

Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 8, 2018

www.stjohnberchmans.com

WEAK OR STRONG?

Is your faith weak or strong? Most of us have moments in which our answer could simply be "Yes!" Faith is not a once-and-for-all thing. Our faith ebbs and flows, along with changes in life circumstances, as we mature and grow in relationship with Christ and with one another. Pope Francis speaks to this in *The Joy of the Gospel*, when he encourages us to be open to an encounter with God's love daily. In these encounters, like the one that the people in the synagogue had with Jesus in today's Gospel, we may be astonished at God's love and are invited to accept it. Weakness in faith is not always the result of some failure on our part. We may simply be at a crossroads, at which we cannot clearly see or understand what comes next. It is at such a time that we step out in blind faith with the assurance that God's love awaits us in every moment.

WEAKNESS AND STRENGTH

The opposite of strong faith may not be weakness, but rather misplacing faith by relying on ourselves, our material possessions, or others. When we think we can do things on our own, we leave little room for God in our lives. When we develop a false sense of security that is rooted in material things, our trust in Jesus is quite shallow. Growing in faith calls us to rely on God's great goodness above all things. When we open our minds and hearts and allow ourselves to be astonished at the love and life found in Jesus Christ, we realize that we do not need to rely on ourselves. Saint Paul teaches us a very important lesson about this in his second letter to the Corinthians, in which we hear, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."

Today's Readings: Ez 2:2-5; Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6

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¿DÉBIL O FUERTE?

¿Tu fe es débil o fuerte? Muchos de nosotros tenemos momentos en los cuales nuestra respuesta podría ser un simple "¡Sí!" La fe no es algo de una vez y para siempre. Nuestra fe refluye y fluye, junto con los cambios en las circunstancias de la vida, al ir madurando y creciendo en nuestra relación con Cristo y con nuestros prójimos. El Papa Francisco habla de esto en *La alegría del Evangelio*, cuando él nos anima a ser abiertos a un encuentro diario con el amor de Dios. En estos encuentros, como el que tuvieron las personas en la sinagoga con Jesús en el Evangelio de hoy, podemos asombrarnos del amor de Dios y estamos invitados a aceptarlo. La debilidad en la fe no siempre es el resultado de algún fracaso de nuestra parte. Quizá simplemente estamos en una encrucijada, en la que no podemos ver claramente o entender lo que sigue. Es un tiempo que salimos con una fe ciega con la seguridad que el amor de Dios nos espera en cada momento.

DEBILIDAD Y FORTALEZA

Lo opuesto a una fe fuerte quizá no es la debilidad, sino al contrario, poner la fe en nosotros mismos, nuestras posesiones materiales o los demás. Cuando pensamos que podemos hacer cosas por nuestra cuenta, dejamos poco espacio para Dios en nuestras vidas. Cuando desarrollamos un sentido falso de seguridad que está enraizado en las cosas materiales, nuestra confianza en Jesús es bastante superficial. Crecer en la fe nos llama a confiar en la abundante bondad de Dios sobre todas las cosas. Cuando abrimos nuestras mentes y corazones y nos dejamos asombrar por el amor y vida que se encuentran en Jesucristo, nos damos cuenta que no necesitamos confiar en nosotros mismos. San Pablo nos enseña una lección muy importante acerca de esto en su segunda carta a los corintios, de la cual escuchamos: "mi gracia te es suficiente, la fuerza se hace perfecta en la debilidad".

Lecturas de hoy: Ez 2:2-5; Sal 123 (122):1-2, 2, 3-4; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mc 6:1-6

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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

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 30 - JULY 1, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$ 911.00	(086)
8:00 AM	-\$ 407.50	(063)
10:00 AM	-\$1,361.00	(164)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,075.00	(125)
Capital Improvements	-\$ 858.51	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 199.46	
Mail In	-\$ 425.00	
TOTAL	-\$5,237.47	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Second Collection

July 8, 2018 - Good Samaritans of SJB

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 6/30-7/1, 2018	\$ 199.46
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$11,154.83

Announcements

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 7

5:00 p.m. † Juan Alberto Martinez - Family
 † Sylvia Ann Gallegos - Family

Sunday, July 8

8:00 a.m. † Ernestine & Guadalupe Huerta - Children
 † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Guadalupe Cadena - Grace Salinas
 † Juan Silva - Familia

In Thanksgiving Las Guadalupanas

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

12:00 p.m. † Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom
 † Frank Perez - Family & Wife

Monday, July 9

12:00

Tuesday, July 10

12:00 p.m. † Officer Norberto Noe Ramon

Wednesday, July 11

12:00 p.m.
 Gift of Life Evelyn Parra - Family

Thursday, July 12

12:00 p.m. † Arturo De La Vega

Friday, July 13

12:00 p.m.
 Gift of Life Reynaldo and Sandra Martinez

Saturday, July 14

5:00 p.m. † Ignacio & Beatrice V. Gomez - Virginia Valdez
 Gift of Life Mary S. Martinez

Sunday, July 15

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Camilo O. Juarez - Angie Canales
 Gift of Life Fela Silva - Familia

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

12:00 p.m. † Jose & Paula Estrada - Reynero Family
 † Jose Jr. & Olivia Estrada - Reynero Family

Gift of Life Gumecindo Sr. & Gumecindo Jr. - Reynero Family
 Gift of Life Alyssa Castillo - Family

In Loving Memory

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

Sanctuary Light

Our Lady of Mount Carmel



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

My vacation has ultimately come to its end and I am preparing for my return trip to the United States. I miss each one of you and hope to see you this coming weekend July 14-15, 2018. Please keep me in your prayers as I embark on my return flight home to San Antonio, Texas.

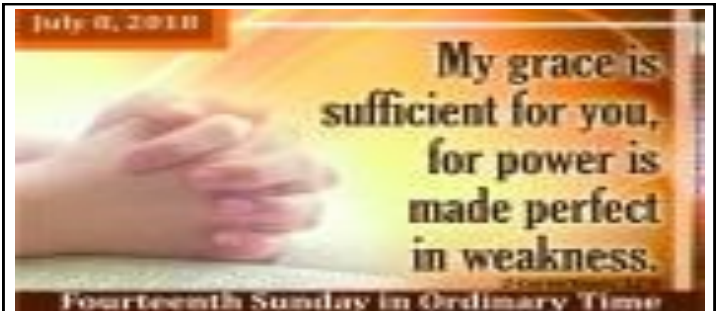
I wish all of you students, teachers and parishioners a very restful summer. Please do not take a vacation from God. If you happen to travel outside of San Antonio, or even outside of Texas or the United States of America, please remember to attend Mass on Sunday or everyday if possible. God blesses 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 envelopes 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 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 16 - 17, 2018, only 31.2% 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 — They shall know that a prophet has been among them (Ezekiel 2:2-5).

Psalm — Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy (Psalm 123).

Second Reading — I am content with weaknesses and hardships for the sake of Christ (2 Cor 12:7-10).

Gospel — The people said: "Where did this man get all this? Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary?" (Mark 6:1-6).

The English translation of the Palm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
Tue: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38
Wed: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
Thu: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
Fri: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-17; Mt 10:16-23
Sat: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
Sun: Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14; Eph 1:3-14; Mk 6:7-13

Events of the Week ~ July 8 - 15, 2018

Sunday, July 8

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
10:15 a.m. Summer Blood Drive
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

Monday, July 9

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

Tuesday, July 10

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

Wednesday, July 11

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

Thursday, July 12

12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel
5:30 p.m. Women's Retreat Send Off - Church

Friday, July 13

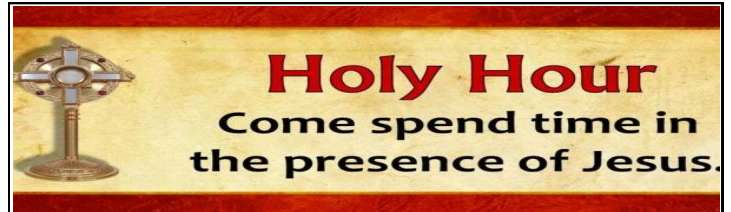
12:00 p.m. **Communion Service** - Chapel

Saturday, July 14

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

Sunday, July 15

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
8:00 a.m. **Spanish Mass** - Church
10:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
12:00 noon **ACTS Women's Retreat Mass** - Church



THURSDAY, JULY 12, 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.



ATTENTION ALL PARISH MINISTRIES

Organizational meetings are usually conducted at St. John Berchmans School.

However, beginning **Monday, July 9 through Friday, August 3, 2018** we will be unable to schedule any meetings in the school due to their scheduled summer maintenance/cleaning. Please make other accommodations during this time period. Thank you!



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS SPIRITUAL WEEKEND

A.C.T.S. Dates: **July 13 - 15, 2018** at St. Anthony de Padua. Cost \$170.00.

Providing women opportunities to focus on their faith and its application in their daily lives, increase their presence at the liturgy and to cultivate friendship among members of the church community. If interested in attending, 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

July 14, 2018 — Knights/Ultreya



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.

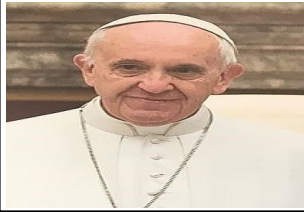


NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

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



POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY INTENTIONS

JULY 2018

That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL PK3 - 8th GRADES

Registration currently underway for the 2018-2019 school year

Our school focuses on the WHOLE CHILD. Enrich your 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 any questions about any of the above information or wish to schedule a tour, please contact St. John Berchmans School at 210.444.0411. Thank you!



GETTING READY FOR A VACATION? DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR CHURCH!

If you are traveling and would like to find a Catholic Church near your vacation destination visit: www.discovermass.com

Our doors are open to greet our parish family and any visitors from near or far. Please, remember, that your church does not take a vacation. If you are out of town, please mail your contribution envelope.

SOUTH TEXAS BLOOD & TISSUE CENTER WILL HOLD A SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE

Date: Sunday, July 8, 2018

Time: 10:15 am - 1:45 pm

Where: In the Church Parking Lot

Blood Donor Requirements:

Anyone who is 16 years old and weighs at least 120 pounds (with a parental consent form), or at least 17 years old and weighs at least 190 pounds, and in good general health can donate blood. Donors must present photo ID, last four digits of their Social Security number and their birth date.



F.A.C.T. NEEDS YOU!! Family Assistance Crisis Team - Volunteer Program Victims Advocacy Office/SAPD Helping to put an end to family violence. Volunteers commit to work one Friday or Saturday night a month from 6pm - 1am OR 7pm - 2am at a Substation of your choice.

MUST ATTEND F.A.C.T. TRAINING:

Saturday, July 21 or Saturday, July 28 from 9am - 4pm. Or Thursday evening July 31 from 6pm - 9pm

All training is held at 315 S. Santa Rosa, Public Safety Headquarters Building, parking is free. For additional information, contact Ivie.Tovar@sanantonio.gov.

OBSTACLES

The prophet Ezekiel, Saint Paul, and the Lord Jesus share something in common in today's scripture readings. They all experience obstacles to their ministry. Ezekiel is summoned to prophesy to the Israelites, who are "[h]ard of face and obstinate of heart" (Ezekiel 2:4). Saint Paul recounts how he has been given a "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7). The Lord Jesus is unable to perform many signs in his native place. The Gospel tells us that "[he] was amazed at their lack of faith" (Mark 6:6). We too sometimes encounter obstacles as we travel along the journey of faith. So often we experience weakness on this journey and yet the strength of God is made manifest. Let the words of the Lord to Saint Paul encourage us today: ***"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness"*** (2 Corinthians 12:9). Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do I respond when someone is critical of me? Do I search myself to find my failings or do I merely look for reasons to reject their criticism?