

Twenty-third Sunday In Ordinary Time

September 9, 2018

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SHOW NO PARTIALITY

Not only do we at times show little care for the earth and its beauty, but we resist the command of God to care for each other in our need. James warns us not to give pride of place to those who are rich and obviously so. He points out the needy, those poorly dressed, and warns us to care for them and not to look down on them, for God sees their need and also their trust in God and love for others. It is such as these whom Jesus came to heal and give hope.

Similarly, in the reading from Isaiah, God's coming is accompanied by the opening of the ears of the deaf and the eyes of the blind. God comes to make the lame leap and the mute sing. (So, everybody, please sing in church. It gives glory to God!)

BE OPENED

Jesus came to give hope to the little ones, those who could not fulfill the laws of the Pharisees to keep kosher with separate jugs, kettles, and so on, because they were too poor to afford two of everything. They could not afford doctors or the healing practices of the time. But Jesus gave them hope.

A person who was lame and mute would have had no way to be made "normal" in those days. But Jesus has mercy on those in need, and he cured the deaf and mute man and restored him to his community.

In what way are we lacking in faith or in hope that we will be healed by Christ? We often forget how much God loves us and how close God is to us every day. If we could just remember this, we would not be afraid, would not feel inadequate in our dealings with the world, nor would we lack courage in protecting our world from destruction.

God loves us beyond any love we could comprehend, and stands ready to heal all our wounds and to bless us with the gifts of secure faith, firm hope, and love for each other in Christ.

Today's Readings: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

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NO MUESTRES PARCIALIDAD

No solo a veces mostramos poco cuidado por el planeta y su belleza, sino que nos resistimos al mandamiento de Dios de cuidarnos unos a otros en nuestras necesidades. Santiago nos advierte que no debemos dar el lugar de honor a quienes parecen y son ricos. Él señala a los necesitados, a los andrajosos, y nos advierte que debemos cuidar de ellos y que no los despreciemos, pues Dios ve sus necesidades y su confianza en Dios y amor por sus prójimos. Es por ellos por quien Jesús vino a sanar y darles esperanza.

De manera similar, en la lectura de Isaías, la venida de Dios está acompañada por la apertura de los oídos de los sordos y los ojos a los ciegos. Dios viene para hacer que el cojo salte y el mudo cante. (Entonces, todos, por favor canten en la iglesia. ¡Esto da gloria a Dios!)

SÉ ABIERTO

Jesús vino para dar esperanza a los más pequeños, aquellos que no podrían cumplir las leyes de los fariseos como mantener comida Kosher guardada en recipientes separados, etc., porque eran pobres y no podían tener cosas dobles. Ellos no podían pagar doctores o remedios de aquellos tiempos. Pero Jesús les dio esperanza.

Una persona que estaba coja o muda no tenía forma de hacerse "normal" en aquellos días. Pero Jesús tiene misericordia de aquellas personas necesitadas, y él sanó al sordo y al mudo y los restauró a su comunidad.

¿De qué manera nos falta la fe o esperanza de que seremos sanados por Cristo? A menudo olvidamos lo mucho que Dios nos ama y que tan cerca está Dios de nosotros cada día? Si tan solo pudiéramos recordar esto, no tendríamos miedo, no nos sentiríamos inadecuados en nuestros tratos con el mundo, ni nos faltaría el valor para proteger nuestro mundo de la destrucción.

Dios nos ama más allá de cualquier amor que pudiéramos comprender, y está listo para sanar todas nuestras heridas y bendecirnos con los dones de una fe segura, esperanza firme y amor por cada uno en Cristo.

Lecturas de hoy: Is 35:4-7a; Sal 146 (145):7, 8-9, 9-10; Sant 2:1-5; Mc 7:31-37

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Brandon Rivas
Jose A. Ponce, Jr.
Terri Lopez
F.J. Rodriguez
Eddie Villareal
David Diaz
Annmarie Vasquez
Graciela Puente
Sarah Contreras
Alfredo Cruz
Gina Gonzalez
Celia Hernandez
Delia Lopez
Alfredo Moreno
Howard Sixsmith
Isidro Mata
Celina Herrera
Henry Quintero
Armando Urdiales

David Santoyo
Mary S. Martinez
Roland Valverde
Elodia Gallegos
Linda Davila
Connie Tenorio
Andrew Villegas
Irene Perez
Yadira Traspeña
Baby Gracie Bernal
Benito A. Perales
Francisco Angel Perales
Anselmo A. Perales
Mario Andress Perales
Martha Lucy Vega &
Children
Jesse Vega
Jesse Mario Vega
Orlando L. Vega &

Children
Justin Rey Martinez
Roxsandra Gallardo
Paul Sifuentes
Lucy Clare Treviño
Lupita Gomez
Irene Perez
Kaylan Rae Ramirez
Louie & Estefana Reyes
Frances Ramirez
Alex Hernandez
Jesse Diaz
John Ruiz
Pastor Stuart Julee
Herman "Koby" Cantu
Victoria Cepeda
Mario Moreno
Arturo M. Moreno

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

SEPTEMBER 1 - 2, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$ 912.00	(112)
8:00 AM	-\$ 914.50	(078)
10:00 AM	-\$1,346.00	(194)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 852.00	(140)
Capital Improvements	-\$ 784.96	2nd Collection
School Mass	-\$ 59.17	
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 197.81	
Mail In	-\$ 125.00	
TOTAL	-\$5,191.44	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Second Collection

September 9, 2018 - Good Samaritans of SJB

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 9/1-2, 2018	\$ 197.81
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$12,686.29

Announcements

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 8 - Healing Service after Mass

5:00 p.m. † Robert Sepulveda - Campos Family
† Moises Lawrence Reyes - John & Grandkids
† Denise Guzman - Socorro & Raquel

Sunday, September 9 **

8:00 a.m. † Ernestina & Guadalupe Huerta - Children
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Victor Garcia - Willie Garcia
† Sr. Rosario Juarez - Angie Canales

In Thanksgiving Las Guadalupanas

10:00 a.m. † Juan D. Velasquez - Daughter
† Juan Alberto Martinez - Family
† Hope Lopez - Family
† Joe & Olivia Benavides - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family

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

**Healing Service on Sunday for 8am and 10am Mass only

Monday, September 10

12:00

Tuesday, September 11

12:00 p.m. For The Victims of 9-11

Wednesday, September 12

8:15 a.m.

Gift of Life Socorro Castillo - Family

Thursday, September 13

12:00 p.m.

In Thanksgiving Joan Orosco - Family

Friday, September 14

12:00 p.m. † Ernesto Urias

Saturday, September 15

5:00 p.m. † John Jay Mendiola - Family
† Ignacio & Beatrice V. Gomez- Virginia Valdez
† Maria V. Aguirre - Socorro & Raquel

In Thanksgiving Virgen de Guadalupe - Linda Gill

Sunday, September 16

8:00 a.m. † Gloria C. Euresti - Family
† Gilberto Terrazas - Angie Canales
† Maria Isabel Castro - Perez Family

Gift of Life Sandra Treviño - Nora Treviño

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 St. John Berchmans Community

In Loving Memory

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

Sanctuary Light

For All Military Serving Our Country



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

This past Monday, September 3, 2018, we celebrated Labor Day. Our great country is still honoring all workers who individually contribute with their work ethic to make the United States a more prosperous nation. I celebrate my parishioners who sacrifice for their families. Please take time to thank God for your job and I pray that God answers the prayers of those who are searching for a job, and those who are seeking fair wages.

Today Sunday, September 9, 2018, we celebrate Grandparent's Day. Let us take time to celebrate grandparents on their special day. Grandparents are so special in our lives contributing with their generosity, love and compassion. Please make sure you attend all the classes as planned by the program and most importantly participate at the Holy Eucharist every Sunday during the 12:00 noon Mass. We thank Karen and Victor Araguz for undertaking this major program for our children, it takes a village to raise a child. May we all pour our efforts to care and support our children in this special program.

We welcome all the Religious Education students to our program. As you officially commence your yearly program, may you take advantage of it to nurture your faith, learn about your faith journey and prepare for the sacraments. Please make sure you attend all the classes as planned by the program and most importantly participate at the Holy Eucharist every Sunday during the 12:00 noon Mass. We thank Karen and Victor Araguz for undertaking this major program for our children, it takes a village to raise a child. May we all pour our efforts to care and support our children in this special program.

Our convent facility known as the "Formation House" has undergone extensive remodeling and repair during these past six months. It has previously hosted Religious members of CIM in formation, including myself, and Notre Dame University students under a two year master degree program. The House is now available for rentals at a reasonable cost. The House will accommodate Anniversaries, Fellowships, Baby Showers, Birthdays, Graduations, Reunions and other celebrations. Mr. Philip H. Saldaña has been officially appointed as manager of the facility and for the celebrations. If you should require more information, please contact Mr. Saldaña at 210) 589-9416 or the church office at 210) 434.3247. Please share this information with your families, relatives and friends.

Our Fall Festival 2018 T-Shirts are currently on sale! They are available in two colors, navy and purple, with all sizes available for order. Each T-Shirt costs \$10.00 for children's sizes including medium and XL for adults. Any additional X size will cost \$2.00 more (2XL-4XL). Please become part of the celebration by placing your order as soon as possible and support our Fall Festival. You can order your T-shirt after each mass this weekend or you may order in the office. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Six Pack Sunday has begun and we invite each one of you to bring either soda or water packs, preferably in cans, according to the mass you attend. The following informs parishioners of their contributions' according to their preferred mass:

- 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass: Water
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass: Sprite and Dr. Pepper
- 12:00 p.m. Sunday Mass: Regular Coke and Diet Coke

Your contributions toward Six Pack Sunday are greatly appreciated and will continue until Saturday, September 22nd. Please bring your soda or water contributions to Mass, or to the church office, at your convenience. Thank you again for all the initiatives towards our success for our Fall Festival 2018

May God bless you always,
Father Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - Be strong, fear not! Here is your God (Isaiah 35:4-7)

Psalms - Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

Second Reading - Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ (James 2:1-5).

Gospel - Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).

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 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11
Tue: 1 Cor 6:1-11; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 6:12-19
Wed: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26
Thu: 1 Cor 8:1-13; Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 23-24; Lk 6:27-38
Fri: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 78:1-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Sat: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Jn 19:25-27
Sun: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

Events of the Week ~ September 9 - 16, 2018

Sunday, September 9- CCD CLASSES BEGIN

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, September 10

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Chapel

Tuesday, September 11

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
6:30 p.m. Guadalupana Meeting - Formation House
7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group - Church

Wednesday, September 12

8:15 a.m. Children's Mass - Church
9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
6:30 p.m. ACTS Core Meeting - Formation House

Thursday, September 13

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

Friday, September 14

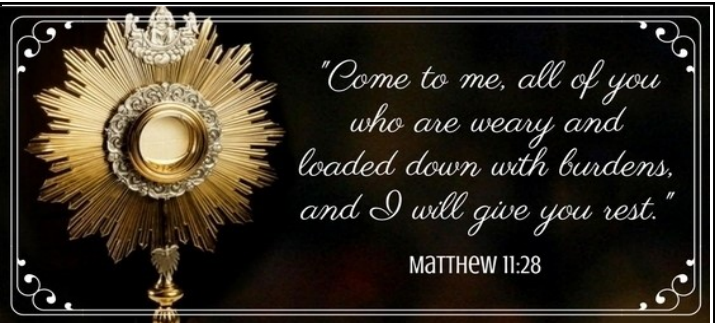
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Saturday, September 15

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

Sunday, September 16

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, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



FOOD HANDLING MANDATORY TRAINING

Training for all SJB food booths will be held on **Wednesday, September 19th.**

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: School Cafeteria

All leaders of organizations and volunteers of food booths must be present.

For any questions, please contact John or Angie Diaz at 210) 919-2411. Thank you for your support!

SIX PACK SUNDAYS

Please make note of Father Fidele's pastor message regarding "SIX PACK SUNDAYS" in support of our Fall Festival. We have received enough Big Red, however still need the following:

- 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass: Water
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass: Sprite and Dr. Pepper
- 12:00 p.m. Sunday Mass: Regular Coke and Diet Coke

THANK YOU AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

Our parish is always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. It takes a lot of work and assistance from many individuals to prepare our church for Mass. We thank you for your commitment to our place of worship and to our community.

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

September 15, 2018 — Youth & Young Adults



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



"UNITED: WE ARE ONE" - ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 12 Noon - 12:00 Midnight

MUSIC LINEUP :

Massore

Los Desperadoz

Javier Galvan

La Justicia and Much More Entertainment

FOOD - DRINKS - BINGO - SILENT AUCTION - RAFFLE

****FREE ADMISSION**FREE PARKING AT J.F. KENNEDY PARKING LOT**

**Chairpersons: Richard & Sarah Sustaita, John & Angie Diaz, Ken & Sylvia Lore,
Jaime & Chayo Gomez**

**WE ARE IN NEED OF FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT CHAYO GOMEZ
AT (210) 219-2153. THANK YOU!**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE NEWS

*The future of our church depends on the faith of our children. It takes a village to raise a child.
Live it, teach it, proclaim it.*

Registration for Religious Education for the year 2018-2019 will take place on September 9.

Religious Education classes begin Sunday, September 9.

IMPORTANT: Registration will be over on Sunday, September 16 for all Sacramental mandates.

When registering, bring your child's Baptismal certificate if the child is baptized, or your child's birth certificate if your child is not baptized. Cost is \$30.00 per child. If registering more than one child, cost will be \$25 per child. Questions? Please contact Victor or Karen Araguz at (210) 286-1369.

THANK YOU to all of our parishioners and individuals who are assisting in selling our Festival Raffle Tickets. You are truly amazing and we are hopeful for a successful Fall Festival.

Please be reminded to turn in raffle ticket monies. Volunteers will be available at all weekend masses and/or monies may be directly submitted to the Parish Office.



GRANDPARENT'S DAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

Don't forget to acknowledge all the awesome grandparents in your family and those within our SJB community.

You're an integral part of the family and we pray for God's blessings of good health, peace and THANKS for filling the world with love!

SEE BEYOND OUTWARD APPEARANCES

The phrase "Sunday best" has lost much of its meaning in our society today. Some lament the loss of people dressing up for church on Sunday; others think it's a healthy sign that we're as casual in attire gathered before the Lord as we are elsewhere. No matter which school of thought on this topic we belong to, James would probably chastise us. In either case, we are still focused on external appearance, mistaking it for some sort of favored position before God. True, James criticizes the community that favors the rich and well-dressed while ostracizing the poorly clothed, but even more he criticizes the making of distinctions, making choices based on criteria that having nothing to do with the reign of God. James might turn our attention to the reign of God described by Isaiah, in which people are healed and the earth becomes ripe to bear fruit. Jesus today is focused on this reign of God, healing a Gentile man in a region hostile to his Jewish faith, not mindful of the man's origins or clothing or status or ability to repay. Isaiah, James, and Jesus in Mark's Gospel, all call us to look more deeply to find where the will of God needs to be done, and has been done, on earth as in heaven.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How have I failed to be open to those who were outside my present community? How can I welcome those who are outsiders?