

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

YOUR HOLY FAMILY

Families come in all shapes and sizes. When asked to describe your family, you might begin by telling people about a parent, sibling, or extended family members. You might even describe what you have learned from a genealogical study. You are unlikely, however, no matter how wonderful your family may be, to describe your family as "holy." And yet, this is our primary call. Each of us as people of God, and each of our families, is called to be holy. We are called to live as God's people in the world, to communicate God's love and presence through the way that we live together and in relationship with others. Every family, no matter what their circumstances, is called to be a holy family. Even Mary, Joseph, and Jesus faced challenges and trials. And yet they rose to the occasion, listened to and followed God's will, and were assured of the love of the Lord through it all.

LISTEN TO YOUR ANGEL

Have you ever found yourself at a crossroads? One direction may be momentarily advantageous or easy, another more challenging but right or good. It is not always easy to know which direction to choose. Discerning our path of life necessarily involves prayer, the guidance of others whom we trust, and the promptings of the Holy Spirit within us. The example of the Holy Family is that they followed the will of God, trusting in God's abiding presence even when they knew that doing so involved risk and uncertainty. Mary trusted the voice of the angel, although the message was beyond comprehension; Joseph listened to the voice of the Lord in dreams and proceeded, assured of God's guiding spirit in the midst of troubling circumstances. This is what our families must do as well. Being Christian people in today's world is not always easy, even when we know it is right. This is the meaning of holiness. This is what it means to be a holy family.

Today's Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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LA FIESTA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA

Hay familias de todos tipos y tamaños. Cuando se pide que describas a tu familia, quizá empieces hablando acerca de uno de tus papás, un hermano u otros familiares. Más aun, podrías describir lo que has conocido de tus antepasados. Podría ser poco probable, sin importar lo maravilloso que tu familia pueda ser, que describas a tu familia como "sagrada". Sin embargo, eso es a lo que estamos llamados en primer lugar. Cada uno de nosotros como personas de Dios, y cada una de nuestras familias, está llamada a ser santa. Estamos llamados a llevar una vida como el pueblo de Dios en el mundo, para comunicar el amor de Dios y su presencia por medio de la forma en que vivimos juntos y en relación con los demás. Cada familia, sin importar sus circunstancias, está llamada a ser una familia sagrada. Incluso María, José y Jesús enfrentaron desafíos y dificultades. Aun así, se levantaron de esas circunstancias, escucharon, hicieron la voluntad de Dios y se pusieron en sus manos asegurándose del amor del Dios en todo esto.

ESCUCHA A TU ÁNGEL

¿Alguna vez te ha tocado estar en un cruce de caminos? Una dirección al principio podría ofrecer más ventajas, la otra podría tener más desafíos, aunque buenas y correctas. No siempre es fácil saber cuál camino elegir. Discernir nuestro camino en la vida necesariamente requiere de oración, la guía de otros en quienes confiamos y los movimientos del Espíritu Santo dentro de nosotros. El ejemplo de la Sagrada Familia es que siguió la voluntad de Dios poniéndose en sus manos, confiando en la presencia permanente de Dios, incluso sabiendo que al hacerlo se ponían en la incertidumbre y en riesgo. María confió en la voz del ángel, aunque el mensaje estaba más allá de la comprensión; José escuchó la voz del Señor en sueños y procedió, confiado de la guía del espíritu de Dios en medio de circunstancias preocupantes. Esto es lo que nuestras familias también deben hacer. Ser personas cristianas en el mundo de hoy no siempre es fácil, incluso cuando sabemos lo que es correcto. Este es el significado de la santidad. Esto es lo que significa ser una familia sagrada.

Lecturas de hoy: Eclo 3:2-6, 12-14; Sal 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Debra Sendejo	Mary Escalera	Victoria Orosco
Michael Sendejo	Maximus James Tobar	Henry Vidal
Ashley Arthur	Suzanne Gutierrez	Hope Esquivel
Annette Vega	Benny Martinez	Victor Cruz
Kevin Ryan Martinez	Edward Martinez	Tomas Johnson
David Ortiz	Terry Moreno	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez
Sammuel Cortez	Sarah Contreras	Rosalinda Esparza
Mary Lou Medina	Donnie Vordenbaum	Daniel Rodriguez
Inez De Los Santos	Gary Stanko	Rosie Flores
Frances Ramirez	Jose Flores	Jessica Diaz
Clara Perez	Ramiro Davila	Robert Campos
Sandra Amaya	Marty Carrera Tobias	Gloria Martinez
Danny Rae Schexnayder, Sr.	Jesse R. Diaz	Carlos Guardiola, III
Sandra Jean Guerra	Celina Herrera	Joe R. Martinez
Kayla Scott	David Santoyo	Baby Sophia
Maria Langley	Eva Flores	Antonio Mendoza
Irma Urias	Paul Muñoz, Sr.	Sophie Alonzo
Mary S. Martinez	Joe Espinoza	Helen Lloyd
Frances Lozano	Virginia & Jose Ponce	Odilion G. Flores

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.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

DECEMBER 21-22, 2019

5:00 PM	-\$ 843.00	(068)
8:00 AM	-\$ 479.00	(068)
10:00 AM	-\$1,278.00	(119)
12 NOON	-\$ 789.00	(166)
School Mass	-\$ 64.31	
Good Samaritans	-\$ 581.87	
Mail In	-\$ 330.00	
2019 Gift of Giving	-\$ 284.89	
TOTAL	\$4,650.07	

SECOND COLLECTION

December 29, 2019 - Religious Education

2019 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 12/21-22/19	\$ 284.89
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$19,675.29

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, December 28

5:00 p.m. † Paul Salinas - John & Angie Diaz
† Francisca Arzola - Diaz Family
† Melissa Herrera Jenkins - Parents
Gift of Life Mary Alice Herrera - Family

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m. † Santos Canales - Angelita Canales
† Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Hilda Torres - Ultreya

10:00 a.m. † Martin & Margaret Burrell - Daughter
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Paul G. Salinas - Family
For Health Sophie Alonzo - Aunt Connie

12:00 p.m. † Rosalinda Ramos - Family

Monday, December 30

Tuesday, December 31

12:00 p.m.
Gift of Life Carolina Rose Santoyo

Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

10:00 a.m. † Daniel Traspaña, Jr. - Family
† Raymond Cruz, Sr. - Family
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Candelario & Mercedes Lopez - Olivia Lopez
† Drew Luna - Family
† Estela Jaramillo - Family
† Nasario Jaramillo - Family

Thursday, January 2

12:00 p.m. † Andrea Jacobo

Friday, January 3

12:00 p.m.
For Health Odilon G. Flores

Saturday, January 4

5:00 p.m.
In Thanksgiving † Chantal & Chad - Family

Sunday, January 5

8:00 a.m. † Lionel & Joann Medina - Daughter
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family

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

12:00 p.m. † Paul G. Salinas - Family

In Loving Memory

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

† **Andrea Jacobo**



Sanctuary Light
Odilon G. Flores



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Today we celebrate Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. God created the Holy Family and blessed them with love, joy, happiness, compassion, mercy, faith, understanding and commitment to serve only Him, our creator. May the example of the Holy Family inspire us as a society to live a better life in modeling their example of faith and complete trust in the Lord.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for remembering me with a token of appreciation, a Christmas card, a gift and Christmas wishes. Thank you to the Liturgy Committee, under the leadership of Linda Campbell, for planning and organizing the Advent Season and for the beautiful Christmas celebrations. I thank all the choir directors, choir members, lectors, Extraordinary ministers, ushers, hospitality, Altar Servers, Sacristan, Mr. Enrique Cepeda, Joan Orosco and Sylvia Carrillo for the beautiful decorations, all organizations, my faithful office staff for accommodating and coordinating activities and events and being wonderful hosts, and my beloved and faithful parishioners and friends for your loyalty and commitment to the Lord and to St. John Berchmans. I pray that year 2020 brings us closer and allows us to focus on the light, our Savior who is born. Happy New Year 2020 to each and every one of you!

Each registered parishioner may collect their requested box of envelopes after Mass. Every parishioner has been issued a new number for 2020. If you wish to register, or request envelopes, please speak with Stella Rico, parish secretary, for more information. Thank you for accepting this great responsibility in assisting your parish with financial assistance which is extremely important. Please ensure you receive your complimentary calendar as well. The calendar is a small token of appreciation for your loyalty to our parish.

I announce with great excitement that the new floor has been installed and completed! Remember at all times the cost of \$37,000 to complete this project. It has been a great sacrifice to achieve this project, so it is only fitting that we take good care of our floor and of our new pew cushions in order to maintain it for future generations. The cushions for the pews have been installed and they look wonderful. Thank you, as always, for your generosity, patience and support.

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 honor and comfort their parents shall never be forgotten (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — You are called into one body. Bear with one another; forgive one another; let Christ's peace control you (Col 3:12-21).

Gospel — Joseph rose, took the child and his mother,

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Tue: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Wed: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thu: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Fri: 1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Sat: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-13; Eph 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12

Events of the Week ~ Dec. 29 - Jan. 5, 2019

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church

10:00 a.m. Mass - Church

12:00 p.m. Mass - Church

1:30 p.m. IGBO Community Mass - Church

Monday, December 30

Tuesday, December 31

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Wednesday, January 1 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church

Thursday, January 2

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Friday, January 3

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Saturday, January 4

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

Sunday, January 5

8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church

10:00 a.m. Mass - Church

12:00 p.m. Mass - Church



THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020 9:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Please join us every Thursday from 9am to 5pm 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 its 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 **Wednesday, January 1, 2020** in observance 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. on January 1, 2020.**

We will re-open on Thursday, January 2, 2020 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. *"A short time devoted to taking care of the Lord's House is a small price to pay for all He does for us each and every day."*

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries

January 4, 2020 - Boys & Girls Scouts



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 29, 2019

*Over all [other virtues]
put on love, that is, the
bond of perfection.*

— Colossians 3:14



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. 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.



St. John Berchmans Religious Education program will **NOT** conduct classes on Sunday, **December 22** and Sunday, **December 29, 2019**.

Classes will resume on Sunday, January 5, 2020.

On behalf of our Religious education staff may you and your families enjoy a peace and joyous holiday season.

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. Thank you!



WORLD DAY OF PEACE IS JANUARY 1, 2020

Pope Francis' 2020 World Peace message is entitled: 'Peace as a journey of hope: dialogue, reconciliation and ecological conversion.'

The Pope begins by saying that hope puts us on the path to peace, while "mistrust and fear weaken relationships and increase the risk of violence." He urges us to be artisans of peace, open to dialogue in a spirit of reconciliation, on a journey of ecological conversion that leads to a "new way of looking at life." And trust is respecting ones word.

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 2020 year are encouraged to come by or call our Parish office (210) 434-3247. There is a \$5.00 donation for each mass intention. Thank you!

SALVATION IN DAILY LIFE

This Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family, which comes on the first Sunday after Christmas Day. Today's feast celebrates how the humanity of Jesus (including his entire family life) has brought saving significance into the daily rhythms of our human family life.

The scriptures offer instruction and encouragement on how to share—within our families, parish families, and the wider human family—the love that God shares with us in Jesus. Selections from Sirach, Psalm 128, and Colossians encourage us to reflect divine love and thus find holiness in all our human relationships. The reading from Matthew's Gospel offers a living example of love in the actions Joseph took to protect his young family from danger and to nurture them within the larger family of faith of their time.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Is there someone I know who is vulnerable because they have no family to rely on? What can I do for them?