

# Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 15, 2017

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## A STARK CONTRAST

The parable in today's Gospel is like a political cartoon or graphic novel. It uses exaggerations and odd plot twists to convey its message. There is little attempt to be "realistic." Jesus compares the rejection of him by the chief priests and elders to an outrageous imaginary scene. To its audience, it would be deeply offensive that anyone summoned to a royal wedding banquet would violently reject the invitation. This would indicate a full revolt against the king. The parable was a blunt accusation against the religious leaders.

In comparison, the people found on the streets who go to the banquet are like those who accepted Jesus during his ministry. They are the "unimportant" people who are surprisingly receptive to him. Matthew draws a stark contrast to accuse the priests and elders and to uplift ordinary people who recognize the presence of God in Jesus.

## RECEIVING GOD'S JOY

The final scene introduces the unacceptably dressed banquet guest. Matthew is concerned here about the full readiness of those who accept God's invitation. A superficial assent or participation is not enough. God wants our whole selves invested here.

Jesus' followers are to be prepared for the banquet, as suggested by the wedding garment. The meaning of the garment is not clearly explained. It's helpful to recall that a wedding banquet, then and now, is a profoundly joyous event. Being dressed appropriately means being ready to celebrate. Our hearts must be ready to receive God's joy.

Indeed, it can be difficult to be receptive to joy when we have been hurt in many ways during our lives. Our pain may cause us into close up, pulling away from others and away from God. It helps to remember that our God overflows with joy and is eager to share the fullness of joy with us. In our times of suffering, God actively invites us to receive this joy, and in turn to share it with others.

Today's Readings: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10]

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## UN FUERTE CONTRASTE

La parábola de hoy en el Evangelio es como una caricatura política o novela gráfica. Utiliza exageraciones y extraños giros de la historia para transmitir su mensaje. Hay una poca intención de ser "realista". Jesús compara el rechazo hacia él por parte del sumo sacerdote y los ancianos a una escena imaginaria escandalosa. Para su audiencia, hubiera sido profundamente ofensivo que alguien asistiera a un banquete real y luego violentamente rechazara la invitación. Esto indicaría una rebelión total en contra del rey. La parábola fue una acusación contundente en contra de los líderes religiosos.

En comparación, las personas encontradas en la calle que iban al banquete eran como aquellas que aceptaron a Jesús durante su ministerio. Ellos son las personas "sin importancia" que sorpresivamente son receptivas hacia él. Mateo marca un fuerte contraste para acusar a los sacerdotes y ancianos y elevar a las personas ordinarias que reconocen la presencia de Dios en Jesús.

## RECIBIENDO LA ALEGRÍA DE DIOS

La escena final presenta al invitado que esta vestido de manera inapropiada para el banquete. Mateo está interesado en una lectura completa de aquellos que acepta la invitación de Dios. Un consentimiento superficial o participación no es suficiente. Dios quiere todo nuestro ser dedicado aquí.

Los seguidores de Jesús deben prepararse para el banquete, como sugiere una ocasión de boda. El significado de la boda no está claramente explicado. Ayuda a recordar que una boda, entonces y ahora, es un evento de profunda alegría. Estar vestidos apropiadamente significa estar listos para celebrar. Nuestros corazones deben estar listos para recibir la alegría de Dios.

En efecto, puede ser difícil ser receptivo a la alegría cuando hemos sido lastimados en muchas maneras durante nuestra vida. Nuestro dolor puede causar que nos cerremos, que nos alejemos de otras personas y de Dios. Es de ayuda recordar que nuestro Dios abunda de alegría y está ansioso de compartir la plena alegría con nosotros. En nuestro tiempo de sufrimiento, Dios activamente nos invita a recibir esta alegría, y a cambio compartirla con los demás.

Lecturas de hoy: Isa 25:6-10a; Sal 23 (22):1-6; Flp 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 [1-10] 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

### OCTOBER 7 - 8, 2017

5:00 PM	-\$1,062.27	(071)
8:00 AM	-\$ 730.21	(111)
10:00 AM	-\$1,186.57	(146)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,483.85	(286)
Children's Basket	-\$ 37.26	
2016 Gift of Giving	-\$ 230.85	
School Mass	-\$ 122.53	
Mail In	-\$ 528.00	
<b>TOTAL COLLECTED</b>	<b>-\$5,381.54</b>	
<b>Hope for the Future</b>	<b>-\$ 589.60</b>	<b>2nd Collection</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$5,971.14</b>	

## 2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 10/7 - 8, 2017	\$ 230.85
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,044.80</b>



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, October 14

5:00 p.m. † Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez - Virginia & Lydia  
Gift of Life Mary Jane Ontiveros - Sister

### 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

### Monday, October 16

12:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, October 17

12:00 p.m. † David Solis

### Wednesday, October 18

8:15 a.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family

### Thursday, October 19

12:00 p.m. † Manuel Hinojosa - Family  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
† Andrew Mora - Family

### Friday, October 20

12:00 p.m. For All Names On Our Parish Prayer List

### Saturday, October 21

5:00 p.m. † George Mendiola - Family  
† Gonzalo Mendiola - Family  
† Rebecca Bernal - Family  
† Sylvia Gallegos - Family

### Sunday, October 22

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Manuel L. Galan - Wife

10:00 a.m. † Ruben Reyes - Wife  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family

12:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

## In Loving Memory

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

† **Dionicio Carmona Garcia**

### Sanctuary Light



**Our Lady of the Rosary**



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

Our school, St. John Berchmans, has organized five BINGOS for the remainder of the year commencing this Sunday, October 15th from 2:00 to 6:00 in the afternoon. Everyone is highly encouraged to be most supportive of our school by attending each BINGO session. Convey an invitation to your friends and family so as to offer support and thus improving the infrastructure and betterment of our school in order to compete at a higher level.

I would also like to introduce and welcome Mr. Philip Saldaña as the new manager of our hall. Our hall is available for all celebratory rentals at a very reasonable price. The rental money will help enhance our school and its infrastructure. Please consider our hall for all fellowship occasions and spread the word regarding its rental availability.

Once again it is very sad and unfortunate that our great country has experienced a mass shooting—the worst in modern history. Let us continue praying for the victims and families of everyone involved. We also pray for first responders, police officers, medical teams and volunteers. ***“Whatever 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.

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** - On this mountain the LORD will make for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines (Isaiah 25:6-10a).

**Psalm** - I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** - God will supply whatever you need (Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20).

**Gospel** - I have prepared my banquet, and everything is ready. Come to the feast! (Matthew 22:1-14 [1-10]). The English translation of the Palm Responsory from *Lectioary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32  
Tue: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41  
Wed: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9  
Thu: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-6ab; Lk 11:47-54  
Fri: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7  
Sat: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12  
Sun: Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21

## Events of the Week ~ October 15 - 22, 2017

### 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 - Cafeteria

### Monday, October 16

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

### Tuesday, October 17

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

### Wednesday, October 18

8:15 a.m. **Communion Service** - Church  
9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite  
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Parent Mtg. - Church

### Thursday, October 19

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

### Friday, October 20

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

### Saturday, October 21

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

### Sunday, October 22

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, OCTOBER 19, 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.  
**LOCATION:** SJB school cafeteria.

Please join us and support our school! We will have food, refreshments and baked goods. For more information 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 21, 2017 - Vigil Team/Good Samaritan

## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL EVENTS:



**11th ANNUAL RUN WITH A MISSION 5K FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017** at Mission County Park #1.

Please support our efforts and for more information call the school @ 210.433.0411.



## 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.

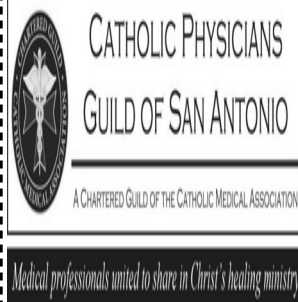


## NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

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



## WHITE MASS FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller will celebrate Mass on **Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church.**

The mass is for all health care providers: Doctors, Nurses, Dentists, Therapists, Pharmacists, healthcare students...All health care workers are welcome to attend.

Wear your white lab coat and bring the family! For more information: [www.cathmedsa.org](http://www.cathmedsa.org) or call 210.579.0716

## GIVE THANKS THROUGH JOY

"Joy is prayer: joy is strength, joy is love. God loves a cheerful giver. The best way we can show our gratitude to God and the people is to accept everything with joy." ~ St. Teresa of Calcutta

**Because you can...** On Saturday, October 21st, you can join hundreds of participants for the ALS Association's Walk to Defeat ALS at Woodlawn Lake park.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Eventually, people with ALS lose the ability to control muscle movement, which often leads to total paralysis and death. Come walk because you can and help the ALS Association raise money for a cure; or log in to [alstexas.org](http://alstexas.org) to make a donation.



**DATE: Saturday, October 21, 2017**

**WALK STARTS: 10:30 a.m.**

**LOCATION: Woodlawn Lake Park**

October

Month of the  
Holy Rosary



The month of October is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God, under the title "Our Lady of the Rosary." The emphasis of 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 son of Mary, according to the life of her own Son, Jesus.

Our St. John Berchmans Guadalupana organization invites you to join us **Monday - Friday at 6:00 p.m. in the Grotto.** (In case of inclement weather we meet in the Parish Chapel). We encourage families to attend together to discover the importance of Mary in our lives by attending the recitation of the Rosary.



## THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2017

### WORKERS AND THE UNEMPLOYED

That all **workers** may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the **unemployed** may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.

## HOMILY HELPS

Consider too the unfortunate guest not dressed in a wedding garment. When it comes to the Kingdom's wedding feast, getting in does not necessarily guarantee staying in. In fact, being let in is no big deal, since everyone else, "bad and good alike," got in, too (Matthew 22:10). We were rounded up, forcibly packed in until the hall was filled. But being welcomed by the king to stay requires a wedding garment, Paul's "Putting on the Lord Jesus Christ." (cf Romans 13:14), Revelation's "bright, clean linen garment" (19:8). And put another way: If being baptized is our "admittance ticket" to the Kingdom, then bearing witness to our baptismal covenant in self-sacrificing deeds of practical charity is absolutely required if we wish to remain to partake of the feast.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What specific threads of "charity in action" are woven together to fashion the "wedding garment" needed for my presence at Jesus' feast? Is it time I got back to work at the proverbial loom?