

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 5, 2017

www.stjohnberchmans.com

WHOEVER EXALTS SELF WILL BE HUMBLD

The scribes and Pharisees were not the first or the last to get caught up in the pursuit of recognition and prestige. Nor were they the only ones to ever become puffed up with their own worth, failing to honor God in the process. The Levites of Malachi's time stand as examples of such misguided behavior as well. Of course, this is not only an issue for religious leaders of Biblical times. Many people allow their desire for esteem to lead them to ignore the contributions of others, hoping to appear to be solely responsible for success. Yet the exaltation that was sought may backfire when those who shared in the success are rightfully acknowledged and praised. In Jesus' words, "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled."

THE GREATEST MUST SERVE

Contrast the actions of the scribes and Pharisees with what Saint Paul describes as the leaders' manner with the community in Thessalonica: they were gentle, showed affection for the people, and worked hard in order not to be burdensome. They had taken to heart Jesus' instruction to serve with humility, and as a result the Thessalonians were inspired believe the word of God. True service is inspirational. Think about the people whom we most readily admire, those who inspire us to greatness. Most often, they are people who lead, not by lording their talent or position over others, but rather by humbly modeling the sort of action to which we aspire. They do not seek adulation or praise, but receive attention because their service is so deeply focused on the other. They glimpse the face of God in those whom they serve; we glimpse the face of God in those who serve with humility. "Whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Today's Readings: Mal 1:14b - 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

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EL QUE SE ENALTECE SERÁ HUMILLADO

Los escribas y fariseos no eran los primeros ni los últimos en ser descubiertos buscando el reconocimiento y el prestigio. Ni eran los únicos en empavonarse con su propio orgullo, pero fallando en honrar a Dios en este proceso. Los levitas en tiempo de Malaquías también son el ejemplo que guía ese mal comportamiento. Desde luego, esto no es solo un asunto para los líderes religiosos en tiempos bíblicos. Muchas personas permiten que sus deseos por estima los guie a la ignorancia de las aportaciones de los demás, esperando aparecer ser solamente los responsables por el éxito. Aun el desarrollo que se buscaba puede animar el fuego cuando aquellos que comparten el éxito son reconocidos legítimamente. En las palabras de Jesús: "el que se enaltece será humillado".

EL MÁS GRANDE ENTRE USTEDES SERÁ EL QUE LOS SIRVA

Nota las diferencias entre las acciones de los escribas y fariseos con lo que san Pablo describe como el comportamiento de los líderes de la comunidad de Tesalónica: ellos eran gentiles, mostraban afecto por las personas y trabajaban duro para no ser ninguna carga. Ellos tomaron muy en serio la enseñanza de Jesús de servir con humildad y como resultado los tesalonicenses fueron inspirados en creer en la Palabra de Dios. El verdadero servicio es inspirador. Piensa en las personas en quienes nosotros realmente admiramos, aquellas que nos inspiran a ser cosas excelentes y extraordinarias. Frecuentemente hay personas que guían, pero que no delegan su talento o puestos a otras personas, sino al contrario, humildemente modelan el tipo de acción al que debemos aspirar. Ellas no buscan la adulación o la alabanza, sino recibir atención porque su servicio está profundamente enfocado en el prójimo. Ellas vislumbran el rostro de Dios a quien sirven; nosotros vislumbramos el rostro de Dios en quienes sirven con humildad. "El que se humilla será ensalzado".

Lecturas de hoy: Mal 1:14b - 2:2b, 8-10; Sal 131: 1-3; 1 Tes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Melissa Rodriguez	Joe Moreno	Eric Nave
Armando Rodriguez	Clara Perez	Sofia Olivarez
Norma Morgan	Rick Contreras	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez
Margaret Perez	Brandon Rivas	Rosalinda Rodriguez
Angie Lopez	Liz Quintero	Connie Cardenas
Maria Zapata	Justin Rey Martinez	Rosalinda Esparza
Ruben Tey	Antonio Aguero	Cynthia Sandoval
Terri Lopez	Elvia Diaz	Ismael Montañez
San Juanita Sanchez	M/M Margarito Compean	Estella De La Vega
Jessica Diaz	Roberta Bobbie Garza	Diana Calderon
Jesse Diaz	Frances Ramirez	Susan Perez
Paul and Grace Salinas	Alex Tapia	Guadalupe Huerta
Baby Alexander Gonzalez	Norma Morgan	Arleen Soliz
Alejandro De Leon	Laura Reyes Gutierrez	Alfredo Moreno
Delia Riojas	Mary Garza	Belen Granados
Petra Chavez	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.	Delia Lopez
Joe & Cecilia Espinosa	Elisa Casanova	Abigail Rodriguez
Pablo Rodriguez	Alexander Hernandez	Rose Loa Gallegos
Dolores Gonzalez	Pedro Caballero	

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 28 - 29, 2017

5:00 PM	-\$ 948.00	(081)
8:00 AM	-\$ 293.50	(051)
10:00 AM	-\$1,400.00	(131)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 938.00	(185)
Religious Education	-\$ 364.01	2nd Collection
2016 Gift of Giving	-\$ 167.00	
School Mass	-\$ 84.70	
Mail In	-\$ 136.56	
TOTAL COLLECTED	-\$4,331.77	

Second Collection Nov. 4 - 5 - Capital Improvements

2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 10/28 - 29, 2017	\$ 167.00
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$13,637.18



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 4

5:00 p.m. † Raymundo Cruz - Cruz Family
 † Irma Randolph - Victoria Sanchez

Sunday, November 5 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Juan Silva - Family
 † Eloy Alvarado - Friend
 † Micaela Vargas - Hernandez Family

10:00 a.m. † Alfonso Grothues - M/M Jimmie Rodriguez
 † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
 † Trinidad & Olivia Garcia - Family
 † Esther Lopez - Family
 † Larry Blancas - Family

12:00 p.m. † Yvonne Ford - Tillie Hernandez

Monday, November 6

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 7 - ELECTION DAY

12:00 p.m. † Ramiro Huerta - Familia
 † Vicente Alvarez - Familia

Wednesday, November 8

8:15 a.m. For the Students of St. John Berchmans School

Thursday, November 9

12:00 p.m. † Juanita Garcia - Willie Garcia
 † Angela Cervantes - Familia
 † Patrosinio Lopez - Familia

Friday, November 10 - MEMORIAL ST. LEO THE GREAT

12:00 p.m. † Jose Melendez, † Cleotilde, Isabel and
 Berta Melendez - Familia

Saturday, November 11 - VETERAN'S DAY

5:00 p.m. † Father Eddie Bernal - Cruz Family
 † Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez - Virginia & Lydia

Sunday, November 12

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. † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
 † Ryan Sanchez - Family
 † Jimmie Rodriguez - Ponce Family
 † Irene Tello & Nieves Barrientes - Sister

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

In Loving Memory

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

† **Ninfa T. Cordova**

Sanctuary Light

For Holy Souls in Purgatory



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

It is with immense pride that I announce that our school and St. John Berchmans community has risen to the challenge by exceeding the goal of 300 registrants for the 5K run organized by Hope for the Future. As of today, the number of individuals registered for the competition is 390. We are leading the chart followed by St James with 371 registrants and St. Mary Magdalen in third position with 236 registrants. For every registrant we got back \$15 for a total of \$5,850 for 390 registrants. We also won a contest for the "Spirit Stick" that awarded us an additional \$2,000. The 5K run has given the school a total of \$7,850 to be used to renew and put brand new electrical fixtures in our school. I thank all of you who participated in this campaign and for supporting our Catholic school of St. John Berchmans. This campaign is a great learning experience that proves what we are capable of achieving if we unite and determined to succeed. I hope and pray we continue to work harder to increase the enrollments because the survival of our school depends on this.

As Veteran's Day is approaching, Saturday, November 11th is designated as the official time to honor and commemorate our heroes. We, at St. John Berchmans Church, will celebrate and honor our heroes on Sunday, November 12th at the 12:00 noon mass. It is rightful that we each appreciate the valor exhibited by our brothers and sisters who have bravely chosen to defend our country and the liberties we enjoy daily. Please take the time to thank our veterans for their sacrifices as well as their families who support them.

Our school, St. John Berchmans, has organized three BINGOS for the remainder of the year that commenced Sunday, October 15th and are held 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 improving the infrastructure and betterment of our school in order to compete at a higher level.

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.

May God bless you always,

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

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - Do we not have one father? Did not the one God create us? (Malachi 1:14, 2:2b, 8-10).

Psalm - In you, Lord, I have found my peace (Psalm 131).

Second Reading - You have received not a human word but the word of God (1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13).

Gospel - Call no one your father on earth; you have but one Father, the one in heaven (Matt 23:1-12).

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: Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
 Tue: Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcde-3; Lk 14:15-24
 Wed: Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
 Thu: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
 Fri: Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
 Sat: Rom 16:3-9, 16-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15
 Sunday: Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

Events of the Week ~ November 5 - 12, 2017

Sunday, November 5

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
 1:30 p.m. Men's ACTS -Room 1
 2:00 p.m. SJB School Bingo - Cafeteria

Monday, November 6

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

Tuesday, November 7

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

Wednesday, November 8

8:15 a.m. **Children's Mass** - Church
 9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
 7:00 p.m. ACTS Core - Cafeteria

Thursday, November 9

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, November 10

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

Saturday, November 11

10:00 a.m. Altar Servers Training - Church
 5:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
 6:30 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner - Cafeteria

Sunday, November 12

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, NOVEMBER 9, 2017
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL EVENTS:



⇒ **HOSTING BINGOS ON THE**

FOLLOWING DATES:

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 support our school and students. For additional information call the school at 210.433.0411. Thank you!

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

Our parish is always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. **We are kindly reminding Ministries assigned for cleaning to please show up.** Stella Rico leads our parish in this important ministry and we meet at 8:00 am in the church foyer on Saturday mornings. Thank you!

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

November 11, 2017 - Knights of Columbus/Ultreya

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time; National Vocation Awareness Week; Daylight Saving Time ends

Tuesday: Election Day

Thursday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Friday: St. Leo the Great

Saturday: St. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 5, 2017

The greatest among you must be your servant
 - Matthew 23:11



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for 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 210434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

DATE: Saturday, November 11, 2017

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

DEADLINE TO RSVP: Wednesday, November 8, 2017

LOCATION: SJB Cafeteria

Please contact the Parish office at (210) 434-3247 to confirm your attendance.

GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS PRESENTATION OFFERED THROUGH PORTER LORING FAMILY CARE SERVICES

The holidays are an especially hard time when grieving the loss of a loved one. The season renews memories, family ties, and traditions. We become painfully aware that our special loved one is no longer present. This is often difficult for families. The pain of the loss is confused with the spirit of the season.

"Grief and the Holidays" is a workshop designed to help families who are grieving to better understand the grief process, how it affects us during the holidays and how we can use this special time to continue to heal.

Please join us on **Thursday, November 16, 2017 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at St. John Berchmans Church and will be presented by Don Bailey, Chaplain.** Please contact our Parish Office to reserve a spot.



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Christians in Asia

That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

SJB YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER

Our Youth Ministry will be taking orders for:

⇒ **BUÑUELOS** Donation: \$6.00 per dozen

Delivery Dates: On the following Thursdays: December 3rd, 10th or 17th **AND**

⇒ **HOLIDAY BREADS** (Banana, Zucchini and Pumpkin) Donation: \$6.00 per loaf

Delivery Dates: Sunday, November 19 - Tuesday, November 21

Questions? Contact Elida Gonzales at 210)683.6279. Please support this important ministry!



ANNUAL CHURCH TURKEY BINGO coming up on Sunday, November 19, 2017 starting at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in the school cafeteria. Please make plans to attend we will have great prizes and delicious food.

VETERAN'S DAY 2017

Veteran's Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans and is an official United States holiday which honors all people who have served in the armed services.

We, at St. John Berchmans Church, will celebrate and honor our heroes on Sunday, November 12 at the 12:00 noon mass. We are thankful for the sacrifices and the service of all veterans and their families.



THE GREATEST AMONG US

Whom do you admire? Is it the President of the United States or a movie star or a billionaire? These are people whom the world exalts as great. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, they have places of honor wherever they go. Would you like to follow in their footsteps?

The scriptures for today offer different examples for us to follow. Jesus tells us that the greatest among us are the servants. These are the people we are to honor and imitate. We are called to be like Paul, who worked hard to serve the needs of his communities, and Jesus, who gave his life in service to the world.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When I think about the ministry I undertake in my community of faith, how can I ensure that it always reflects the word of God and not my own agenda?