

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 8, 2017

www.stjohnberchmans.com

HIGHLY PASSIONATE

The tales of the vineyard in Isaiah and in Matthew point to the larger story of God and God's people. We see that God is intensely passionate about us. God is deeply committed, like the landowner who diligently prepares the vineyard. God has high expectations that the vineyard produce the fruit of a just and compassionate society. God is highly disappointed and angry that the vineyard has produced bad fruit (Isaiah), or has been treated as a prize to be seized (Matthew).

There are more chapters in the larger story that also need to be told. Later in Isaiah and in Matthew, we see that God is also deeply compassionate and forgiving. Isaiah speaks of God's tender care, as a mother loves her child (Isaiah 49). In Matthew, Jesus demonstrates God's forgiveness most dramatically on the cross. God is indeed most patient and resilient. God never gives up on us. God continues to pursue us, offering us love and grace, now and always.

THE CORNERSTONE

The powerful conclusions of the two vineyard tales are meant to linger in our memories. God indeed expects much of us, to live justly and mercifully. However, we know that God is not prickly and impatient, as we might be led to imagine if we read these stories out of context. The stories do invite us to ponder again who God really is. Especially during times of difficulty or of failure in our lives, we might wonder how we might best understand the mystery of God.

The witness of the New Testament is clear. If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. Look at his patience and mercy. Look at his compassion for the suffering, his passion for justice. Look also at the joy and healing experienced by those in his presence. As today's Gospel passage indicates, Jesus is the cornerstone, the starting point of coming to know our God.

Today's Readings: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9,12-16,19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

MUY APASIONADO

Las historias de los viñedos en Isaías y en Mateo apuntan hacia una historia más amplia de Dios y del pueblo de Dios. Vemos que Dios es muy apasionado por nosotros. Dios está profundamente comprometido, como el dueño que diligentemente prepara el viñedo. Dios tiene expectativas muy altas que el viñedo produzca el fruto de una sociedad justa y compasiva. Dios (en la lectura de Isaías) está muy decepcionado y enojado que el viñedo haya producido un mal fruto, o (en la lectura de Mateo) que haya sido como un premio que deba ser confiscado.

Hay más capítulos en la historia más extensa que también necesitan ser contados. Después en Isaías y en Mateo vemos que Dios también es profundamente compasivo y muy dispuesto a perdonar. Isaías habla del cuidado compasivo de Dios, como una madre ama a sus hijos (Isaías 49). En Mateo, Jesús en la cruz demuestra de manera dramática el perdón de Dios. Por lo tanto, Dios es muy paciente y resiliente. Dios nunca se da vencido por nosotros. Dios continúa persiguiéndonos, ofreciéndonos amor y gracia, ahora y siempre.

LA PIEDRA ANGULAR

Las extraordinarias conclusiones de las dos historias de los viñedos deben significar para nosotros su permanencia en nuestras memorias. Efectivamente, Dios espera mucho de nosotros, vivir de manera justa y misericordiosa. Sin embargo, sabemos que Dios no es susceptible e impaciente, así como podemos ser guiados a imaginar si leemos estas historias fuera de contexto. Las historias nos invitan a reflexionar una vez más en quién es Dios. Especialmente durante estos tiempos de dificultad o de fracasos en nuestras vidas, quizá podemos preguntarnos cómo podríamos entender mejor el misterio de Dios.

El testimonio del Nuevo Testamento es claro. Si quieres saber cómo es Dios, mira a Jesús. Mira a su paciencia y misericordia. Mira a su compasión por el sufrimiento, su pasión por la justicia. Mira también a la alegría y experiencia sanadora de aquellos que están en su presencia. Así como el Evangelio de hoy indica, Jesús es la piedra angular, el punto de inicio para poder llegar a conocer a nuestro Dios.

Lecturas de hoy: Is 5:1-7; Sal 80 (79):9,12-16,19-20; Filip 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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
Terri Lopez	Antonio Aguero	Cynthia Sandoval
San Juanita Sanchez	Elvia Diaz	Ismael Montañez
Jessica Diaz	M/M Margarito Compean	Estella De La Vega
Jesse Diaz	Roberta Bobbie Garza	Diana Calderon
Paul and Grace Salinas	Frances Ramirez	Susan Perez
Baby Alexander Gonzalez	Alex Tapia	Guadalupe Huerta
Alejandro De Leon	Norma Morgan	Arleen Soliz
Jimmie Rodriguez	Laura Reyes Gutierrez	Yvonne Peña

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

SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 1, 2017

Festival Mass	-\$ 628.00 (071)	
8:00 AM	-\$ 683.50 (087)	
10:00 AM	-\$1,121.00 (155)	
12:00 NOON	-\$ 597.02 (097)	
Capital Improvements	-\$ 618.06	Second Collection
2016 Gift of Giving	-\$ 154.91	
School Mass	-\$ 60.60	
Mail In	-\$ 225.00	
TOTAL COLLECTED	-\$4,088.08	

Second Collection

* October 8, 2017 - Hope for the Future

2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 9/30 -10/1, 2017	\$ 154.91
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$12,813.95

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 7

5:00 p.m. † Aurora & Manuel Campos - Campos Family
† Mary Orosco - Genova Reyes
† Gloria Ybañez - Ken & Sylvia
In Thanksgiving † Joel Benavides - Mom & Dad
Health † George Abrego - Joe & Elva Benavides

Sunday, October 8

8:00 a.m. Guadalupe Mass
† Ernestina Huerta - Husband & Children
† Juan Garcia - Guadalupe
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Librada Cadena - Grace Salinas
10:00 a.m. † Jose Luis Camas - Family
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Juan C. Velasquez - Daughter
† Fr. Eddie & Ernest Bernal - Cousin Noní
12:00 p.m. † Juan & Juanita Gamez - Children
† Magdalena Rodriguez - Rodriguez Family

Monday, October 9

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 10

12:00 p.m. † Daniel Traspeña, Jr.

Wednesday, October 11

8:15 a.m. † Isabel Urrea

Thursday, October 12

12:00 p.m. For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, October 13

12:00 p.m. † Guadalupe G. Flores

Saturday, October 14

5:00 p.m. † Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez - Virginia & Lydia

Sunday, October 15

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Juan Silva - Family
10:00 a.m. † Eloy Alvarado - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Jose Antonio Mesenberg - Sister
† Gladys Lares - M/M Jimmie Rodriguez
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family
12:00 p.m. † Guadalupe Gonzalez - Family
† Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom

In Loving Memory

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

† Isabel C. Urrea

Sanctuary Light

Our Lady of the Rosary

† Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez

† Daniel Traspeña, Jr.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

Once again it is very sad and unfortunate that our great country is experiencing a mass shooting, the worst in modern history. Let us pray for the victims and families of everyone involved. We also pray for first responders, police officers, medical teams and volunteers. ***"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me."*** Matthew 25:45. Let us keep hope alive. May God bless our great country and all those affected by this terrible tragedy.

Our Fall Festival 2017 was very successful! Everyone worked so hard to assure the success of our festival and to celebrate the precious gift of our Saint John Berchmans community. All the glory is given to Our Creator for the gift of life, strength and the gift of faith and community. I would like to thank our chairpersons Diego Torres, Rosario Gomez, Richard Sustaita for their tireless work and leadership in planning this successful festival. I thank all the organizations and ministries for their contributions. To all the individuals and parishioners who contributed with monetary donations, soda, water, food, BINGO prizes, selling raffle tickets, manual work, setting up booths, cooking or counting money to assure that everyone had a good time. My appreciation also goes to my office staff for accommodating the planning and preparation for the success of the Festival. Please see the insert for a complete financial report.

I thank Diego Torres who just served his last term as co-chairperson this year. I welcome our new chairpersons for our Fall Festival 2018: Rosario and Jaime Gomez, Sarah and Richard Sustaita, Sylvia and Ken Lore, Angie and John Diaz. We pray for our new co-chairpersons to be successful in their endeavors.

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller has launched an "Andale Capital Campaign" with the purpose of focusing on the needs of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, in particular, our parish community. We hope to focus on the construction of a gymnasium, that will benefit both the church and the school. Your full collaboration will assure the success of the project.

I invite all of you to continue praying and assisting the victims of the earthquake in Mexico City, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose and Maria, in any capacity possible. Much appreciation is given to those of you who have contributed monetary donations and items needed to alleviate the pain and the suffering of the victims. May God bless the great state of Texas and all those affected by this tragedy.

May God bless you always,

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

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7).

Psalm - The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Psa 80)

Second Reading - God's peace will guard your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-9).

Gospel - The kingdom of God will be given to those who will produce its fruit (Matthew 21:33-43)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectioy for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Jon 1:1 - 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
 Tue: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
 Wed: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
 Thu: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13
 Fri: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
 Sat: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28
 Sun: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]

Events of the Week ~ October 8 - 15, 2017

Sunday, October 8

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
 8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
 10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
 11:00 a.m. - 4:00pm SJB School Fundraiser Burger-in-a -Bag
 12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

Monday, October 9

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service**
 6:30 p.m. Women in the Bible - Cafeteria

Tuesday, October 10

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group - Church

Wednesday, October 11

8:15 a.m. **Communion Service** - Church
 9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
 7:00 p.m. ACTS Core - Cafeteria

Thursday, October 12

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
 12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Ultreya English - School

Friday, October 13

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

Saturday, October 14

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

Sunday, October 15

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
 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. SJB SCHOOL BINGO -
 School Cafeteria



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2017
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL IS

HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE

WILL HOLD BINGOS ON:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

COST: \$6.00 per card from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and will be held in the school cafeteria. Please join us and support our school!

We will have food, refreshments and baked good available for purchase. For more information, please contact the school at 210.433-0411.

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

Our parish is always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. And ministries assigned please make note of your day and mark your calendars. If interested, please contact Stella Rico at 464-0207 or join us at 8:00 am in the church foyer on Saturday mornings. Spread the word!

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

October 14, 2017 - Martinez & Santoyo families

GRANDPARENTS RAISING CHILDREN

Our Grandparents Raising Children in Houston need your help. They have been displaced by Hurricane Harvey.

These grandparents have stepped up to care for their grandchildren when parents are not able to. They are living on fixed incomes and now they have lost everything. So we are kindly asking for your help for the following items: blankets, sweat pants, socks, diapers, baby formula and t-shirts. And if you have not cleaned out your closet now is a good time. For more information, please contact **Delia Martinez**, Grandparent Advocate for the State of Texas. Call me at **210.913.5041** and I will meet you for pick ups.



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to 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



2017 ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC CHURCH FESTIVAL WINNERS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

1st Prize	\$5,000 Visa Gift Card	Elizabeth Carrasco
2nd Prize	\$2,500 Diamond Pendant	Josie Segura
3rd Prize	\$1,000 Visa Gift Card	Connie Peché
4th Prize	\$1,000 Visa Gift Card	Maria Muñoz
5th Prize	\$ 500 Visa Gift Card	Martin Gonzalez
6th Prize	\$ 500 Visa Gift Card	Cynthia Pesqueda
7th Prize	\$ 250 Visa Gift Card	Jesus Rodriguez
8th Prize	\$ 250 Visa Gift Card	Jesse Garcia
9th Prize	\$ 100 Visa Gift Card	Adam Torres
10th Prize	\$ 100 Visa Gift Card	Erica Montevirgen

Father Fidele THANKS EVERYONE for their hard work and support of our festival and selling of raffle tickets. Congratulations to all the lucky winners!!

October

Month of the
Holy Rosary



As we enter the month of October we are reminded that it is the month dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God, under the title "Our Lady of the Rosary." The emphasis on praying the Rosary is centered in Christ's mysteries, which are updated and illuminate the mystery of our own life. The rosary models the spiritual journey of Mary, according to the life of her own Son, Jesus.

Our St. John Berchmans Guadalupana organization invites you and encourages families to attend together to discover the importance of Mary in our lives by attending the recitation of the Rosary during the month of October.

Join us: Monday - Friday at 6:00 p.m. in the Grotto. In case of inclement weather we meet in the Parish Chapel.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL EVENTS:

CLASS OF 2018 will be hosting a **BURGER IN A BAG** (includes chips and a drink). Cost is \$7.00 and will be held Sunday, October 8, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. We will also have delicious baked goods for sale. Proceeds will go towards 8th grade Boston/New York trip. Please come by and support our students.

11th ANNUAL RUN WITH A MISSION 5K FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017 at Mission County Park #1. SJB school will receive \$15.00 for each participant who registers by **Friday, October 13th**. Please support our efforts and for more information call 433.0411.



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE/CATHOLIC SCHOOL SPECIAL COLLECTION

The special collection for this weekend is in support of Hope for the Future and the Catholic schools and students within our community. Your support will help fund tuition assistance and grants for the schools in the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

Your contribution will help more children receive a priceless Catholic school education where they can grow academically and spiritually. Thank you for your support!

MILITARY VETERANS FOR CHRIST

A call to all male or female veterans looking to enhance their relationship with Christ and their families. The Military Veterans for Christ organization invites each of you to participate in a retreat designed to provide: information about services available, a better understanding of religious life, a forum for prayer and contemplation and to provide a safe atmosphere for personal healing, if needed, through sharing. The retreat is held on the Veterans Day weekend from 9 through 12 November. Come rekindle the spirit of your military experience. Applications are available in the Parish office or in the church foyer and must be submitted to the address listed. If you have any questions please contact Roy Sanchez at 210.433.7068, or email: rsanchez34@satx.rr.com