

# Third Sunday of Easter

## April 15, 2018

### THE SURPRISE MESSIAH

After the crucifixion of Jesus, his disciples were in despair. Not only had they seen their master's horrible death, their own lives were now at risk, for the crucifixion suggested to them that Jesus was not the awaited Messiah after all. The Messiah had been envisioned as somehow coming in power, liberating Israel from foreign domination and signaling God's long-awaited return to dwell again with Israel. The Crucifixion suggested to them the possibility of God's rejection of Jesus, or Jesus' failure to achieve God's purposes.

This is partly why the disciples were amazed when Jesus appeared. God had vindicated Jesus by raising him. The Resurrection revealed that God's promises were actually fulfilled, precisely through this death. Through the cross, God had indeed liberated the people from sin and death. God had truly returned, in Jesus and then later in the presence and activity of the Holy Spirit. The dominion of sin and death had been broken. The Resurrection was the first display of the new kingdom of God, in Jesus.

### NOT FOR HEAVEN ONLY

In the Gospel passage, Jesus specifically emphasizes his bodily presence. He invites the disciples to touch him, and he eats some fish in front of them. He makes it clear that he is not a ghost and did not shed his physicality or his humanity when he was raised. The disciples began to understand Jesus in a new way. Christians later articulated this as Jesus' bodily resurrection. The resurrected Jesus, both human and divine, reigns both in heaven and on earth.

So when Jesus sent his disciples, and today sends all of us, to proclaim God's kingdom, he never means "for heaven only." God aims to renew, not reject, human bodies, human culture, and the created universe. God's project for us is here and now, within all the limitations and messiness of daily life. We are called to care for each other, for the earth, and for all God's beloved creation.

**Today's Readings:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

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### EL SORPRENDENTE MESÍAS

Después de la crucifixión de Jesús, sus discípulos estuvieron desesperados. No solamente habían visto la terrible muerte de su maestro, sino que sus propias vidas estaban en riesgo, pues la crucifixión les sugería que Jesús no era el tan esperado mesías después de todo. Se había anticipado que el mesías llegaría al poder, liberando a Israel de la dominación extranjera e indicando el tan anhelado regreso de que Dios volvería a habitar con Israel. La crucifixión les sugería la posibilidad del rechazo de Dios hacia Jesús o del fracaso de Jesús para lograr los propósitos de Dios.

Esto es parte por qué los discípulos se asombraron cuando Jesús apareció. Dios revindicó a Jesús al resucitarlo. La Resurrección reveló que las promesas de Dios se cumplieron, precisamente por medio de la muerte. Por medio de la cruz, Dios había liberado a las personas del pecado y la muerte. Dios verdaderamente había regresado en Jesús y luego en la presencia y actividad del Espíritu Santo. El dominio del pecado y la muerte se habían roto. La Resurrección fue la primera muestra del nuevo reino de Dios en Jesús.

### NO SOLAMENTE PARA EL CIELO

En el pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús específicamente enfatiza su presencia corporal. Él invita a sus discípulos a tocarlo, y él come algo de pescado enfrente de ellos. Él claramente dice que no es un fantasma y que no se despojó de su humanidad cuando resucitó. Los discípulos empiezan a entender a Jesús de una nueva manera. Mucho tiempo después, los cristianos expresaron esto como la resurrección de Jesús en la carne. Jesús resucitado, tanto en lo humano como lo divino, reina tanto en el cielo como en la tierra.

Así que cuando Jesús envía a sus discípulos, y hoy cuando nos envía a todos, a proclamar el Reino de Dios, él nunca quiso decir "solamente para el cielo". Dios busca renovar, no rechazar el cuerpo humano, la cultura del hombre y lo creado en el universo. El proyecto de Dios para nosotros está aquí y ahora, dentro de todas las limitaciones y el desorden de la vida diaria. Estamos llamados a cuidar unos de otros, a la Tierra y toda la creación amada por Dios.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Hch 3:13-15, 17-19; Sal 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lc 24:35-48

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### Please Pray for the Sick

#### Prayer List Updates



Rosalinda Esparza	Justin Rey Martinez	Alethea R. Ybarra
Cynthia Sandoval	Brandon Rivas	Norma R. Morgan
Ismael Montañez	Christine Rosales	David Santoyo
Estella De La Vega	Yvonne Neilon	Roland Martinez, Jr.
Diana Calderon	Ricky Lopez	Roland Martinez, Sr.
Susan Perez	Yamil Traspeña	Jacinta Weddel
Guadalupe Huerta	John Ruiz	Sara Navarro
Arleen Soliz	Frances Ramirez	Chris Muñoz
Alfredo Moreno	Evelyn Parra	Roxsandra Gallardo
Delia Lopez	Coach Lisa Robertson	Elizabeth Quirotero
Abigail Rodriguez	Angie Perez	Toni Hernandez
Rose Loa Gallegos	Julio Ugalde, Jr.	Jesse Villarreal
Roxanne & Linus Joseph	Armandina Flores	John Jimenez
David Colbath	Yvonne De Leon	Rosemary Ramirez
Victims of First Baptist	Delia Riojas	Sofia Delgado
Church of Sutherland	Petra Chavez	Gloria Solis
Spring, Texas	Carmen Solis	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.
Lisa Marie Rodriguez	Enrique Cepeda	Terri Lopez
Linda Davila	Andrew Arizmendez, Jr.	F.J. 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.

### YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

APRIL 7 - 8, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$1,237.00	(120)
8:00 AM	-\$ 746.50	(113)
10:00 AM	-\$1,227.00	(108)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,405.00	(267)
Children's Basket	-\$ 2.50	
School Mass	-\$ 110.71	
Good Samaritans	-\$ 450.63	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 194.85	
Mail In	-\$1,336.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$6,710.19</b>	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

#### Second Collection

April 15, 2018 - Altar Flowers

### 2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 4/7 - 8, 2018	\$ 194.85
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,680.38</b>



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, April 14

5:00 p.m. † Robert Holbrook - Catholic Cemeteries  
 † Virginia Ramos - Family  
 † George Hernandez - Wife & Family  
 † Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez - Virginia & Lydia

### Sunday, April 15

8:00 a.m. † Eddie Albert Vasquez - Mom  
 † Ofelia Urbina - Hermana  
 † Romana Gutierrez - Familia  
 Gift of Life Frances Treviño - Nora Treviño  
 10:00 a.m. † Joe Riley - Family  
 † Joe & Olivia Benavides - Family  
 † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
 In Thanksgiving Martha Gallegos - Mom Leonor  
 12:00 p.m. † Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom  
 † Margaret & Martin Burrell - Daughter  
 † Ida & Amos Burrell - Family  
 † Aline Persyn - Family

### Monday, April 16

### Tuesday, April 17

12:00 p.m. † Drew Luna - Family

### Wednesday, April 18

8:15 a.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Family

### Thursday, April 19

12:00 p.m. † Lucy C. Mireles

### Friday, April 20

12:00 p.m.  
 For Health Linda Davila

### Saturday, April 21

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

### Sunday, April 22

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
 † Ofelia Urbina - Hermana  
 † Pete Morales - Wife & Family  
 † Tina Flores - Penny  
 10:00 a.m. † Margaret & Martin Burrell - Daughter  
 † Ida & Amos Burrell - Family  
 † Aline Persyn - Family  
 † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
 † Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
 12:00 p.m. For Our Military Men & Women

## In Loving Memory

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

† **Viola R. Castañeda**

## Sanctuary Light

Gloria Solis




## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

We continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ...the victory of life over death, light over darkness and God over the devil. Jesus is engaged in multiple appearances to his disciples and followers to reassure them that he is alive as he felt their fear, doubt and uncertainty. He always wishes them peace and he reminded them the Scriptures: "...Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things" We are witnesses of the Risen Lord. May we carry and fulfill, the legacy of Jesus and his followers.

We made it to Greece by the grace of God and have embarked on our journey to "Walk in the Footsteps of St. Paul." Please keep us in your prayers as we hope to be inspired by Paul's spirituality to care for the Gentiles, the neglected by our society and be witnesses to the Risen Lord.

I thank Elida Gonzales for organizing and conducting a prayerful Divine Mercy celebration last Sunday, April 8th at 3:00 p.m. in the Church and all the participants. May we continue treasuring this particular Feast initiated by Pope John II as a way for us to recognize the love and mercy of God, which is part of our daily life.

We are very proud of Dominique who has accepted the role of Youth Minister. Dominique has developed into an awesome, dedicated, committed and faithful young lady and will ultimately focus her church mission. I am confident she will do very well. Please rally behind Dominique and her new leadership committee to lead our youth in their journey. Our youth are, and will always be, the future of our church. Our youth meet every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in classroom #1. Please encourage your children and grandchildren to join our youth group. Here is the leadership committee of our youth: Dominique Dominguez, Raeann Cruz, Angie Diaz, Bobby Gallegos, Liz Gallegos, Alyssa Araguz, Brandon Cruz, Marisa Dominguez, Danielle Martinez and Rebecca Dominguez.

I thank all of you who have pledged or donated money toward the Capital Campaign. Our community of St. John Berchmans is required to raise \$352,000 with \$140,80 the equivalency being 40% being returned to our parish to address three projects that we have identified for our community: put a new floor in the church, put a part of new roof for the school building and modernize the technology of our school. As of the weekend of March 24 - 25, only 12% had pledged or paid. Please consider making your pledge as soon as possible. I thank those of you who have contributed toward the campaign.

May God bless you always,

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

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** - The God of our fathers has glorified his servant Jesus (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19).

**Psalm** - Lord, let your face shine on us (Psalm 4).

**Second Reading** - The way we may be sure that we know Jesus is to keep his commandments (1 John 2:1-5).

**Gospel** - Jesus stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you" (Luke 24:35-48).

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: Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29

Tue: Acts 7:51 - 8:1a; Ps 31:3-17, 21; Jn 6:30-35

Wed: Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a; Jn 6:35-40

Thu: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

Fri: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59

Sat: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-17; Jn 6:60-69

Sun: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1-9, 21-29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

## Events of the Week ~ April 15 - 22, 2018

### Sunday, April 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

### Monday, April 16

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

### Tuesday, April 17

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

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group - Church

### Wednesday, April 18

8:15 a.m. **Children's Mass** - Church

9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite

### Thursday, April 19

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

6:30 p.m. English Ultreya - Room 22

### Friday, April 20

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

### Saturday, April 21

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

### Sunday, April 22

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church

8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church

10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church

12:00 noon **Mass** - Church



**THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018**

**9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

### 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 also want to remind individual group ministries assigned, to fulfill your commitment on Saturdays. Thank you for your commitment to our beautiful place of worship and to our community.

### Cleaning Schedule of Ministries:

April 21, 2018 — ACTS

### Rosary Maker's Ministry



During the year 2017, Our Lady of the Missions Rosary Makers distributed 4, 291 rosaries. This was all made possible by your financial support of our fundraisers.

Our next fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, May 5th and Sunday, May 6th** after all the Masses.

Thank you for your continued support of our efforts.

### Third Sunday of Easter

**April 15, 2018**

*"You alone, O LORD, bring security to my dwelling."  
— Psalm 4:9*



### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to [osantoyo1104@gmail.com](mailto: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 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## MESSAGE FROM FATHER FIDELE

Our parish office has been without telephone service for several weeks. We have been in contact with our carriers to address the problem and hope to have the problem resolved very soon. We apologize for the inconvenience this has caused our parish community and we thank you for your patience and understanding.

## 2018 GUADALUPANA ORGANIZATION SCHOLARSHIPS

St. John Berchmans' Guadalupe Organization is accepting scholarship applications for the 2017-2018 school year.

Application packets may be picked up in the Parish Office - Monday through Friday from 9am - 5pm. Deadline for submission of applications is **Tuesday, May 1, 2018 by 5pm**. Late applications will not be accepted after this date.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Semersky at (210)420.4288.



## F.A.C.T. (Family Assistance Crisis Team) need you!

Volunteer Program Victims Advocacy office/SAPD - Helping put an end to Family Violence! Volunteers commit to work one Friday or Saturday night a month from 6pm - 1am at a Substation of your choice.

**FREE F.A.C.T. Training:** Saturday, May 5, 2018 - 9am - 4pm; Saturday, May 19, 2018 9am - 4pm; May 22, 2018 - 6pm - 9pm.

All FACT Training dates are required to be certified. V.I.P. Orientation: Saturday, June 9, 2018 9am - 12pm.

**Location:** 315 S. Santa Rosa Blvd., Public Safety Headquarters Bldg., parking is free.

**Requirements:** Be in college or over age 21. \*Attend all 3 FACT Training & VIP Orientation.

INTERNSHIP AVAILABLE. Other sets of classes available: July & September.

**For additional information, contact Ivie.Tovar@sanantonio.gov or 210.207.2305**

## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL PK3 - 8TH Grade

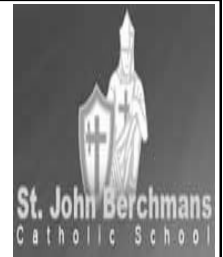
- **REGISTRATION** currently underway for the 2018-2019 school year.

Our school focuses on the **WHOLE** child, academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally.

- ◇ Pre-PK Program Cost Similar or Less than Daycare
- ◇ Flexible Afterschool Care Program
- ◇ Extra Curricular Activities & Sports
- ◇ STEM Included in Curriculum

Big things are happening at our little school!!

If you have questions about any of the above information, please contact St. John Berchmans School at (210) 433.0411. Thank you!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FROM PILGRIMS CENTER OF HOPE

Catholic Women's Conference "*Come to Me*" is scheduled this year on Friday and Saturday, July 27 - 28, 2018. Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch in Helotes, Texas is the venue for this year's spiritual oasis. Registration fee for the entire event is \$100.00 which includes: Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and breakfast, plus 2 concession items. Additional information will be provided at a future date. Questions: Call 210.521.3377

## BELIEVING IN JESUS CHRIST

Throughout the Easter season, all three of the Sunday readings are taken from the New Testament—the Christian scriptures. Together they explore what it means to believe in Jesus as the Christ, the One who fulfilled the prophecies of the Jewish scriptures.

Today's selections refer to our human weakness, yet they emphasize the forgiveness and peace that are available to those who put their faith in "Jesus Christ the righteous one" (1 John 2:2). In the Acts of the Apostles Peter invites everyone to "repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away" (Acts 3:19). The First Letter of John calls Jesus Christ "expiation for our sins" (1 John 2:2). Finally, in the Gospel Jesus greets the disciples with "Peace" and urges them to preach "repentance, for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I be a witness? How do I explain what the presence of Jesus in my life means?