



## *St. John Berchmans Catholic Church*

1147 Cupples Rd. San Antonio, Texas 78226 (210) 434-3247

Fr. Fidele O. Dikete  
Pastor

Deacon Jesus Rodriguez • Deacon Francisco Sandoval

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm (Closed 12pm - 1pm) ; Saturday 10am - 2pm

**Mass Times:** Saturday Vigil 5pm; Sunday 8am (Spanish); 10am; 12pm Noon

**Weekday Services:** Tuesday through Friday 8:15am

**School Mass:** Wednesday 8:15am (School Calendar)

**Holy Days of Obligation:** Mass at 8:15am & 7pm

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

**Baptisms/Weddings/Quinceañeras/Sweet 16:** Please contact Rosalinda Rodriguez, DRE

**Baptism Classes:** 2nd Sunday of every month. Please contact the office for more information.

**CCD:** (School Calendar): Sunday 10:30am - 1pm

**St. Vincent de Paul:** For assistance please call Lydia Ramirez at 210-704-7837

**Parish Office Staff:**

Enrique Cepeda - Sacristan

Sylvia Luna - Bookkeeper

Christine McWilliams - Website and Facebook

Sandra Martinez - OVASE Trainer

Rosa Moreno - Office Volunteer

Rosalinda Rodriguez - Director of Religious Education

Olivia Santoyo - Bulletin Editor

Delia Traspenna - Secretary

**SJB School - (210) 433-0411**

Beverly Abbott - Principal

**MISSION STATEMENT:** A 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

# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

## HANNAH AND MARY

The story of Hannah and her son Samuel in today's reading from 1 Samuel was especially important for Luke's Gospel. The passage describes the presentation of young Samuel to the priest Eli as part of the story of the faith of Hannah. Hannah had been in great suffering, as she had long desired to have a son, and saw this as central to her vocation and identity. Hannah's deep honesty with God during her distress, together with her confident persistence in prayer, reveals her as a model of faith. Luke links Hannah to Mary through the Magnificat song in Luke 1, which mirrors Hannah's joyous song in 1 Samuel 2. Luke links young Samuel to Jesus, through the presentation in the Temple in Luke 2.

Luke is suggesting that God is up to something big. Just as Samuel initiated a turning point in Israel's history, Jesus is about to open a new chapter in human history. Their stories are rooted in the remarkable faith of their mothers, Hannah and Mary.

## WEAVING THE STORY

Today's passage from Luke is the only story about Jesus in the Gospels that occurs between Jesus' infancy and his adult ministry. Luke uses the story to weave these elements together.

This story, like all the infancy passages, emphasizes that Jesus was born Son of God. Jesus' first spoken words in Luke conclude with "I must be in my Father's house." God is his Father, and Jesus speaks as God's Son.

Luke connects the future ministry of Jesus with the scene at the temple with the teachers. Jesus' listeners are astounded at his wisdom. This anticipates similar scenes as an adult. Luke also subtly hints at Jesus' resurrection, with details such as the question "why were you looking for me?" similar to "why do you seek the living one among the dead?" Luke invites us to see his Gospel as an integrated whole, weaving together Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

**Today's Readings:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

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## ANA Y MARÍA

La historia de Ana y su hijo Samuel en la lectura de hoy, tomada de 1 Samuel, fue especialmente importante para el Evangelio de Lucas. Este pasaje describe la presentación del joven Samuel al sacerdote Elí como parte de la historia de la fe de Ana. Ella había estado sufriendo mucho, pues durante mucho tiempo deseaba tener un hijo, y consideraba esto algo importante en su vocación e identidad. La honestidad intensa de Ana para con Dios durante su angustia, junto con su confianza persistente en la oración, la pone de manifiesto como un modelo de fe. Lucas relaciona a Ana con María por medio del canto del Magnificat en Lucas 1, el cual refleja el canto alegre de Ana en 1 Samuel 2. Lucas relaciona al joven Samuel con Jesús, por medio de la presentación en el Templo en Lucas 2.

Lucas sugiere que Dios está tramando algo grande. Así como Samuel inició un momento crucial en la historia de Israel, Jesús está por abrir un capítulo nuevo en la historia de la humanidad. Sus historias están enraizadas en la fe extraordinaria de sus madres, Ana y María.

## TEJIENDO LA HISTORIA

Hoy leemos un pasaje del Evangelio de Lucas, el cual es el único de los cuatro evangelios que narra la infancia de Jesús y comenta lo que pasó entre esta y su ministerio ya de adulto. Lucas utiliza esta historia para tejer juntos estas partes.

Esta historia enfatiza que Jesús nació siendo el Hijo de Dios. Las primeras palabras que Jesús dice, en el Evangelio de Lucas, concluyen diciendo "¿No sabían que debo ocuparme de las cosas de mi Padre?" Dios es su Padre y Jesús habla como el Hijo de Dios.

Lucas enlaza el futuro ministerio de Jesús con la escena en el Templo con los doctores de la Ley. Quienes escuchan a Jesús quedan admirados por su inteligencia. Esto anticipa escenas similares cuando sea adulto. Lucas también insinúa sutilmente la resurrección de Jesús, con detalles como la pregunta "¿Por qué me andan buscando?", parecido a "¿Por qué buscan entre los muertos al que está vivo?" Lucas nos invita a ver su Evangelio como un todo integrado, tejiendo juntos el nacimiento, la vida, la muerte y la resurrección de Jesús.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Eclo 3:2-6, 12-14; Sal 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

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## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Anselmo A. Perales	John Ruiz	Frances Lozano
Mario Andres Perales	Pastor Stuart Julee	Alfredo M. Moreno
Martha Lucy Vega & Children	Victoria Cepeda	Celina Herrera
Jesse Vega	Mario Moreno	Yolanda Verastegui
Jesse Mario Vega	Arturo M. Moreno	Amy Gomez
Orlando L. Vega & Children	Annmarie Vasquez	Virginia & Jose Ponce, Jr.
Roxsandra Gallardo	Roland Martinez, Sr.	Daniel Rogers
Paul Sifuentes	Roland Martinez, Jr.	Santos Aguilar
Lucy Clare Treviño	Olivia Ibarra	Olivia Lopez
David Santoyo	Baby Violet Flores	Hortencia Rodriguez
Lupita Gomez	Connie Flores	San Juanita Sanchez
Irene Perez	Philip Saldaña	Douglas Montey
Katelynn Rae Ramirez	Linda Davila	Cecilia Espinoza
Louie & Estefana Reyes	Elva Benavides	Estela De La Vega
Frances Ramirez	Marco Mermea	Diana Ledesma
Alex Hernandez	Robert Campos	Suzanne Gutierrez
Jesse Diaz	Petra P. Chavez	Jerry Ramirez
	Sister Louise - OLLU	Mary S. Martinez
	Aurora Perez	

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

**December 22-23, 2018**

5:00 PM	-\$ 320.00	(082)
8:00 AM	-\$ 777.50	(081)
10:00 AM	-\$1,066.00	(157)
12:00 NOON	-\$ 735.00	(113)
Children's Basket	-\$ 18.00	
Children's Mass	-\$ 69.17	
6:00 p.m. & Midnite Mass	-\$1,555.81	
10:00 a.m. Christmas Mass	-\$ 951.24	
Good Samaritans	-\$ 458.98	
Assumption Seminary	-\$ 37.00	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 213.46	3rd Collection
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,862.16</b>	

**SECOND COLLECTION 12/30/19: Religious Education**

## 2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 12/22-23, 2018	\$ 213.46
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,710.26</b>

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, December 29

- 5:00 p.m. † Mary Jane Felan - Rosemary & Lupe  
† Tillie Hernandez - Mary  
† Melissa Herrera Jenkins - Family  
† Gloria & Raul Solis - Thomas & Olga Diaz  
† Rosalinda Ramos - Hector Ramos & Family

### Sunday, December 30 - HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS

- 8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Delia Riojas - Clara Perez  
† Margaret & Martin Burrell - Daughter  
† Fela Silva

- 10:00 a.m. † Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
† Manuela Hinojosa - Maria  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family

- 12:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

### Monday, December 31

### Tuesday, January 1 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

- 10:00 a.m. † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† Justin Rey Martinez

### Wednesday, January 2

- 12:00 p.m. † Delia Riojas

### Thursday, January 3

- 12:00 p.m. † Fela Silva

### Friday, January 4

- 12:00 p.m. † Jeannie Ybarra

### Saturday, January 5

- 5:00 p.m. † Deacon Librado Cena - Cena Family  
† Cynthia Katie De La Cruz - Tia Mary  
† Tillie Hernandez - Mary  
† Gloria & Raul Solis - Thomas & Olga Diaz

### Sunday, January 6

- 8:00 a.m. † Telesfora Martinez - Rose Rodriguez  
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño

- 10:00 a.m. † Martin & Margaret Burrell - Daughter  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† Lionel & JoAnn Medina - Family

- 12:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

## In Loving Memory

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

- † Edward G. Moreno  
† Helen Reyes Guzman  
† Juan Francisco Bazaldua  
† Delia V. Riojas  
† Felicitas L. Silva

### Sanctuary Light

- † Felicitas L. Silva  
† Delia V. Riojas

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

I would like to take this opportunity and wish each and everyone of you a Happy New Year 2019! May the year 2019 bring you joy, happiness, love and also make all your dreams become true. An invitation is offered to participate in our first mass of the year on January 1st at 10:00 in the morning. New Year is a day of obligation as we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Please join me and your fellow parishioners on this day of obligation to celebrate Mary, Mother of God and offer the year 2019 to the Lord.

The generosity and affection exhibited towards me from my wonderful parishioners and friends is greatly appreciated. May God bless you for remembering and honoring me with tokens of affection this Christmas season.

I thank all of you who participated in our Christmas celebrations and to those of you who worked so diligently to decorate the altar: Joan Orosco, Delia Traspaña, Rosa Moreno. For setting up the Nativity: Roy Sanchez, Richard Sustaita, Richard Valenzuela, Joan Orosco and Henry Vidal; Christmas play: Elida Gonzales, Angie Diaz, Becky Dominguez, Cindy Sandoval and the children. Choir Directors: Roy Sanchez, Elida Gonzales, Martha Hidalgo, Itza Zentella, Adam Olmos and all the choir members: Becky Dominguez and the Altar servers, Kathy Flores and each hospitality member and all the lectors and Extraordinary ministers and our sacristan, Enrique Cepeda; Stella Rico and all the cleaning volunteers: Victor and Karen Araguz and the CCD students. A special thank you also to the Liturgy Committee of the school and the children for their three consecutive nights of Christmas plays.

Our Christmas Gift of Giving, with a budget of \$9,000, was able to serve 25 families. We have a remaining balance of \$8,710.26 and intend to increase on that amount for next year's 2019 Christmas Gift of Giving. Each family and individual that submitted an application was serviced. I thank each one of you for your generosity and continued support towards the needy of our community. God bless you for your generosity.

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 ruin, the Vatican Museum and an audience with Pope Francis. A brochure is readily available on 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** — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-28)

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84)

**Second Reading** — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-24)

**Gospel** — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41-52)

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18  
Tue: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
Wed: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28  
Thu: 1 Jn 2:29 -3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34  
Fri: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42  
Sat: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51  
Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-13; Eph 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12

## Events of the Week ~ December 30 - January 6, 2018

### Sunday, December 30 - NO CCD CLASSES

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, December 31

**Tuesday, January 1 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**  
**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
10:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church

### Wednesday, January 2

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel  
6:00 p.m. Guadalupe Meeting - Formation House

### Thursday, January 3

12:00 a.m. Mass - Chapel

### Friday, January 4

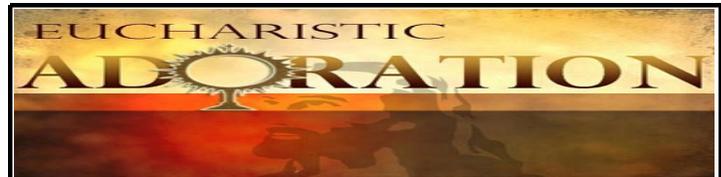
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

### Saturday, January 5

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

### Sunday, January 6 - CCD CLASSES RESUME

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



## THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Please join us every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in our Chapel. Exposition of the Holy Eucharist is the REAL presence of our Lord and Savior. Just as you can't be exposed to the sun without receiving it's rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the divine rays of His Grace, Love and Peace.



Parish Office will be closed on **Tuesday, January 1, 2019** in observance of the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God and New Year's Day.

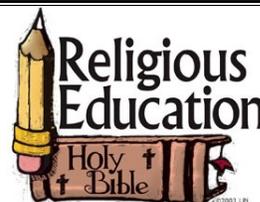
Begin the New Year right by attending mass at 10:00 a.m. and have a safe celebration.

We will re-open on **Wednesday, January 2, 2019** at 9:00 a.m.

## 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**  
January 5, 2019 - Liturgy/Altar Servers



## REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Due to our Christmas break there will be **no** Religious Education classes held on **Sunday, December 30, 2018.**

**Classes will resume on Sunday, January 6, 2019!** On behalf of the Religious Education staff we wish you a holiday season!



## 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 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



## **THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

God has given us the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as a model to imitate for our families. Every family encounters difficult situations. It was no different for the Holy Family. Right from the beginning there were many difficult situations that they had to overcome: the virginal conception of Jesus by the power of the Holy spirit in Mary, Joseph having to accept his reality and take in the child and the mother to guard and protect them, the journey into Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus in a dark, cold smelly stable. Think about how difficult it must have been for Mary and Joseph to bring their Son into the world in such conditions.

If our families are to imitate the holy family, then we must always remember that God is looking upon us and our families with love. We need to trust that He is going to protect our families, and guide our families because He is faithful to His Promises.

So today, as we approach this altar to receive the body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus, let us invite Jesus to become flesh in our hearts especially in those places where we carry the wounds of our life, and the wounds that come from our families and allow God to be made there, to heal us and bring us into the family that we are called to be in, the most Holy Family of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## **REMINDER FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

If you ordered poinsettia/s in memory of a loved one, please come by the Parish office Monday-Friday during normal business hours and pick them up. We close for lunch from 12:40-1:40pm. Thank you!



## **WORLD DAY OF PEACE IS JANUARY 1, 2019**

Pope Francis' message for the celebration of the 2019 would focus on "good politics." Good politics is at the service of peace. Political responsibility belongs to all citizens, especially those given the mandate "to protect and to govern." We must realize that there is no peace without mutual trust. And the first condition for trust is respecting one's word. Political involvement is one of the loftiest expressions of charity, and it brings with it a concern for "the future of life and the planet, of the young and the least, in their thirst of fulfillment.

We are called to bring and proclaim peace as the good news of a future where every living being will be respected in dignity and rights.

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

Whenever a priest celebrates Mass, he has at least two intentions.

The first intention is to celebrate Mass according to what the Church does. The second is to apply the grace of that Mass towards a specific need, or whether it be a person(s) living or deceased, baptized or not, or a special need or occasion.

Parishioners who are interested in requesting a mass for the 2019 year are encouraged to come by or call our Parish office at 210)434-2347. There is a \$5.00 donation for each mass intention. Thank you!

## **HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS**

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

What can I do for my parents/siblings/spouse/children to make my family more holy, more like the ideal that God calls us to?

Bulletin Number: 515242

St. John Berchmans  
San Antonio, TX 78226  
210-434-3247

Contact: Olivia Santoyo  
Email: [osantoyo1104@gmail.com](mailto:osantoyo1104@gmail.com)

Software Using:  
Win 7  
Pub 2010  
AAX Standard

Pages Sent: 1– 6

Special Instructions: