

# St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

1147 Cupples Road, San Antonio, TX 78226 210-434-3247 FAX 210-432-0431

www.stjohnberchmans.com



Welcoming and liturgical community celebrating the spiritual needs of God's people in the spirit of St. John Berchmans.  
*"My penance is to live the common life. I will pay greatest attention to the least inspiration of God."* - St. John Berchmans

## Parish Office Staff:

• Fr. Fidèle O. Dikete, Pastor •

Stella Rico, Secretary  
Olivia Lopez, Bookkeeper/Office Manager  
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance  
Christine McWilliams, WebMaster/ FB

Connie Peché, Family Records  
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement  
Kathy Flores, Sacramental Records  
Cynthia Sandoval, Director of Religious Education

Raquel Castillo, Office Volunteer  
Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor  
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

## Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm  
Saturday 10am-2pm

## Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 5pm-English  
Sunday 9am-Bilingual  
Sunday 11am-English

## Weekday Services:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

## School Mass:

Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

## Holy Days of Obligation:

Bilingual Mass at 7pm

## Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

## Adoration:

Every Thursday 9am-5pm

## Baptisms/Quinceñeras/Sweet 16:

Please contact office for more information

## Baptism Classes:

Please contact office for more information

## Weddings:

Father Fidèle Dikete, Pastor  
Please make an appointment  
six months in advance.

## CCD:

Sunday 9:30am – 12 Noon

## Good Samaritans of SJB:

Monday and Friday; 3pm - 5pm

**SJB School:** Nora Garcia, Principal - 210-433-0411

## Parish Ministries

### ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:

Emilio Semersky

esemersky@gmail.com

### ALTAR SERVERS:

Eddie Campa

ecampa@swri.org

### BOY & GIRL SCOUTS:

Aussie Mata

rotorwing2@gmail.com

### CHOIRS:

#### Saturday 5pm Choir

John A. Campa

jhowardcampa@aol.com

#### Sunday 9am Choir

Roy Sanchez

rsanchez34@satx.rr.com

#### Sunday 11am Choir

Javier Saucedo

javierrufus@gmail.com

### CYO:

Esmeralda "Ezmi" Tamez

ezmiet09@gmail.com

### CAFETERIA RENTAL:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Linda Campbell

linda40849@satx.rr.com

### FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Elida Gonzales

redg90@sbcglobal.net

### GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

John Diaz

johndiaz7538@sbcglobal.net

Angie Diaz

### GUADALUPANAS:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

### FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

### HOSPITALITY:

Kathy Flores

kflores0411@att.net

### JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos

jessicamosfischer@gmail.com

Chayo Gomez

tootsweez@hotmail.com

### LECTORS:

Stella Rico

stellav28@att.net

### LITURGY COMMITTEE:

Joan Orosco

dorosco08@yahoo.com

### PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Kimberly Mata

mata\_kimberly@yahoo.com

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Cyndi Sandoval

ventimochafrap@yahoo.com

### ROSARY MAKERS:

Victoria Sanchez

### SHARE THE WORD:

Rosalinda Garza

Garza\_rosalinda@att.net

### VIGIL TEAM:

Oralia Cantu

dduran57@outlook.com

Dora Duran

**MARCH 24, 2024 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

# PALM SUNDAY PASSION OF THE LORD

March 24, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## SUFFERING . . .

It may be Palm Sunday, but the Passion is far more prominent in today's liturgy, which invites us to follow Jesus from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to his crucifixion and burial. It simply overflows with the sorrow and intimacy that will be dominant themes in Holy Week.

The first reading from the book of Isaiah gives voice to the suffering of an innocent person—perhaps a prophet—or the people as a whole. The refrain for the Psalm is Jesus' cry from the cross (Mark 13:14), a cry of absolute, existential loneliness. The great kenotic (emptying) hymn in Philippians provides a stunning portrait of Jesus' ultimate emptying, simultaneously intimate and cosmological.

## ... AND INTIMACY

All four Gospels have a Passion narrative. While there is agreement on the main events—an intimate meal shared by Jesus and the disciples, betrayal by Judas, prayer in Gethsemane followed by Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion—each Gospel has unique variations that give it a particular meaning or tone. In today's Gospel from Mark, Jesus is anointed by an unnamed woman in the house of Simon the leper. All the Gospels have Jesus being anointed by a woman, but only Mark puts this scene just before the Last Supper. Jesus says the anointing is preparation for his burial; it is as if the woman could see a prophet's suffering in Jesus' life and feel it in his presence. Moved by compassion, she empties her jar of expensive nard on his head, pouring out her love in a profoundly intimate act. Perhaps she will also join the women who witness the crucifixion from afar (Mark 15:40-41), after the Twelve seem to be long gone.

Palm Sunday invites us to follow Jesus through the rest of Holy Week. By moving us to feel the injustice and the suffering endured by Jesus, this week's liturgies and devotions present us with those same choices. Perhaps, like the unnamed woman, we can open ourselves to others' suffering and respond with love and compassion. Or perhaps, like the Twelve, we will be conspicuous by our absence.

## SUFIMIENTO. . .

Puede que sea Domingo de Ramos, pero la Pasión está mucho más notoria en la liturgia de hoy, la cual nos invita a seguir a Jesús en su entrada triunfante a Jerusalén hasta su crucifixión y sepultura. Simplemente desborda con el dolor y la intimidad que serán los temas predominantes en la Semana Santa.

La primera lectura del libro de Isaías da voz al sufrimiento de una persona inocente, quizás un profeta, o de todo el pueblo. El estribillo del salmo es el grito de Jesús desde la cruz (Marcos 13:14), un grito de absoluta soledad existencial. El gran himno de kénosis (vaciamiento) en filipenses ofrece un impresionante retrato del vaciamiento final de Jesús, simultáneamente íntimo y cosmológico.

## ... Y LA INTIMIDAD

Los cuatro evangelios tienen una narración de la Pasión. Aunque hay concordancia con respecto a los principales eventos, una comida íntima compartida por Jesús y los discípulos, la traición de Jesús, la oración en el huerto de Getsemaní a la que le sigue el arresto, juicio y crucifixión de Jesús, cada Evangelio tiene sus propios detalles que dan un significado o señal particular. En el Evangelio de Marcos, Jesús es ungido por una mujer, de quien no se menciona su nombre, en la casa de Simón el leproso. Todos los evangelios mencionan que Jesús fue ungido por una mujer, pero sólo Marcos pone este evento antes de la Última Cena. Jesús dice que la unción es una preparación para su entierro; es como si la mujer pudiera ver el sufrimiento de un profeta en la vida de Jesús y sentirlo en su presencia. Movida por la compasión, ella vacía su costosa ánfora llena de nardo sobre la cabeza de Jesús, derramando su amor en un acto profundamente íntimo. Quizás también se una a las mujeres que presencian la crucifixión desde lejos (Marcos 15:40-41), después de que los Doce pareciera que se han ido ya desde hace mucho tiempo.

El Domingo de Ramos nos invita a seguir a Jesús durante el resto de la Semana Santa. Al movernos a sentir la injusticia y el sufrimiento padecido por Jesús, las liturgias y devociones de esta semana nos presentan esas mismas opciones. Tal vez, como la mujer sin nombre, podemos abrirnos al sufrimiento de los demás y responder con amor y compasión. O quizás, como los Doce, brillaremos por nuestra ausencia.



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras	Isaiah Vasquez	Lucy Treviño & Family
Marty Carrera Tobias	Esther Nicholson	Mickey S. Carrasco
Frances Lozano	Valerie Vigil	Robert Prieto
Irma Urias	Rosemary Flores	Elizabeth Rose Valdez
Mary S. Martinez	Anthony Ramirez	Muñoz Family
Galilea Romero	Carmen Garza	Mary Rose Cerda
Iris Luna Sullivan	Gloria Rubio	Zander from WA.
Emma O. Velasquez	Lisa Brown	Pete Muñoz
Kenny De La Rosa	Rebecca Zuniga	Mary Alice Vasquez
Raymond Sarabia	Rosa Elva Villaseñor	Terry Herrera
Julissa Rodriguez	Lupe Gomez	Rosa Castoreno
Miliana Bullock	Angie Canales	Henrietta Ramos
Lydia Soriano	Joseph Kavanaugh	Cecilia Muñoz
Robert Sanchez	Rosie Gallegos	Maria Dorado
Vanessa Quintero	Maritza Garcia	Jose Calderon
Virginia R. Lucio	Liam Adrian Martinez	Carmen Perez
Guadalupe Rodriguez	Michael P. Ramirez	
Lori Bañuelos	Alfred Marin	
Edith Flores	Maria Martinez	

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.

## STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK

### ENDING MARCH 17, 2024

5 PM Mass	-\$ 1,523.00
9 AM Mass	-\$ 571.00
11 AM Mass	-\$ 765.00
Altar Flowers	-\$ 395.00
Mail In	-\$ 613.00
On Line	-\$ 85.00
Gift of Giving	-\$ 173.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,128.55</b>



2nd Collection

### SECOND COLLECTION

**MARCH 23-24, 2024**

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

### 2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending March 17, 2024	\$ 173.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,355.06</b>

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, March 23

5:00 p.m. † Henry Z. Vidal - Vidal Family  
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family  
 † Jennifer Davila - Parents  
 † Paul Salinas - Grace Salinas  
**Gift of Life** Esther Castillo - Socorro & Raquel  
**Health** Socorro Castillo - Family

## Sunday, March 24

9:00 a.m. † Hope Esquivel - Guadalupanas  
 † Josie Garcia - Virginia Velez  
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family  
**Health** Emma O. Velasquez - Daughters  
**Health** Paul Muñoz, Jr. - Rose Mary Ramirez

11:00 a.m. † Andres Solis - Family  
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family  
 † Ralph Moreno - Wife & Family  
 † Paul Salinas - Grace Salinas  
 † Isidro Mata - Kimberly & Koko Mata  
**Health** Karen Araguz - Victor Araguz

## Monday, March 25

## Tuesday, March 26

12:00 p.m. † Mary Herrera - SJB Family

## Wednesday, March 27

8:15 a.m. † Ann Cadena - Socorro & Raquel

## Thursday, March 28 - HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. † Justin Rey Martinez

## Friday, March 29 - GOOD FRIDAY

3:00 p.m. Parish Community

### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:

Joe Villanueva  
 Emma Velasquez  
 Mary Martinez



Let us remember the lamp is a mark of honor. It is to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.

### Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me  
 Body of Christ, save me  
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me  
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me  
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me  
 O good Jesus, hear me  
 Within Your wounds hide me  
 Suffer me not to be separated from You  
 From the malignant enemy defend me  
 In the hour of my death call me  
 And bid me to come to You  
 That with Your saints and angels,  
 I may praise You  
 Forever and ever  
 Amen.

-St. Ignatius Loyola

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Today, Sunday, March 24th, 2024 is Palm Sunday marking the beginning of Holy Week. Jesus voluntarily enters Jerusalem well aware of the plot against him by the Pharisees and high priests. He surrenders totally abandoning himself in the protective arms of his Father. Jesus suffered, died, was buried, and on the third day, he arose from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father. We are about to experience suffering, passion and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Holy Weeks brings to an end the 40 days of Lent during which we are called to prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

During Holy Week, we are called to participate in the Paschal Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please note the schedule offered to you for Holy week:

- **Holy Thursday:** Bilingual Mass at 7:00 in the evening followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight. We will commence our visitation of seven churches immediately after mass.

- **Good Friday:** we commence with the Passion of Christ at 3:00 in the afternoon followed by the Liturgy of the Word, universal prayers, veneration of the cross and communion.

- **Holy Saturday:** Easter Vigil, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Mass commences at 8:00 in the evening during which 17 catechumens will be baptized, receive communion, and 20 candidates will be confirmed.

- **Easter Sunday:** two masses will be celebrated: bilingual at 9:00 in the morning and 11:00 in the morning. Please make a special effort to participate in the Paschal Triduum. I take this opportunity in wishing each of my parishioners a blessed Easter in company of family and friends.

I invite you to join me for a unique pilgrimage to Italy! We will be departing San Antonio on Monday, October 14th and returning on Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024. We will visit historical sites in the beautiful city of Rome with its amazing Basilicas, an audience with Pope Francis followed by a visit to the Vatican Museum with the beautiful art of Michelangelo. We will celebrate mass at the tomb of Padre Pio and also include a visit to Assisi, the city of St. Francis and many other sites. The trip includes daily mass, round trip airfare from San Antonio to Rome, private bus, English speaking professional tour escorts, American breakfasts, dinner, water, wine, local guides, etc. with the cost being \$3,300 per person. Please call the office if you wish to join us for this unique life experience and obtain a brochure for a complete detailed itinerary.

God bless you always,

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





Commemorates the triumphal entrance of Christ in Jerusalem when palm branches were placed in His path, before His arrest on Holy Thursday and His Crucifixion on Good Friday.

It thus marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent, and the week in which Christians celebrate the mystery of their salvation through Christ's death and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
 Tue: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Wed: Is 50:4-9; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31-34; Mt 26:14-25  
 Thu: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-18; Jn 13:11-5  
 Fri: Is 52:13 - 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;  
 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 - 19:42  
 Sat: Gn 1:1 - 2:2; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35;  
 Gn 22:1-8; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; Mark 16:1-7  
 Sun: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;  
 Col 3:1-4; 1Cor 5:7b-8a; Jn 20:1-9



**Sunday, March 24 - PALM SUNDAY**

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church

11:00 a.m. MASS - Church

**Monday, March 25**

**Tuesday, March 26**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

**Wednesday, March 27**

8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Church

10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment Sessions -  
Formation House

2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

**SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM**

**Thursday, March 28 - HOLY THURSDAY**

(OFFICE CLOSED)

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

7:00 p.m. BILINGUAL MASS - Church

9:00 pm-Midnite ADORATION

9:00 p.m-Midnite Bus Tour of Seven Churches

**Friday, March 29 - GOOD FRIDAY (OFFICE CLOSED)**

11am-6pm ACTS FISH FRY PLATE SALE- Cafeteria

3:00 p.m. VIA CRUCIS PASSION OF CHRIST/  
LITURGY OF THE WORD/ADORATION OF  
CROSS/COMMUNION SERVICE - Church

**Saturday, March 30 - EASTER VIGIL**

8:00 p.m. BILINGUAL MASS - Church



**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 Fidèle. **Bulletins are printed on Thursdays.**



**NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?**

We encourage all newcomers to register and get to know your parish community. Please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

**PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH AND FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH.**

We will be open for regular business on Saturday, March 30th at 10:00 a.m. Thank you!

**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL NEWS**

⇒ **SCHOOL REGISTRATION/ENROLLEMENT**

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year is open. Registration is \$260 per student until April 19th. Beginning April 20th registration fee will increase to \$300 per child. For information about tuition and to schedule your school tour contact Mrs. Hopcus (Secretary) at (210) 433-0411. We are excited to meet you!

⇒ **HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**

Scholarship applications are currently being accepted. Visit FACTS Application for 2024-25 Archdiocese of San Antonio ([archsa.org](http://archsa.org)) for more information.

⇒ **FIESTA T-SHIRTS:**

Our school will be selling Fiesta T-shirts. A flyer was provided for the parish community wishing to order a T-shirt. Parish Deadline March 25th. Rachel Gonzalez will be at the church after the 5pm Mass (3/23) and Mrs. Julie Ortiz will be at the church after the 11 am Mass (3/24) for those wanting to order. Cash or check will be accepted. Checks must be made out to the school. Thank you for your support!

⇒ **8TH GRADE**

The 8th grade class will be depicting the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, March 29 at 3 pm in the Church.

**SJB DIRECTORY**

We have been given 1 more date for the Parish Directory and this will be our last opportunity.

**Photo date: Tuesday, May 14th from 2pm - 8 pm.**

To set up an appointment, or for more information, please contact Angie Diaz (210) 919-2411, or call the Parish Office at (210) 434-3247.

Welcome to anyone interested in assisting us to clean our beautiful church.  
**EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM!!!**



**MINISTRY SCHEDULED**

**MARCH 30 - GOOD SAMARITANS/JOY**