

Thirty-third Sunday In Ordinary Time

November 18, 2018

www.stjohnberchmans.com

WORDS OF DARKNESS

We may feel uneasy about the end of the world for many reasons, especially considering the dramatic language that today's scriptures use to describe the last days. Rarely do our Sunday readings provoke us with descriptions of "tribulation" that is "unsurpassed in distress;" of the awakened dead who wallow in "everlasting horror and disgrace;" and of darkened heavens where "the stars will be falling from the sky." The end of the world unsettles us for another, more basic reason, too: we do not know when it is coming. The unknown can frighten us. Horror movies rely on that tendency to terrify moviegoers. Mystery and suspense thrillers fill us with anxiety while we await a resolution. We could rest easier and plan ahead, we like to think, if only we knew exactly when this final ordeal will beset humanity.

WORDS OF EVERLASTING LIFE

"Heaven and earth will pass away," Jesus assures us in today's Gospel, "but my words will not pass away." Foreboding words about the end of the world may distress us, but Jesus' words bring us glory. Word-made-flesh, Jesus walked and talked among us. We have inherited his gospel. Jesus gave us the words of everlasting life so that we can look forward to his second coming with faith, hope, and love.

While we wait, the Lord accompanies us in word and sacrament. If we begin to feel anxious, Jesus is with us. We can turn to his words in the Bible and experience his closeness. If we are overwhelmed by our shortcomings and sins, we can participate in the liturgy and feel the intimacy of Jesus in the Eucharist and in one another. The world will end, certainly. But Jesus, the Word of God, has already conquered death. Jesus invites us be unafraid. Over and over again in the Gospels, Jesus says not to fear, offering instead his deep and lasting peace.

Today's Readings: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

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PALABRAS DE OSCURIDAD

Por muchas razones podemos sentirnos intranquilos por el fin del mundo, especialmente considerando el lenguaje dramático de las Escrituras de hoy que describen los últimos días. Raramente nuestras lecturas del domingo nos provocan con descripciones de "tribulación" que es "insuperable en angustias" de los muertos que se revuelcan en "horror y desgracia eterna"; y de los cielos oscurecidos donde "las estrellas que caen del cielo". El fin del mundo también nos desestabiliza por otra razón, más básica, no sabemos cuándo va a suceder. Lo desconocido puede asustarnos. Las películas de terror dependen de esa tendencia para asustar a los cinéfilos. Las novelas de suspenso y misterio nos ponen ansiosos mientras esperamos un desenlace. Podemos descansar tranquilos y planificar el futuro, nos gusta pensar, si solo supiéramos exactamente cuándo esta dura prueba acosará a la humanidad.

PALABRAS DE VIDA ETERNA

"Cielo y tierra pasarán", Jesús nos asegura en el Evangelio de hoy "pero mis palabras no pasarán". Las palabras premonitorias acerca del fin del mundo pueden angustiarnos, pero las palabras de Jesús nos dan gloria. La Palabra hecha carne, Jesús caminó y habló en medio de nosotros. Heredamos su Evangelio. Jesús nos dio palabras de vida eterna para que podamos esperar su segunda venida con fe, esperanza y amor.

Mientras esperamos, el Señor nos acompaña en palabra y Sacramento. Si comenzamos a sentirnos ansiosos, Jesús está con nosotros. Podemos volver a sus palabras en la Biblia y experimentar su cercanía. Si estamos abrumados por nuestros defectos y pecados, podemos participar en la liturgia y sentir la intimidad de Jesús en la Eucaristía y en los demás. Ciertamente el mundo tendrá un fin. Pero Jesús, la Palabra de Dios, ya ha vencido la muerte. Jesús nos invita a no tener miedo. Una y otra vez en los evangelios, Jesús dice no temer, ofreciéndonos en su lugar su paz profunda y eterna.

Lecturas de hoy: Dn 12:1-3; Sal 16 (15):5, 8, 9-10, 11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mc 13:24-32

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Andrew Villegas	Katelynn Rae Ramirez	Elva Benavides
Yadira Traspaña	Louie & Estefana Reyes	Marco Mermea
Baby Gracie Bernal	Frances Ramirez	Robert Campos
Benito A. Perales	Alex Hernandez	Petra P. Chavez
Francisco Angel Perales	Jesse Diaz	Sister Louise - OLLU
Anselmo A. Perales	John Ruiz	Aurora Perez
Mario Andres Perales	Pastor Stuart Julee	Frances Lozano
Martha Lucy Vega & Children	Herman "Koby" Cantu	Alfredo M. Moreno
Jesse Vega	Victoria Cepeda	Celina Herrera
Jesse Mario Vega	Mario Moreno	Yolanda Verastegui
Orlando L. Vega & Children	Arturo M. Moreno	Amy Gomez
Roxsandra Gallardo	Annamarie Vasquez	Virginia & Jose
Paul Sifuentes	Roland Martinez, Sr.	Ponce, Jr.
Lucy Clare Treviño	Roland Martinez, Jr.	Daniel Rogers
David Santoyo	Olivia Ibarra	Santos Aguilar
Lupita Gomez	Baby Violet Flores	Olivia Lopez
Irene Perez	Connie Flores	Hortencia Rodriguez
	Philip Saldaña	San Juanita Sanchez
	Linda Davila	

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

NOVEMBER 10-11, 2018

5:00 AM	-\$ 995.00	(078)
8:00 AM	-\$ 359.50	(080)
10:00 AM	-\$ 878.00	(128)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,202.00	(208)
Turkey Bingo	-\$ 352.60	2ndCollection
School Mass	-\$ 54.35	
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 210.14	
Mail In	-\$ 303.10	
TOTAL	- \$4,354.69	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH

SECOND COLLECTION

November 18 - Catholic Campaign for Human Dev.

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 11/10-11, 2018	\$ 210.14
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$16,485.98

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, November 17

5:00 p.m. † Ignacio & Beatrice V. Gomez - Virginia Valdez

Sunday, November 18

8:00 a.m. Almas Santas en el Purgatorio - Victoria Sanchez
Gift of Life Courtney Treviño - Nora Treviño

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

12:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Family
† Roman G. Garcia - Mom
† Melchor Dueñas - Maria G. Alvarado
† Marcelina Martinez - Maria G. Alvarado
† Pedro Alvarado, Jr. - Maria G. Alvarado
† Anita Vera - Maria G. Alvarado

Monday, November 19

12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 20

12:00 p.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, November 21

NO MASS

Thursday, November 22 - THANKSGIVING DAY

10:00 a.m. † Ernesto Rubio, Sr. - Family
† Maria Soto - Family
† Roman Garcia - Mom
† Candelario & Mercedes Lopez - Daughter
† Mercedes, Irene & Nieves Lopez - Sister

Friday, November 23

NO MASS

Saturday, November 24

5:00 p.m. † Frank Valdivia - Campos Family
Gift of Life Perla Treviño - Frances Ramirez

Sunday, November 25 - CHRIST THE KING FEAST

8:00 a.m. † Albert F. Hinojosa
Almas Santas en el Purgatorio - Victoria Sanchez
Gift of Life Perla Treviño - Nora Treviño

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

12:00 p.m. † Roman G. Garcia - Mom
† Melissa Herrera Jenkins - Parents

In Loving Memory

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

† Ruben G. Villarreal
† Alfredo Marin Carranza
† Raul Solis



Sanctuary Light
† Luis Duran, Sr.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

This Thursday, November 22, 2018, we celebrate Thanksgiving. I invite each one of you to join us for a bilingual celebration mass at 10:00 in the morning, as we gather to thank God for all the blessings bestowed upon each one of us. We are encouraged to gather together as a family appreciating each other and being grateful for the gift of life. Thanksgiving is also a time of prayer, reconciliation and love. I thank God everyday for the gift of my life and for the special gift of the community of St. John Berchmans. We are a wonderful family and I feel blessed being your Pastor and friend. May God continue to bless us as we celebrate Thanksgiving.

I am proud to announce to you that we have successfully secured three major projects in our community for the purpose of enhancing the infrastructure of our Church. The projects are: 1) new ramp for the Formation House, 2) eight cameras surrounding the perimeters and interior of the Church and 3) interior acoustical panels. The ramp will facilitate the entrance to the Formation House especially for those struggling to climb the stairs. The cameras will improve the security of our property and make us safer. The acoustical panels will have better control of the sound and allow the community to hear the word of God better. We hope these additional projects will improve the infrastructure of our community and expect them completed by Christmas. Thank you for your generosity in accomplishing these projects.

You may have noticed the change in our tabernacle. The current tabernacle was presented to us by St. Stephen on the occasion of closing their church. We have incorporated this tabernacle in our community by placing it in the middle of the altar. I hope the new tabernacle not only provides comfort to those who had a personal experience with this particular tabernacle from St. Stephen, but will also provide more joy, happiness and acceptance. Our prior tabernacle, which apparently was purchased by the youth, will make its way to the Formation House to be placed in a garden room for meditation.

Each of my parishioners is cordially invited to join me next summer on my annual pilgrimage to Italy from June 10th thru 20th, 2019. We will be visiting Venice, Florence, Padua, Assisi and Rome. Experience firsthand the opportunity to visit beautiful Basilicas, ancient Roman ruins, the Vatican Museum and an audience with Pope Francis. A brochure is readily available upon request at the church office.

May God bless you always,

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

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever (Daniel 12:1-3).

Psalm — You are my inheritance, O Lord! (Psalm 16).

Second Reading — Where there is forgiveness, there is no longer offering for sin (Hebrews 10:11-14, 18).

Gospel — Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away (Mark 13:24-32) The English translation of the Palm Responses from *Lectio* for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43

Tue: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10

Wed: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28

Thu: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44

Thanksgiving Day—Suggested:

Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Fri: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111; Lk 19:45-48

Sat: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40

Sun: Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37

Events of the Week ~ November 18 - 25, 2018

Sunday, November 18

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
2:00 p.m. Turkey Bingo - Cafeteria

Monday, November 19

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Chapel

Tuesday, November 20

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Chapel

Wednesday, November 21

9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite
6:30 p.m. Youth Core Meeting - Formation House

Thursday, November 22 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church

Friday, November 23 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 24 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

Sunday, November 25

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church
KOC - SAUSAGE WRAP FUNDRAISER AFTER ALL MASSES
10:00 a.m. Mass - Church
12:00 p.m. Mass - Church



NO ADORATION SCHEDULED THIS WEEK



Our Religious Education program will not conduct classes this coming week.

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will be held on Sunday, November 18th and Sunday, November 25, 2018.

Classes will resume on Sunday, December 2, 2018.
Thank you!

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- Grow Your Business
- Support your Parish
- Reach new customers
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We kindly ask that you patronize the businesses that support the printing of our parish bulletin covers. We are thankful for their support of our church bulletin.

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

November 24, 2018 — Guadalupanas

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 18, 2018

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

— Mark 13:31



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



We thank God for the gift of life, for our families, friends, country, city, community, parish and one another. Please do not take for granted all the blessings bestowed upon us. Everyday is a blessing and gift from God.

The Parish Office will be **closed on Thursday, November 22, Friday, November 23 and Saturday, November 24, 2018.**

Regular office hours will **resume on Monday, November 26th at 9 a.m.**

REMINDER: Parishioners who wish to have their bread blessed for their Thanksgiving meals are asked to bring them to the 10 am Mass on Thanksgiving Day.

ANNUAL TURKEY BINGO will take place on Sunday, November 18 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The cost is \$7.00 per tickets, 15 games and special are separate. Please make plans to attend and we will have great prizes and delicious food.

GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS PRESENTATION OFFERED THROUGH PORTER LORING FAMILY CARE SERVICES

The holidays are an especially hard time when grieving the loss of a loved one. "Grief and the Holidays" is a workshop designed to help families who are grieving to better understand the grief process, how it affects us during the holidays and how we can use this special time to continue to heal.

Please join us on **Thursday, November 28th** at St. David's Episcopal Church, 1300 Wiltshire, San Antonio, TX 78209. Presenter: Mary Olive Judson, M.A., LPC. Please contact Church Office at 210. 824.2481 .to reserve a spot.



ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL will have a CHRISTMAS ARTS AND CRAFT SHOW ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018 FROM 8AM - 2PM IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA.



Contact Sandy Salazar at the school office at 210.433.0411 if you're interested in setting up a table with your crafts.

Coffee, Hot Chocolate, breakfast and lunch items as well as pastries will be available for purchase.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's that time of year again! If you would like to order a Christmas Poinsettia in memory of your loved one, please call the Parish Office at 210.434.3247 and ask for Mrs. Rosa Moreno. The altar will be decorated with the poinsettias and they may be picked up in the office after Christmas.

The cost per poinsettia is \$10.00 and we will sell only 65 poinsettias. Thank you!

DAVID KAUFFMAN IN CONCERT

David Kauffman is a prolific artist who has written many songs for A.C.T.S. retreats worldwide and co-wrote the NPM Aware Winning Mass of Renewal.

DATE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018 AT 7pm. - ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CHURCH

ENCOURAGEMENT

This Sunday's Gospel is our final selection from Mark for this liturgical year. It is taken from the end of Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem immediately preceding the account of his arrest and passion. In it Jesus gives his disciples hope to sustain them through his passion and death and any persecution or suffering that they would encounter after his resurrection.

The words from the book of Daniel also provided hope and encouragement to the people of Daniel's time. The encouragement in these scriptures is meant for us as well, for none of us will escape tribulation in our lives. Followers of Jesus will be able to endure suffering with joyful hope, knowing that Christ's love will lead us along the way of discipleship and give us eternal life with God. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How does not knowing when the end will come change the way I live my life?