

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2017

www.stjohnberchmans.com

THE MASTER

The master in the parable of the three servants may sound harsh, until we reflect on the story from his perspective. It was his money. He had entrusted it to the servants. They obviously knew what was expected of them, and two fulfilled their duties well. Their master was wise to entrust his treasure to them. Through their faithful stewardship, the talents increased. Hearing the parable this way, we must consider Jesus' meaning in telling it. We do not know when our Master, Christ our Lord, will return. What we do know is that God has entrusted many gifts to us and expects that we will be good and faithful stewards of them all.

THE SERVANT

The servants in the parable were entrusted with their master's wealth. The talents were not theirs, yet they were called to make the talents fruitful in their master's absence. They were expected to treat the talents as though they were their own. Our gifts—life, talents, financial and material resources—truly are God's. We are entrusted with these gifts and are expected to use them well, to make Christ's presence known in the world. Like the woman in today's passage from the book of Proverbs, we are to "work with loving hands," reaching out to the poor and extending our arms to the needy (Proverbs 31:20) through the ways in which we use the time, resources, talents, and gifts that God has entrusted to us. Notice that the third servant in the Gospel parable, the one deemed "wicked" and "lazy," did not misuse his talent. He simply buried it. What talent, gift, or resource are you using well? What gift have you buried? It is time to dig it up, dust it off, and start using it as "children of the light and children of the day" (1 Thessalonians 5:6).

Today's Readings: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

EL PATRÓN

El patrón en la parábola de los tres empleados puede escucharse severo, hasta que reflexionamos la historia desde su perspectiva. Era su dinero. Él había confiado su dinero a sus empleados. Ellos obviamente sabían que era lo que se esperaba de ellos y dos cumplieron bien su responsabilidad. El patrón fue sabio al confiarles su tesoro. Por medio de su fiel administración corresponsable, el tesoro se incrementó. Escuchando esta parábola desde esta perspectiva, debemos considerar el significado de Jesús al contarla. No sabemos cuándo nuestro patrón, Cristo nuestro Señor, regresará. Lo que sí sabemos es que Dios nos ha confiado muchos dones y espera que seamos buenos y fieles administradores corresponsables con ellos.

EL EMPLEADO

A los empleados de la parábola se les confió la riqueza del patrón. Los talentos no eran suyos, aun así, se les pidió que hicieran fructificarlos en la ausencia de su patrón. Se esperaba que trataran los talentos como si fueran de ellos. Nuestros dones: vida, talentos, recursos financieros y materiales, le pertenecen a Dios. Se nos han confiado estos dones y se espera que se les dé un buen uso, para que así sea conocida la presencia de Dios en el mundo. Como la mujer en el pasaje de hoy del libro de los Proverbios, "debemos trabajar con manos hábiles" para dar una mano a los necesitados y socorrer a los pobres (Proverbios 31:20) por la forma en como usamos el tiempo, recursos, talentos y dones que Dios no ha confiado. Pon atención que el tercer trabajador en la parábola del Evangelio, miedoso y perezoso, no malgastó su talento, simplemente lo enterró. ¿Qué talento, don o recurso estás usando bien? ¿Qué don has enterrado? Es tiempo de desenterrarlo, desempolvarlo y empezar a usarlo como "hijos de la luz y el día" (1 tesalonicenses 5:6).

Lecturas de hoy: Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Sal 128 (127):1-5; 1 Tes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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
Liz Quintero	Connie Cardenas	Lisa Marie Rodriguez

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 11 - 12, 2017

5:00 PM	-\$ 907.00	(118)
8:00 AM	-\$ 842.50	(116)
10:00 AM	-\$ 878.00	(116)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,053.00	(293)
Children's Basket	-\$ 58.00	
Turkey Bingo	-\$ 406.48	2nd Collection
2017 Gift of Giving	-\$ 157.00	
School Mass	-\$ 90.35	
Mail In	-\$ <u>672.73</u>	
TOTAL COLLECTED	-\$5,065.06	

**Second Collection November 18 - 19, 2017:
Campaign for Human Development**

2017 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 11/11-12, 2017	\$ <u>157.00</u>
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$13,980.60

Mass Intentions for the Week

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

Gift of Life Perla Rose Treviño - Nora Treviño

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

Monday, November 20

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 21

12:00 p.m. † Belen Granados

Wednesday, November 22 - MEMORIAL OF ST. CECILIA

8:15 a.m. For Healing of Justin Rey Martinez

Thursday, November 23 - THANKSGIVING DAY

10:00 a.m. † Mary Lou & Eloy Alvarado - Family
† Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom
† Jimmie Rodriguez - Wife Leonor
† Candelario & Mercedes Lopez - Olivia
† Irene Tello & Mercedes Soto - Olivia
† Nieves Barrientes & Mary Martinez - Olivia
In Thanksgiving Guadalupe - Nicole Alaniz

Friday, November 24

12:00 p.m. NO MASS

Saturday, November 25

5:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

Sunday, November 26 - CHRIST THE KING FEAST

8:00 a.m. † Rogelio Sanchez - Frances Ramirez
† Angelita Mesa - Mom & Dad
† Tina Flores - Penny

Gift of Life Carlos Treviño - Nora Treviño

10:00 a.m. † Aurelia Garai - Family
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Family
† Jimmie Sanchez - Wife & Family
† Jimmie Rodriguez - Dora Arocha
12:00 p.m. † Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom
† Frances & Joseph Soikowski - Family

In Loving Memory

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

† Alicia M. Alvarado

Sanctuary Light

For Holy Souls in Purgatory



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

As the year 2017 draws to an end and we prepare to welcome the incoming year 2018, it is time to reflect on what our parish community has accomplished in recent years. As your Pastor, I am most appreciative for the creation of a vision and accomplishing many campaigns with my leaders. You alone have inspired me to dream and to believe that anything is possible. I am extremely proud of our parish community and will always be honored to be your Pastor. Our community has generously raised more than \$14,000 for the purpose of assisting individuals and families in need to receive a Christmas celebration. If you, or a fellow parishioner wish to benefit from this you must submit an application, which will be available in the church foyer, parish office, or you may speak personally with me, Father Fidele. Friday, December 15, 2017 will be the final day to complete this request. All applications will be turned in to Father Fidele.

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!

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 — The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

Gospel — To all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance (Matthew 25:14-30).

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: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
 Tue: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
 Wed: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
 Thu: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44
 Fri: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Lk 19:45-48
 Sat: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
 Sun: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-6; 1 Cor 15:20-28; Mt 25:31-46

Events of the Week ~ November 19 - 26, 2017

Sunday, November 19 - NO CCD CLASSES

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. Turkey Bingo - Cafeteria

Monday, November 20

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

Tuesday, November 21

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

Wednesday, November 22

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

Thursday, November 23 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 a.m. **Bilingual Mass** - Church
 6:30 p.m. Ultreya English - School

Friday, November 24 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

No Mass

Saturday, November 25

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

Sunday, November 26 - NO CCD CLASSES

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
 8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
 8:00 a.m. SJB School Arts & Crafts Sale - Cafeteria
 10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
 12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
 1:30 p.m. Men's ACTS Retreat - Room 1



NO ADORATION THIS WEEK



We thank God for the gift of life, for our families, friends, country, city, community, parish and one another. Please do not take for granted all the blessings bestowed upon us. Everyday is a blessing from God.

Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 23, Friday, November 24 and Saturday, November 25.

Regular office hours will resume on **Monday, November 27th at 10 am.**



The Religious Education Department will be closed for the Thanksgiving break.

No religious education classes will be held on: Sunday, November 19 and Sunday, November 26, 2017. Classes will resume on **Sunday, December 3.** 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 25, 2017 - Eucharistic Ministers/Lectors



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!

ANNUAL CHURCH TURKEY BINGO 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.



reminder

Parishioners who wish to have their bread blessed for their Thanksgiving meals are asked to bring them to the 10 am bilingual Mass on Thursday, November 23, 2017.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL will be hosting a Christmas Arts and Craft show on Sunday, November 26, 2017 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Please come by and purchase great gifts.

If you're interested in setting up a table with your crafts, please contact Sandy Salazar at the school office 210.433.0411. Coffee and Hot Chocolate will be available as well as pastries and other items for purchase. Thank you for your support!

Christmas
Arts &
Crafts
Show

THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT is a movement of the Church to help us discover and fulfill our personal vocations. It promotes the creation of core groups of Christians who leaven their environments with the Gospel." Cursillo means 'a short course in Christianity.' Those who have lived their Cursillo are called Cursillistas. The core groups are called Ultreya, which means keep going.

We would like to invite you to come to **Ultreya in Spanish at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the Chapel** OR if you prefer, **Ultreya in English is at 6:30 pm on Thursdays in room 22 in the school building.** Come and see if Ultreya is right for you in your Journey of Faith.

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.

ACTS

Adoration • Community • Theology • Service

HOMILY HELPS

Autumn is the season for harvesting and sharing the fruits of our labors. This week's scriptures use images of the harvest, family life, pregnancy, and investment to describe the abundant harvest in the reign of God. We discover that sharing the gifts we have been given, brings eternal rewards for everyone.

Wise and foolish investments, banks, and even interest rates—today's parable permits no escape from life in the real world or from the fact that it will one day end. Those planning to be ready for the Lord's return can't just hang around waiting. In the Gospel parable a master entrusts his possessions to three servants before going on a journey. Each is given some talents. What they do with those talents determines what the master will do with them when he returns. How about us? What are we doing with our talents? How will our Master treat us when he returns?

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How am I investing those talents entrusted to me by the Master?

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"Blessed are you who fear the LORD."

— Psalm 128:1a