

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 12, 2017

www.stjohnberchmans.com

DON'T BE FOOLISH

What is foolish? What is wise? Most of us could name an occasion or two in which we have done something foolish. We did not stop to consider the consequences of our actions and regretted them in the end. The sort of foolishness we are considering here, however, is more than simple impulsive behavior and has eternal consequences. To be foolish in the eyes of God is to ignore the ways in which we know we are called to behave—toward God, others, and ourselves. The five foolish bridesmaids did not fail in their duties through their actions, but rather through inaction. Like them, we may fail to be ready to meet our Lord, through inaction as much as through our actions. In these final weeks of the liturgical year, we are urged to take stock. How are we, or are we not, living as people whose faith directs our lives? Are we foolish through sinful action or inaction? Do we care for others and for ourselves, as we know we ought? Or do we act instead as though we have all the time in the world in which to embrace Christ's way of mercy, forgiveness, justice, love, and peace? Do we fail to recognize that Christian discipleship is a way of life?

BE WISE, BE READY

This urging to be ready for Christ's return is not intended to frighten us, but rather to focus our attention on the things that matter. Wisdom lies in seeking God in all things. With the Psalmist, the wise person prays, "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God" (Psalm 63:2b). Christ's way is not hidden from us, as though we are playing a game of hide and seek. It is "readily perceived" (Wisdom 6:12) by all who love God. We know the way through the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, Christ's great command to wash one another's feet, to love and serve with glad hearts. To act accordingly is to be wise, and those who are wise will be ready.

Today's Readings: Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18 [13-14]; Mt 25:1-13

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NO SER TONTO

¿Qué significa ser tonto? ¿Qué significa ser inteligente? Todos nosotros podemos nombrar una ocasión o dos en la que hayamos hecho algo tonto. No nos detuvimos a considerar las consecuencias de nuestras acciones o de lamentarnos al final por esas acciones. Sin embargo, el tipo de tonterías que aquí estamos considerando, es más que un simple comportamiento impulsivo que tiene consecuencias eternas. Ser ignorante ante los ojos de Dios es ignorar sus caminos los cuales nos enseñan cómo debemos comportarnos, ante Dios, nuestros prójimos y nosotros mismos. Las cinco jóvenes vírgenes no fallaron en cumplir sus responsabilidades, sino que fallaron en lo que no hicieron. Como ellas, fallamos en estar listos para el encuentro con nuestro Señor, ya sea por lo que no hacemos o por lo que hacemos. En estas últimas semanas del año litúrgico se nos urge hacer un balance. ¿Quiénes somos, quiénes no somos, viviendo como unas personas con una fe que dirige nuestras vidas? ¿Somos tontos por los pecados que comentemos o por cosas que no hicimos? ¿Cuidamos nuestros prójimos o a nosotros mismos como deberíamos? ¿O actuamos como si tuviéramos todo el tiempo del mundo para encaminarnos y andar por la ruta de Cristo de misericordia, perdón, justicia, amor y paz? ¿Fallamos en reconocer que el discipulado cristiano es un camino para la vida?

SÉ SABIO, PREPÁRATE

La urgencia de estar listo para la venida de Cristo no tiene la intención de espantarnos, sino al contrario, de enfocar nuestra atención en cosas que importan. La sabiduría consiste en buscar a Dios en todas las cosas. Como el salmista, la persona sabia ora diciendo "mi alma está sedienta de ti, Señor" (Salmo 63:2b). El camino de Cristo no está escondido para nosotros, como si fuera un juego de busca y encuentra. "Se deja contemplar rápidamente" (Sabiduría 6:12) por todos los que aman a Dios. Conocemos los Diez Mandamientos, las Beatitudes, el mandamiento de Jesús de lavar los pies uno al otro, amar y servir con corazones alegres. Comportarse correctamente es ser sabio, y aquellas personas que sean sabias estarán listas.

Lecturas de hoy: Sab 6:12-16; Sal 63 (62):2-8; 1 Tes 4:13-18 [13-14]; Mt 25:1-13 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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	Delia Lopez
Petra Chavez	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.	Abigail Rodriguez
Joe & Cecilia Espinosa	Elisa Casanova	Rose Loa Gallegos
Pablo Rodriguez	Alexander Hernandez	Roxanne & Linus Joseph
Dolores Gonzalez	Pedro Caballero	Rocky Aranda
Joe Moreno	Eric Nave	David Colbath
Clara Perez	Sofia Olivarez	Victims of First Baptist
Rick Contreras	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez	Church of Sutherland
Brandon Rivas	Rosalinda Rodriguez	Springs, Texas

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

NOVEMBER 4 - 5, 2017

5:00 PM	-\$1,368.00	(120)
8:00 AM	-\$ 500.50	(087)
10:00 AM	-\$1,304.00	(148)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 939.00	(240)
Children's Basket	-\$ 34.00	
Capital Improvements	-\$ 788.91	2nd Collection
All Saint's Day	-\$ 238.00	
All Soul's Day	-\$ 575.00	
2017 Gift of Giving	-\$ 186.42	
School Mass	-\$ 88.43	
Mail In	-\$ 376.09	
TOTAL COLLECTED	-\$6,398.35	

2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 11/4-5, 2017	\$ 186.42
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$13,823.60

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 11 - VETERAN'S DAY

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

Sunday, November 12 - HEALING AFTER ALL MASSES

8:00 a.m. Guadalupana Mass
† Ernestina Huerta - Husband & Children
† Juan Garcia - Guadalupanas
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Guadalupe Cadena - Grace Salinas

10:00 a.m. † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Family
† Jimmie Rodriguez - Ponce Family

12:00 p.m. † Irene Tello & Nieves Barrientes - Sister
† Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom

Monday, November 13

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 14

12:00 p.m. † Ninfa T. Cordova

Wednesday, November 15

8:15 a.m. For the Victims of First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas

Thursday, November 16

12:00 p.m. † Jeannie Ybarra

Friday, November 17

12:00 p.m. † David Solis

Saturday, November 18

5:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family
† Frank Valdivia - Campos Family
† Carlos A. Cardenas - Wife & Family

Sunday, November 19

8:00 a.m. † Manuela Sanchez - Frances Ramirez
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Pete Morales - Penny
† Alejandro De Leon - Rose Rodriguez
Perla Rose Treviño - Nora Treviño

Gift of Life
10:00 a.m. † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Family
† Jimmie Rodriguez - Rosalinda Garza
12:00 p.m. † Mario M. Moreno - Wife & Sons

In Loving Memory

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

† Josephine P. Swisher
† Maria Belen Granados
† Maria Q. Lopez

Sanctuary Light

For Holy Souls in Purgatory
† Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

This weekend we celebrate and honor our veterans. 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.

Once again, it is very sad and unfortunate that our great country is experiencing a mass shooting. This past Sunday, November 5th, a gunman took the life of 26 innocent Christian people including children ranging in age from 18th months to 72 years and wounded another 20 persons gathered to worship in the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, Texas. 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 tragedy.

I invite all of you to join me in the Best of Greece Pilgrimage to walk "In the Footsteps of St. Paul." We will visit Athens, Corinth, Delphi, Thessaloniki and Philippi. Please sign up for a 9 day pilgrimage to Greece from April 9th to April 17th, 2018 for \$3,229 per person which includes: round trip airfare from San Antonio, first class/select hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, entrance fees, comprehensive sightseeing and much more. Join us for this trip of a lifetime!

An invitation is extended to all of you who are hurting from the loss of a loved one during these upcoming holidays. Please consider attending a workshop organized in assisting you, and your family, deal with grief and loss scheduled for Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 in the evening in the school cafeteria.

Our school, St. John Berchmans, has scheduled two BINGOS for the remainder of the year. Everyone is highly encouraged to be 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.

May God bless you always,

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

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - Wisdom is easily discerned by those who love her (Wisdom 6:12-16).

Psalm - My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading - Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died (1 Thes 4:13-18)

Gospel - Stay awake! You know neither the day nor the hour (Matt 25:1-13). 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: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6
Tue: Wis 2:23 -3:9; Ps 34:2-3, 16-19; Lk 17:7-10
Wed: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19
Thu: Wis 7:22;8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25
Fri: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37
Sat: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43;
Sun: Prv 31:10-13-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

Events of the Week ~ November 12 - 19, 2017

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

Monday, November 13

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

Tuesday, November 14

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

Wednesday, November 15

8:15 a.m. **Children's Mass** - Church
9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite

Thursday, November 16

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Ultreya English - School
7:00 p.m. Bereavement Session - SJB Cafeteria

Friday, November 17

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Guadalupanas Meeting - SJB Cafeteria

Saturday, November 18

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

Sunday, November 19

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 16, 2017
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL EVENTS:

HOSTING BINGOS ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

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. Questions? Please 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 18, 2017 - CYO

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THIS WEEKEND NOVEMBER 11 - 12, 2017, WILL BE FOR THE TURKEY BINGO!

This will help the church defray costs for the Bingo. Thank you for your support!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
Wednesday: St. Albert the Great
Thursday: St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude
Friday: St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Saturday: The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne; Blessed Virgin Mary



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

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!



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.

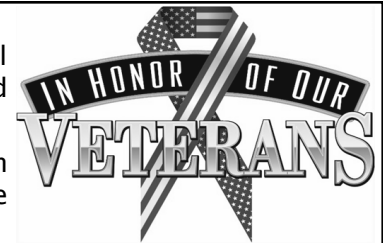
"Grief and the Holidays" is a workshop designed to help families who are grieving to better understand the grief process, how it affects us during the holidays and how we can use this special time to continue to heal.

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

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.



ANNUAL CHURCH TURKEY BINGO coming up on Sunday, November 19, 2017 beginning at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in the school cafeteria. Cost: \$7.00 per ticket specials are separate. Please make plans to attend we will have great prizes and delicious food.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS MEN'S ACTS

Will be hosting a Retreat on December 7 - 10, 2017. We are now accepting registrations for the Men's retreat and is open to individuals 18 years and older (must be out of high school). Cost is \$170.00 deposit of \$30 to hold a spot. Please contact the Parish Office at 210.434.3247 for further information.



Adoration • Community • Theology • Service

WISDOM

We consider wisdom today. The first reading from the book of Wisdom presents this precious gift as a feminine spirit, a very desirable virtue sought by many and graciously present to all who seek her. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable to illustrate wisdom in a practical, measurable way. The wise will conserve their resources, use them prudently, and mark the passing of time. The foolish, on the other hand, not planning ahead, will be in the dark. Both of these readings tell us how accessible wisdom is to all who simply and honestly seek it.

Paul's words to the Thessalonians are not about wisdom, but describe one result of true wisdom: To the wise person of faith even death holds no terror. Our faith in Jesus' resurrection tells us we will all one day rise to new life in Christ. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

What of ourselves? Where would we be if he came right now? Inside or out? Would tomorrow be any better than all of the tomorrows we've already had? Recall the fragile, flickering flame bestowed upon us at baptism. That flame is nourished by Wisdom. Though today's Gospel portrays the real possibility of an unhappy ending, for those of us still able to hear the warning our ending has not yet been written. God leaves that writing up to us. What are we waiting for?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What can I do this week to make myself a little more ready for the coming of the Lord?