

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018

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MULTIPLE CONVERSIONS

The story described in our first reading is a major turning point, both in the book of Acts and in the early Christian community. In Acts 10 and 11, we hear a story of multiple conversions: of Cornelius, of Peter, and of the church. Cornelius embraced the path of Jesus and received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Peter, through his earlier visions and the pouring out of the Spirit on Gentiles, began to understand how God was breaking through his preconceived ideas. The story concludes in the next scene with the meeting of the leaders in Jerusalem. As Peter described to them what happened to him and to Cornelius, the leaders were amazed at what God was doing. God was breaking down barriers and inviting everyone to God's table. The church realized that it had to rethink how it understands God and itself as church.

OUT AHEAD OF US

In the book of Acts, we learn that God is the primary active agent in the world. God is indeed active within the church. But here we learn that the Holy Spirit also is out ahead of us, working in the lives and communities of people who are different from us. God is busy within and among people who don't know God, or who understand God differently, or who struggle to understand God.

Like Peter and the early church, many of us somehow learned, often in childhood, whom to trust and who should be avoided. God, however, seems to be fond of crossing boundaries. The Spirit is stirring in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and public spaces. Many of us will need to learn to pay attention to this. The Spirit invites us to find God there and to join in God's work. Our parishes are invited to embrace our local communities. As we listen and learn from our neighbors and share God's love with them, we will deepen our understanding of being the church today.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

VARIAS CONVERSIONES

La historia descrita en nuestra primera lectura es un punto importante de inflexión, tanto en el libro de los Hechos como en la primera comunidad cristiana. En los capítulos 10 y 11 del libro de los Hechos, escuchamos una historia de varias conversiones: la de Cornelio, la de Pedro y la de la Iglesia. Cornelio abraza el camino de Jesús y recibe el don del Espíritu Santo. Pedro, por medio de sus visiones anteriores y el derramamiento del Espíritu Santo sobre los gentiles, empezó a entender cómo Dios rompía sus ideas preconcebidas. La historia termina en lo que sucede después de la reunión de los líderes de Jerusalén. Cuando Pedro les describe lo que le pasó a él y a Cornelio, los líderes se maravillaron de lo que Dios hizo. Dios estaba tirando barreras e invitando a todos a su mesa. La Iglesia se dio cuenta que tenía que repensar cómo entender a Dios y a sí misma como Iglesia.

ADELANTE DE NOSOTROS

En el libro de los Hechos, conocimos que Dios es el primer agente activo en el mundo. Dios de hecho está activo dentro de la Iglesia. Pero aquí aprendemos que el Espíritu Santo también está adelante de nosotros, trabajando en la vidas y comunidades de personas que son diferente a nosotros. Dios está ocupado dentro y en medio de personas que no lo conocen, o que entienden a Dios de manera diferente o que luchan por entender a Dios.

Como Pedro y la Iglesia primitiva, muchos de nosotros de alguna manera aprendimos, a menudo en nuestra infancia, a quien confiar y a quien no. Dios, sin embargo, parece ser alguien a quien le gusta cruzar límites. El Espíritu se mueve en nuestros vecindarios, lugares de trabajo y espacios públicos. Muchos de nosotros necesitaremos aprender a poner atención a esto. El Espíritu nos invita a encontrar a Dios ahí y a unirse en su obra. Nuestras parroquias están invitadas a abrazar a nuestras comunidades locales. Mientras escuchamos y aprendemos de nuestros prójimos y compartimos el amor de Dios con ellos, profundizaremos nuestro entendimiento de ser hoy Iglesia.

Lecturas de hoy: Hch 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Sal 98 (97):1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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	John Jimenez
Rose Loa Gallegos	Julio Ugalde, Jr.	Rosemary Ramirez
Roxanne & Linus Joseph	Armandina Flores	Sofia Delgado
David Colbath	Yvonne De Leon	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.
Victims of First Baptist	Delia Riojas	Terri Lopez
Church of Sutherland	Petra Chavez	F.J. Rodriguez
Springs, Texas	Carmen Solis	Eddie Villareal
Lisa Marie Rodriguez	Enrique Cepeda	David Diaz
Linda Davila	Andrew Arizmendez, Jr.	Annmarie Vasquez
Justin Rey Martinez	Alethea R. Ybarra	Graciela Puente
Brandon Rivas	Norma R. Morgan	Sarah Contreras
Christine Rosales	David Santoyo	Alfredo Cruz
Yvonne Neilon	Roland Martinez, Jr.	Sarah Ramirez
Ricky Lopez	Roland Martinez, Sr.	Gina Gonzalez

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 26-27, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$1,129.09	(116)
8:00 AM	-\$ 520.52	(091)
10:00 AM	-\$1,306.54	(159)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,179.04	(168)
School Mass	-\$ 53.52	
Religious Education	-\$ 427.13	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 239.07	
Mail In	-\$ 303.00	
TOTAL	-\$5,157.91	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Second Collection

May 6, 2018 - Assumption Seminary/Capital Improvements

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 4/26-27, 2018	\$ 239.07
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$ 9,275.12



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 5

5:00 p.m. † Eddie Albert Vasquez - Mom

† Lupe Joe Olivarez - Family

Miguel Anoel Sweet - Mom

Gift of Life

Sunday, May 6

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño

† Juan Silva - Familia

† Ofelia Urbina - Hermana

† Daniel Garza - Mom

10:00 a.m.

† Jimmie Rodriguez - Wife Leonor

† Margaret & † Martin Burrell - Daughter

† Ida & † Amos Burrell - Family

† Aline Persyn - Family

† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family

12:00 p.m.

† Jesus Villarreal - Relative

Monday, May 7

Tuesday, May 8

12:00 p.m. † Lucy Villarreal

Wednesday, May 9

8:15 a.m. † Jeannie Ybarra

Thursday, May 10

12:00 p.m.

Gift of Life Sara Katelyn Sweet - Mom

Friday, May 11

12:00 p.m. † Sofia Cruz

Saturday, May 12

5:00 p.m. † George Hernandez - Wife & Family

† Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez- Virginia & Lydia

† Gloria Solis - Raquel & Socorro

All Mothers - Campos Family

Gift of Life

Sunday, May 13

8:00 a.m. † Ernestina Huerta - Husband & Children

† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño

† Librada Cadena - Grace Salinas

† Tina Flores - Penny

In Thanksgiving

Las Guadalupanas

10:00 a.m.

† Joe Riley - Family

† Estella Jaramillo - Family

† Dominga Castro - Rosa Cortez

† Basileia Castro - Rosa Cortez

† Herminia Cruz - Family

12:00 p.m.

† Margaret & † Martin Burrell - Daughter

† Ida & † Amos Burrell - Family

† Aline Persyn - Family

In Loving Memory

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

† Rosalinda Ramos

† Rosendo H. Soto

Sanctuary Light

Coach Lisa Robertson

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

Our St. John Berchmans School and community congratulates 40 students for having received their First Communion: the body and blood of Christ. We also thank the Catechists, school teachers and parents who have helped these students and walked with them on this path. We are very proud of your accomplishments and pray that you continue this journey, by remaining faithful to your commitment to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior. I hope you will continue to attend mass on Sundays and days of obligation in order for us to receive Jesus Christ, in the Holy Eucharist.

Today, Sunday May 6th, Rosalinda Rodriguez, Director of Religious Education, will be retiring from this role. However, Rosalinda has agreed to continue spearheading the RCIA for the adults. We congratulate Rosalinda for her twelve years of dedication and hard work to our children and community. The community of St. John Berchmans has been blessed with your leadership for the past twelve years. We wish you a restful summer.

We welcome Victor and Karen Araguz, the new coordinators for the Religious Education program. I invite the community to rally behind Victor and Karan for the success of the program and of our children.

The telephone line service in the office has been restored. The temporary line number is 210.858-6920. The request for our number to be released by AT&T has already been submitted. As soon as AT&T releases the number, we will communicate with you. I apologize for the inconvenience this experience may have caused our parishioners.

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 on 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 7:00 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. St. John Berchmans community 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. As of the weekend of May 5-6, 2018 only 22% has 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 gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

Psalm — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — Let us love one another, because love is of God (1 John 4:7-10)

Gospel — This is my commandment: love one another as I love you (John 15:9-17)
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 16:11-15; Ps 149:1-9; Jn 15:26 - 16:4
Tue: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
Wed: Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
Thu: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mk 16:15-20
Fri: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23
Sat: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28
Sun: Acts 1:15-26; Ps 103:1-2, -20; 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11b-19

Events of the Week ~ May 6 - 13, 2018

Sunday, May 6

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
ROSARY MAKERS FUNDRAISER AFTER ALL MASSES
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

Monday, May 7

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Women of the Bible -
6:30 p.m. ACTS Team Meeting - Room 22

Tuesday, May 8

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

Wednesday, May 9

8:15 a.m. **Communion Service** - Church
9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
7:00 p.m. ACTS Core Meeting - Cafeteria

Thursday, May 10

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. English Ultreya - Room 22
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry - Room 1

Friday, May 11

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

Saturday, May 12

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


Sunday, May 13

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
HEALING SERVICE AFTER ALL MASSES
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
12:00 noon **Mass** - Church



Holy Hour
Come spend time in
the presence of Jesus.

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS WOMEN'S
ACTS RETREAT**

Please mark your calendar for our **St. John Berchmans Women's ACTS retreat** scheduled for **July 13 - 15, 2018** at St. Anthony Padua. Cost is \$170.00

The retreat goals are to allow opportunities for women to focus on their faith and its application in their daily lives, to increase their presence at the liturgy and to cultivate friendship among members of the church community.

If you are interested in attending this retreat, or would like more information, please contact:
Sylvia Gomez 210.215.4855, Kimberly Mata 210.995.7437 or Angie Diaz 210.919.2411.



Loved One in Jail or Prison?
Let Us Help You

Criminal Justice Ministry
Archdiocesan Office
(210) 734-1980
www.archsa.org/criminal-justice

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

Our parish is always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. Thank you for your commitment to our beautiful place of worship and to our community.

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries:



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 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CHURCH BBQ CHICKEN FUNDRAISER

The purpose of this fundraiser is to help defray costs for our upcoming church festival on September 29, 2018. Thank you!

SUNDAY: MAY 20, 2018

TIME: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

COST: \$7.00 per plate

MEAL: INCLUDES CHICKEN, SAUSAGE, RICE, BEANS WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

Tickets are available in the Parish office. Thank you!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES MISSION IS TO PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SELFLESS SERVICE UNDER THE SIGN OF LOVE.

Please note some of the services available:

- ⇒ **Military and Veterans** - Are you or someone you know a Veteran with a DD214 in your possession? Catholic Charities Military Family Relief Program could possibly assist with paying utilities (Water, Electricity) or with rent, if a disconnection or eviction is eminent. These benefits are available to Veterans for their service tour country. Contact us at (210) 226-6178 to make an appointment and find out more details.
- ⇒ **Caritas Legal Services** - Provides legal aid to low-income and immigrant families as well as those are victims of crime, domestic violence and human trafficking. Additionally, free site based legal "Ask-A-Lawyer" are available to anyone seeing information about any legal issue. For more information, contact Evelyn Huron, Program Director at (210) 433.3256.

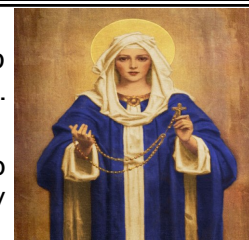


REMEMBER MAY IS THE MONTH TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

When you pray the Holy Rosary, you have the power of God in your hands. It will help you to find peace and serenity in your life. *The Rosary is the weapon for these times.*

— Saint Padre Pio

The Guadalupana organization invites all parishioners and encourages all families to attend our recitation of the Holy Rosary the entire month of May. We gather Monday through Friday (weather permitting) in the Grotto at 6:00 p.m.



POPE FRANCIS' RECOMMENDED MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2018

Evangelized Intention:

The Mission of the Laity

That the lay faithfully may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

Daily Offering of the Apostleship of Prayer

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our Bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer and in, particular, for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

In the Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of Easter we are met with an extraordinary challenge: Jesus commands us to *"love one another as I love you"* (John 15:12). The letter from John echoes this command. Of course, we are to love those in our family, those we work with, and those we like. But the scriptures make clear that we are also to love those we never notice, those we purposely avoid, and even those we are tempted to despise.

In this Sunday's selection from the Acts of the Apostles Peter shows us how far God's love extends, and how far our love should extend in response. Peter realizes that God no longer "shows partiality" to the Jews, sharing divine love exclusively with them. Christ has revealed that God's love extends to all people, and so should ours. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Can I improve my character so that I focus more on others' needs and less on my own needs? To whom can I reach out to this week with my attention, time and energy?