

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 17, 2018

ONCE UPON A TIME

Let me tell you a story. . . . That sentence enchants us. We feel our bodies relax and our anticipation grow. Let me tell you a story, Jesus seems to say, as he searches for vivid images that will help us love the mysterious reality of God's kingdom. The kingdom of God, Jesus explains, is like a seed growing. The person who planted the seed doesn't have a clue how it achieves its fullness. Modern time-lapse photography can record the second-by-second development of a seed into a plant, but Jesus' contemporary audience had never seen such pictures. To Jesus' listeners, a seed's growth—imperceptible yet unmistakable—seemed miraculous. Jesus taps into the knowledge and wonder of his audience to help them have an experience of what he wants to convey: although we cannot always see or prove it, God works for us in all times and places. God's kingdom is everywhere, and there is nowhere that God does not guide our growth.

GROWTH POTENTIAL

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus tells many parables to help explain the kingdom of God. Both of today's parables from Mark's Gospel involve seeds, strangely enough. Seeds really are a bizarre emblem for a kingdom. Can you imagine a mighty kingdom whose royal banners boast a picture of a tiny seed? Jesus doubles down on the image, however, inviting us to picture first a seed of grain, and then a mustard seed. Jesus longs for us to understand that God's kingdom is full of unexpected strength. A withered tree blooms, a virgin bears a son, a dead man bursts out of his tomb. Our scriptures are a long catalog of unlikely victories. We walk by faith, as Saint Paul says, and not by sight—we must believe that God transforms all weakness into strength, all death into life. We may prefer swift, demonstrable victories in our lives, but God's style often resembles the gentle way of seeds.

Today's Readings: Ez 17:22-24; Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

HABÍA UNA VEZ

Déjame contarte un cuento. . . . Esa frase nos encanta. De alguna manera nuestros cuerpos se relajan y nuestra anticipación aumenta. *Déjame contarte un cuento*, parece que eso es lo que dice Jesús, mientras busca imágenes vividas que nos ayuden a amar la realidad misteriosa del Reino de Dios. Jesús explica que el Reino de Dios es como una semilla que crece. El sembrador que planta la semilla, aunque sabe que crece quizá no conoce de qué manera ocurre su plenitud. La fotografía moderna puede ayudarnos a registrar paso a paso en un periodo de tiempo el desarrollo de una semilla en una planta, pero aquellas personas contemporáneas de Jesús que lo escuchaban nunca pudieron ver dichas fotografías. Para esas personas que lo escuchaban, el crecimiento de la semilla, imperceptible pero inconfundible, parecía milagroso. Jesús aprovecha el conocimiento y asombro de su audiencia para ayudarles a tener una experiencia de lo que quiere comunicar: aunque no siempre podemos verlo o comprobarlo, Dios se manifiesta a nosotros en todo tiempo y lugar. El Reino de Dios está en todas partes, y no hay ningún lugar donde Dios no guíe nuestro crecimiento.

POTENCIAL DE CRECIMIENTO

A lo largo de los evangelios, Jesús nos cuenta muchas parábolas para ayudar a explicar el Reino de Dios. Ambas parábolas del día de hoy tomadas del Evangelio de Marcos incluyen semillas, por extraño que parezca. Las semillas son realmente una cosa rara para un reino. ¿Te puedes imaginar a un poderoso reino en cuyas banderas y estandartes reales tengan la imagen de una pequeña semilla? Sin embargo, Jesús la menciona de manera doble invitándonos primero a imaginar una semilla de grano y luego una semilla de mostaza. Jesús anhela que comprendamos el Reino de Dios está lleno de una fuerza inesperada. Un árbol marchito florece, una virgen tiene un hijo, un hombre muerto sale de su tumba. Nuestras Escrituras son un amplio catálogo de victorias inverosímiles. Caminamos por la fe, como san Pablo dice, y no por la vista, debemos creer que Dios transforma la debilidad en fuerza, la muerte en vida. Es muy posible que preferíamos victorias rápidas y demostrables en nuestras vidas, pero el estilo de Dios a menudo se asemeja a la forma delicada de las semillas.

Lecturas de hoy: Ez 17:22-24; Sal 92 (91):2-3, 13-14, 15-16; 2 Cor 5:6-10; Mc 4:26-34 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Lisa Marie Rodriguez	Enrique Cepeda	Annamarie Vasquez
Linda Davila	Andrew Arizmendez, Jr.	Graciela Puente
Justin Rey Martinez	Alethea R. Ybarra	Sarah Contreras
Brandon Rivas	Norma R. Morgan	Alfredo Cruz
Christine Rosales	David Santoyo	Gina Gonzalez
Yvonne Neilon	Roland Martinez, Jr.	Celia Hernandez
Ricky Lopez	Roland Martinez, Sr.	Delia Lopez
Yamil Traspeña	Sara Navarro	Alfredo Moreno
John Ruiz	Chris Muñoz	Howard Sixsmith
Frances Ramirez	Roxsandra Gallardo	Isidro Mata
Evelyn Parra	Elizabeth Quirotero	Celina Herrera
Coach Lisa Robertson	John Jimenez	Denise Schexnayder
Angie Perez	Rosemary Ramirez	Henry Quintero
Julio Ugalde, Jr.	Sofia Delgado	Armando Urdiales
Armandina Flores	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.	Victims and Families of
Yvonne De Leon	Terri Lopez	Santa Fe High School
Delia Riojas	F.J. Rodriguez	Mary S. Martinez
Petra Chavez	Eddie Villareal	Roland Valverde
Carmen Solis	David Diaz	

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

JUNE 9 - 10, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$ 852.00	(097)
8:00 AM	-\$ 782.50	(104)
10:00 AM	-\$1,839.00	(131)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 685.00	(143)
School Mass	-\$ 111.46	
Good Samaritans	-\$ 475.40	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 191.30	
Mail In	-\$ 225.00	
TOTAL	-\$5,161.66	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Second Collection

June 17, 2018 - Altar Flowers/Father's Day

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 6/9 - 10, 2018	\$ 191.30
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$10,522.60

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, June 16

5:00 p.m. † Beatrice & Ignacio Gomez - Virginia & Lydia
 † Rudy A. Moreno - Family
 † Richard Muñoz - Muñoz Family
 Gift of Life All Fathers - Campos Family

Sunday, June 17

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Eddie Vasquez - Wife
 † Frank Cortez - Rosa Cortez
 † Rudy Cortez - Rosa Cortez

Gift of Life Daniel Traspaña, Sr. - Wife

Gift of Life Virginia Lucio - Parents

10:00 a.m. † Frank Cortez - Rosa Cortez
 † Rudy Cortez - Rosa Cortez
 † Miguel Castro - Rosa Cortez
 † Edward Cruz - Family

12:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Family
 † Margaret & † Martin Burrell - Daughter
 † Ida & † Amos Burrell - Family
 † Aline Persyn - Family

Monday, June 18

Tuesday, June 19

12:00 p.m. † Josefina Ortiz - Grace Salinas

Wednesday, June 20

12:00 p.m. † Shirley Ann Jennings

Thursday, June 21

12:00 p.m. † Rudy Aguilar

Friday, June 22

12:00 p.m. † Katy & Cynthia De La Cruz - Sister

Saturday, June 23

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

Sunday, June 24

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Daniel M. Euresti - Family
 † Ted Rodriguez - Rose Rodriguez
 † Alejandro De Leon - Rose Rodriguez
 † Octavio Lopez, Sr. - Rose Rodriguez

10:00 a.m. † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
 † Margaret & † Martin Burrell - Daughter
 † Ida & † Amos Burrell - Family
 † Aline Persyn - Family

12:00 p.m. † Trinidad & Olivia Garcia - Family
 Gift of Life For Our St. John Berchmans Community
 Virginia Ponce - Ponce Family

The Loving Memory

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

† **Guadalupe O. Huerta**
 † **James Edward De La Zerda, Sr.**

Sanctuary Light

Justin Rey Martinez



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

I have arrived safely in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to commence my vacation at home. My family is very excited and happy to see me. We are having a wonderful time and I hope to get enough rest recharging the batteries in order to serve you better. Please keep me in your prayers as I continue my vacation with my family and friends.

My most sincere congratulations to all fathers of our St. John Berchmans Parish Community on this your official weekend. Thank you to each father who instills love, protection, respect and patience in raising their children. May God allow you to celebrate with family and friends this Sunday and every day of the year! Please lovingly remember fathers who are in the presence of God protecting us from afar.

I wish all of you students, teacher and parishioners a very restful summer. Please do not take a vacation from God. If you happen to travel outside of San Antonio, or ever outside of Texas or the United States of America, please remember to attend mass on Sunday or everyday if possible. God blesses us with life, health, families, friends, great country, and we need to be grateful every single day. Let us worship Him as much as we can. I would also like to remind you that if you do not attend mass at St. John Berchmans during the summer time, please remember to either mail us your weekly monetary contribution or drop off your envelope or monetary contribution in the Parish office. We need to continue to support our parish even during the summer. The parish's bills need to be paid even during vacation time. Thank you for your collaboration and generosity. May God guide you and protect you during the summer time.

The telephone line service in the office has been restored. Our original telephone number 210.434.3247 has been reinstalled. I apologize for the inconvenience this experience may have caused.

The tickets for our annual Fall Festival raffle are now available. We have 10 wonderful prizes with \$5,000 being the first prize. I invite each family to sell at least 100 tickets for \$1.00 per ticket. We have ordered 50,000 tickets and I have personally taken 1,000 tickets. My expectation is that everyone sell as many tickets as possible. Remember the profit from our annual Festival will help us pay bills and eventually purchase an electronic marquee. I have trust and confidence in each one of you to rise to the occasion.

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 \$140,800 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 June 9 - 10, 2018 only 28% have 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 — I have lifted high the lowly tree (Eze 17:22-24).
Psalms — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).
Second Reading — Whether we are at home or away, we aspire to please the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:6-10).
Gospel — It is the smallest of all seeds, and becomes the largest of plants (Mark 4:26-34)

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 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42
Tue: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48
Wed: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thu: Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15
Fri: 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Ps 132:11-14, 17-18; Mt 6:19-23
Sat: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Mt 6:24-34
Sun: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12;
Lk 1:5-17 Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15;
Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Events of the Week ~ June 17 - 24, 2018

Sunday, June 17

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, June 18

6:30 p.m. ACTS Team Meeting - Cafeteria

Tuesday, June 19

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

Wednesday, June 20

9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Youth Core Meeting - Room 1

Thursday, June 21

8:15 a.m. **Communion Service** - Church
6:30 p.m. English Ultreya - Room 22
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry - Room 1

Friday, June 22

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Healing Mass - Church

Saturday, June 23

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

Sunday, June 24

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
ACTS TACO SALE 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, JUNE 21, 2018
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

"So you could not stay awake with Me for even one hour? Be on guard and pray that you may not undergo the test." (Matthew 26:40-41)

There are different ways to "watch one hour" with the Lord. One of the most powerful ways is to spend an hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament is called a "Holy Hour" because it is an hour spent in the presence of the Holy Eucharist: Christ, Himself, the One who alone is Holy.



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT

A.C.T.S.

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, please contact: Sylvia Gomez, 210.215.4855, Kimberly Mata, 210.9957437 or Angie Diaz 210.919.2411.

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 place of worship and to our community.

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

June 23, 2018 — Hospitality

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Father's Day
Tuesday: St. Romuald
Thursday: St. Aloysius Gonzaga; Summer begins
Friday: St. Paulinus of Nola;
Ss. John Fisher and Thomas More
Saturday: 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 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com



Please be informed that while Father Fidele is out on vacation, from Monday, June 11 through Tuesday, July 10, there will be no baptisms or wedding conducted in our parish.

Thank you for your understanding and keep Father Fidele in your prayers!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Have some free time during the Summer? At Catholic Charities we believe we have the opportunity to transform lives and change futures. You share the same power when you join us in service. It's easy to sign up online at ccaos.givepulse.com

GUADALUPE COMMUNITY CENTER 1803 w. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd.

Summer Movie Nights - Get engaged in the heart of the west side by assisting with family movie night!

FOOD PANTRY - Weekdays 9 am - 12 noon, 1 - 4 pm

Help stock and organize food to prevent food insecurity in our community

CLOTHES CLOSET - Weekdays 9am - 12 noon, 1pm - 4pm

Help sort and organize clothing donations for our community

GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM/COURT MONITORS - 110 Bandera Road Date and time varies

Help monitor the safety of individuals in your community.

For more information on the above volunteer opportunities, contact Debra Silva at debra.silva@ccaosa.org.

FALL CHURCH FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 - "UNITED WE ARE ONE"

- If you have sold any raffle tickets for the fall festival, please submit them to the parish office. The first **Early Bird Drawing is scheduled for Sunday, June 17, 2018.**
- Also if there are parishioners who are interested in assisting our committee or would like to assist or donate for the Silent Auction. Please contact the Parish Office. Let's make this another successful event!

PROJECT COOL

For the past 22 years, Project Cool has been providing seniors age 60 and older with free box fans during the summer months to alleviate heat. For the past 3 years Catholic Charities has put a special focus on providing fans to seniors in all parishes within the Archdiocese. Questions? Call 210.226.6178

All the fans are given to seniors for free.

- **What do they need to bring?** - Valid Photo ID
- **Where can they obtain a fan?** - Catholic Charities Guadalupe Community Center located at 1801 W. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd. **OR** contact St. John Berchmans Parish office to sign up for a free fan.

THE MASTER STORYTELLER

In today's Gospel, Jesus is presented to us as the master storyteller. He loved to use parables as a tool for comparing one thing to something else. In most of his parables, Jesus revealed who God is by comparing God's essence or actions with something familiar to his listeners. In the parable of the mustard seed, Jesus proclaims a marvelous and irrefutable truth. His small band of disciples, as insignificant as they may have felt, would one day produce a mighty kingdom whose growth was initiated by God. The seeds of this kingdom were planted by God and it is God who will harvest the fruit brought forth from those seeds. The extent of the growth of God's kingdom cannot be predicted. We must trust the work of the Master's hand as we, the mustard plant, grow and grow. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I be fertile soil in which the seed God sows may grow? Where can I help the kingdom of God flourish in the world? When do I need to let go and trust in the Lord?