24:14-29; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Mt 19:13-15  
Sun: Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

## Events of the Week ~ August 13 - 20, 2017

### Sunday, August 13

#### Healing Service After All Masses

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church  
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church  
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church  
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

### Monday, August 14

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel

### Tuesday, August 15 - OFFICE CLOSED

#### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

### Wednesday, August 16

9:15 a.m. **Rosary Makers** - Offsite  
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Chapel

### Thursday, August 17

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Eucharistic Adoration** - Chapel  
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Chapel  
6:00 p.m. **School Parent Orientation** - Cafeteria  
6:30 p.m. **Ultreya English** - School

### Friday, August 18

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Chapel

### Saturday, August 19

5:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

### Sunday, August 20 - CCD REGISTRATION

7:30 a.m. **Divine Mercy** - Church  
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church  
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church  
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2017**  
**9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

## CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

We are always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. Your assistance is greatly appreciated, and one does not realize that it takes a lot of work and assistance from many individuals to prepare for Mass. Contact Stella Rico at 464-0207 or join us at 8:00 am in the church foyer on Saturday.

**We thank you for your time and commitment for this very important ministry!**

## Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

Saturday, August 19, 2017 - Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors



## QUESTIONS ABOUT HEALTH INSURANCE? You're not alone. We are here to help!

- Need Health Insurance but Open Enrollment is Closed?
- Wondering if you Qualify for an Exemption from the Penalty?
- Confused with proposed changes to the healthcare law?
- Need to Speak with an Assister about our Plan?

Call (210) 977-7997 or visit [www.EnrollSA.com](http://www.EnrollSA.com) and click "Appointment" tab to schedule an appointment.

## OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN A PLENARY INDULGENCE!

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be solemnly displayed for veneration, in Our Lady's Chapel at St. Paul's Church (St. Cloud and Sutton) on Saturday, August 19th from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The 100th Anniversary of the 4th apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, Portugal. Usual ritual conditions apply, including Prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, sacramental Confession, Holy Communion. For additional information contact Phil Trickett at 485-5125.



## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to [osantoyo1104@gmail.com](mailto:osantoyo1104@gmail.com) for final approval by Father Fidele. We ask that you submit your requests at least two (2) weeks in advance for placement in the bulletin.



## NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

If you are interested in registering as a new parishioner at St. John Berchmans Church, please contact our Parish Office at 434-3247 to fill out a registration form. Thank you!

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com



## **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signified the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts.

# Thank You

**THE GUADALUPANA ORGANIZATION** would like to thank everyone who came out to support our Bingo fundraiser - it was a great success! In the next few weeks we'll provide information on the overall success of the event.

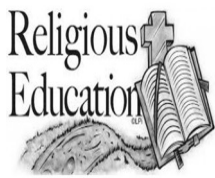
## OFFICE CLOSED

**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on **Tuesday, August 15, 2017** in observance of **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.

Regular office hours will resume on Wednesday, August 16, 2017. Thank you!

## **PILGRIM CENTER OF HOPE— AFTERNOON TEA WITH ST. JOHN BERCHMANS**

You're invited to our Peaceful Center located at 7680 Joe Newton, for some afternoon refreshment. Enjoy various teas and cookies as we meet and discuss St. John Berchmans, a patron saint of youth, altar servers and anyone who aspires to holiness. We'll end with our Eucharistic Lord in the Chapel, praying the Chaplet of Divine mercy. Session includes introduction to St. John, complimentary pamphlet with quotes and suggested reading, time for questions and spiritual reflection, prayer. **SCHEDULE: Tea begins at 2pm and we conclude around 3:30 p.m.. (after praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy)**



## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE NEWS**

### **BAPTISM CLASS**

Will take place on **Sunday, August 13, 2017** at 1:30 pm in the school.

- ◆ Both parents and Godparents are required to attend session. If married, must show proof of sacraments.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

*The future of our Church depends on the faith of our children. Live it, teach it, proclaim it.*

- ◆ Registrations for Religious Education for the year 2017-2018 will begin on Sunday, August 20, 2017 after all the morning Masses. We will register for 3 weekends in a row and classes begin on September 17 at 10:00 am in the Cafeteria. When registering, please bring your child's Baptism certificate if the child is baptized, or your child's birth certificate if your child is not baptized.

### **ADULT EDUCATION (RCIA AND ADULT CONFIRMATION)**

Our parish community understand that we as individuals, and together as a community, are responsible for creating the kind of parish that is supportive of a Community of the Faithful.

RCIA classes are held on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm in Room 22 of the School Building. You may register at any time in August and September. Please bring your baptism certificate if you are baptized, or your birth certificate if you are not baptized. For more information regarding the RCIA Programs please contact Rosalinda Rodriguez, the Faith Formation Coordinator at 434-3247.

## **HOMILY HELPS**

Yet the sound is there, or rather, here. So is Jesus. "It is I, "literally, I AM, the divine Name (Matthew 14:27). "I AM with you always, Jesus promises, "until the end." (28:20). However, perilous the waves or chaotic the wind, Jesus right here, whispers in night's silence, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid" (14:27). Why do you doubt? Why, after centuries of winds and waves, do we fail to see the countless forms Jesus' outstretched hand takes? We have only to stay right here, in the storm-tossed but infinitely precious boat, the Church the community Jesus never abandons.

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

When was the last time I experienced God as really absent from my life? Really present? To whom am I called to be Jesus' outstretched hand of strength and support?