

# 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## BEAUTY AND TRUTH

Today the poetry of Isaiah washes over us with stunning beauty: *Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness: for there is no gloom where but now there was distress.* Isaiah's lines enchant us with their music as well as with their meaning. Haven't we all felt burdened by gloom and distress? Don't we all long for an end to darkness? Isaiah promises that God's majestic strength crushes our anguish, blowing away our troubles on a breeze. These words are lovely, but what do they mean for us really, when our day-to-day struggles are so real? How can it be true that darkness is dispelled, when so many of us suffer terribly?

## DAILY DOSES OF LIGHT

Jesus assures us: "God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5b). But how, exactly, does God's light overcome the darkness that we still experience? Saint Paul shows us how: through the cross. Today's reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians implores Jesus' followers to get along with one another, to "be united in the same mind and in the same purpose." We believe that two thousand years ago, Jesus saved the world and destroyed darkness; but until Jesus comes again, we must unite as the Body of Christ to continue pushing back the gloom of sin and division. As followers of Jesus, we work against these evils in simple ways. We intentionally attempt genuine conversation with a person we find irritating; we ignore gossip and refuse to talk behind someone's back; we befriend an awkward or needy individual. These daily doses of light bring hope to our world, which is both redeemed and not yet finished. Jesus wants our help. Like Peter, James, and John in today's Gospel, we are called by Christ to participate in salvation. Jesus chooses us, calls us, and invites us to accompany him—and imitate him—as we live in, and wait for, the Light of the World.

**Today's Readings:** Is 8:23 - 9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

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## BELLEZA Y VERDAD

Hoy la poesía de Isaías nos lava con una belleza impresionante: *El sufrimiento se ha ido, disipado en la oscuridad: ya no hay tristeza ahora donde hubo dolor.* Estas palabras de Isaías nos encantan con su música y también con su significado. ¿Acaso no nos hemos sentido cargados de tristeza y dolor? ¿No llegamos anhelar el fin de la oscuridad? Isaías promete que la fuerza majestuosa de Dios derrota nuestra angustia, haciendo volar nuestros problemas en una brisa. Estas palabras son agradables, pero ¿qué significan para nosotros verdaderamente, cuando nuestras dificultades del día a día son reales? ¿Cómo puede ser verdad que la oscuridad se desvanece, cuando muchos de nosotros sufrimos terriblemente?

## DOSIS DIARIAS DE LUZ

Jesús nos asegura: "Dios es luz y no hay en él oscuridad alguna" (1 Juan 1:5b). Pero cómo, exactamente, ¿la luz de Dios vence la oscuridad que todavía experimentamos? San Pablo nos muestra cómo: por medio de la cruz. La lectura de hoy de la primera carta de san Pablo a los corintios implora a los seguidores de Jesús a llevarse bien entre ellos, "conserven la armonía en el pensar y en el sentir". Creemos que hace dos mil años, Jesús salvó al mundo y destruyó la oscuridad; pero hasta que Jesús vuelva otra vez, debemos unirnos como el cuerpo de Cristo para continuar rechazar la oscuridad del pecado y la división. Como seguidores de Jesús, nos empleamos en contra de estos males en formas sencillas. Deliberadamente intentamos conversaciones genuinas con una persona que nos parece fastidiosa; ignoramos el chisme y rehusamos hablar a las espaldas de alguien; nos hacemos amigo de una persona difícil y necesitada. Estas dosis diarias de luz nos traen esperanza a nuestro mundo, el cual es tanto a la vez redimido, pero no terminado. Jesús quiere nuestra ayuda. Como Pedro, Santiago y Juan en el Evangelio de hoy, estamos llamados por Cristo a participar en la salvación. Jesús nos elige, nos llama y nos invita a acompañarlo, y a imitarlo, en donde vivamos, y esperamos por la Luz del Mundo.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Is 8:23 - 9:3; Sal 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

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## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



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
Mary Escalera	Victoria Orosco	JoAnn Almaguer
Maximus James Tobar	Henry Vidal	Diana Calderon
Suzanne Gutierrez	Hope Esquivel	Janie Ramirez
Benny Martinez	Victor Cruz	Liz

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 JANUARY 18-19, 2020

5:00 PM	-\$1,179.00	(111)
8:00 AM	-\$ 438.00	(059)
10:00 AM	-\$1,254.00	(173)
12 NOON	-\$ 756.00	(178)
Children's Basket	-\$ 13.00	
Altar Flowers	-\$ 522.60	2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$ 450.00	
2019 Gift of Giving	-\$ 254.02	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,866.62</b>	

## SECOND COLLECTION January 26, 2019 - Church in Latin America

<b>2020 GIFT OF GIVING</b>	
Contributions 1/18-19/2020	\$ 254.02
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,757.23</b>

# Announcements



## Saturday, January 25

5:00 p.m. † Jesus Heredia, Jr.

## Sunday, January 26

8:00 a.m. † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño

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

12:00 p.m. † Paul G. Salinas - Family

## Monday, January 27

## Tuesday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas

12:00 p.m. † Jeannie Ybarra

## Wednesday, January 29

8:15 a.m. † Lucy Hermosa Villarreal

## Thursday, January 30

12:00 p.m. † Guadalupe Herrera

## Friday, January 31 - St. John Bosco

12:00 p.m.

For Health John Ruiz

## Saturday, February 1

5:00 p.m. † Jesus Castillo - Family  
† Lucy M. Valdez - Ponce Family  
† Rudy A. Moreno - Margarita Moreno

## Sunday, February 2

8:00 a.m. † Gilberto Terrazas - Angelita Canales  
† Lionel Medina - Daughter  
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Vicente Alvarez - Familia Alvarez

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

12:00 p.m. † Richard Hernandez - Mother  
† Paul G. Salinas - Family

## *In Loving Memory*

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

† **Guadalupe Herrera**

## Sanctuary Light

† **Guadalupe Herrera**



## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I have nominated Dolores Guardiola, as recipient of the Lumen Gentium Award representing St. John Berchmans Church. Lumen Gentium Award was initiated by Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, to be bestowed upon an individual Catholic member of a parish who has demonstrated by their life, service, ministry and participation in the mission of Christ Jesus and the Church. The individual is to be a practicing Catholic who manifests an understanding of the teachings of the Church and has been graced with a life in the Catholic spiritual tradition. The individual has used his or her talents to deepen the life of the Church in the parish or has served in an extraordinary way in the ministry of the parish. Dolores Guardiola fits this profile as she has dedicated herself to serving our community as a Mass Coordinator of the 12:00 noon Mass, Extraordinary minister, youth ministry, OVASE coordinator for many years, coordinator of the silent auction at our parish festival for several years and has volunteered in other parish activities of the community. Congratulations again Dolores. We are very proud of you. God bless you always!

An open invitation is offered to Married Couples that I have had the privilege of officiating at their weddings since my assignment at St. John Berchmans in 2013 until the present. Couples meeting this criteria will be contacted by the organization committee and are asked to contact the parish office for their reservation at 210-434-3247. Married couples with 10 years of marriage or more, widows, widowers, and/or singles are invited as well. Space is very limited and first come first served. We will be hosting a night of fun with dinner, drinks, and dancing at St. John Berchmans on Friday, February 7, 2020 from 6:00 in the evening until Midnight.

We welcome the return of Felipe Saldaña in his role as Cafeteria Rental Manager. Felipe will be responsible for renting out the cafeteria for different functions such as weddings, Quinceañeras, birthdays, graduations, fellowships, etc. Please consider supporting your parish community and school by renting the cafeteria at a very reasonable price that will accommodate your budget. Be mindful to remember that all the money resulting from the rentals will benefit the church and ultimately the school.

May God bless you always,



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

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God has restored the land, and brought great joy to the people (Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3).

Psalms — The Lord is my light and my salvation (Psa 27)

Second Reading — Paul exhorts the believers at Corinth: As there is one Christ, so too must there be no divisions among you (1 Cor 1:10-13, 17).

Gospel — After calling his first disciples, Jesus goes throughout Galilee (Matthew 4:12-23).

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30

Tue: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35

Wed: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20

Thu: 2 Sm 7:18-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25

Fri: 2 Sm 11:1-10, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34

Sat: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41

Sun: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

## Events of the Week ~ Jan 26 - Feb 2, 2020

### Sunday, January 26

8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church  
10:00 a.m. Mass - Church  
11:00 a.m. SJB 8th Grade BBQ Plate Sale- Cafeteria  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Church  
1:30 p.m. IGBO Mass - Church

### Monday, January 27

### Tuesday, January 28

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

### Wednesday, January 29

8:15 a.m. School Mass - Church  
7:00 p.m. Youth Group - Formation House

### Thursday, January 30

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

### Friday, January 31

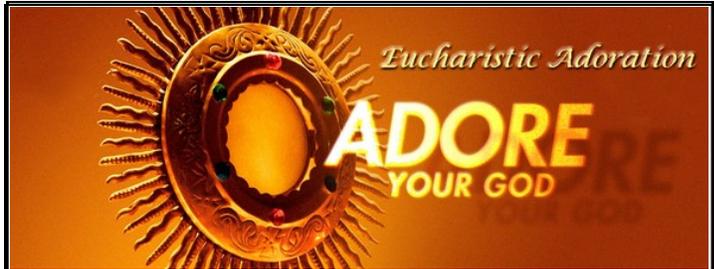
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

### Saturday, February 1

9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale - Parking Lot  
5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

### Sunday, February 2

7:00 a.m. Guadalupe Breakfast - Cafeteria  
8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church  
10:00 a.m. Mass - Church  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Church



## THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020 9:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Please join us every Thursday from 9am to 5pm in our Chapel. The Blessed Sacrament is the 'Living Heart' of each of our churches and it is our very sweet duty to honor and adore the Blessed Host, which our eyes see, and the Incarnate Word, whom they cannot see." The best time you spend on Earth you spend it with Jesus!

## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS EXTENDS CONGRATULATIONS

- To our upper elementary and middle school choir students for scoring two SUPERIOR RATINGS at the Annual CAAC Sing at the Cross competition. The "Mighty Six" award was given to our upper elementary choir even though they were small in number, they were powerful in voice. Special "Thank you" to Mr. Javier Saucedo and Mrs. Julie Ortiz for their dedication to our students. Way to go St. John Berchmans **Knights!!!**

## SJB RUMMAGE SALE

Back by popular demand we will start our first Rummage Sale of the year on Saturday, February 1, 2020.

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: SJB Parking Lot

If you have any questions or wish to reserve a space contact the Parish office at (210) 434-3247.

## 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

February 1, 2020 - CYO



## 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 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

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR - GUADALUPANA BREAKFAST**

Our Guadalupe organization is preparing to host a delicious Breakfast for our parish community on **Sunday, February 2, 2020 from 7am - 1pm in the school cafeteria.**

We will be selling different types of tacos, Menudo, desserts and assorted drinks. We invite everyone to join us as we raise monies for our organization but also to enjoy one another's company after having celebrated Mass together.

Thank you as always for your support and see you on the 2nd!



## **THE J.O.Y. MINISTRY**

Will be hosting its first one day "**Lenten Journey of You**", community retreat. We invite you on this journey of inner reflection and spiritual growth as a community to prepare for the upcoming season of Lent. The retreat will be held on **Saturday, February 22, 2020** and will take place on the church grounds. The retreat will be from **8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**, followed by **5 p.m. Mass** if you are able to attend.

This retreat is free of charge and is not affiliated with the ACTS ministry. Registration has already begun, so sign up in order to secure your spot! Priority will be given to St. John Berchmans community members. And there are three ways to register, by paper form which is available and can be dropped off at the Parish office, by email at [sbjjoy@yahoo.com](mailto:sbjjoy@yahoo.com) or by contacting the following team members:

Jessica Ramos (210) 872-1870; Chayo Gomez (210) 219-2153, Kimberly Mata (210) 994-7437 or Sylvia Gomez (210) 215-4855. Thank you and God Bless.

## **MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP GUSTAVO GARCIA-SILLER - ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO**

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSpS, is designating the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as the **Sunday of the Word of God**. "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the Word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world."

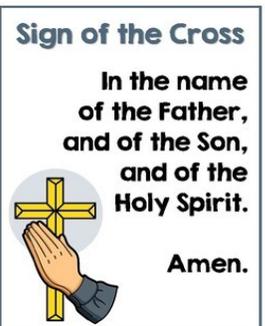
Pope Francis reminds us that, "The role of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures is primordial. Without the work of the Spirit, there would always be a risk of remaining limited to the written text alone." We are to "listen to sacred scripture and then to practice Mercy: this is the great challenge before us in life. God's word has the power to open our eyes and enable us...to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity."

## **THE SIGN OF THE CROSS**

Making the Sign of the Cross is done when we begin and end our prayers; when we enter and leave a church; we start each Mass with it; we may even make it when we hear the Holy Name of Jesus taken in vain and when we pass a Catholic church where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the tabernacle.

So we know when we make the Sign of the Cross, but do you know why we make the Sign of the Cross? The answer is simple and profound.

In the Sign of the Cross, we profess the deepest mysteries of the Christian Faith: the Trinity —Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and the saving work of Christ on the Cross on Good Friday. The combination of the words and the action are a creed—a statement of belief. We mark ourselves as Christians through the Sign of the Cross.



## **SEEKING THE LIGHT**

In today's readings we find ourselves being drawn more deeply into relationship with Jesus. We are getting to know more about him as we see how he struggles with the news of his cousin John's arrest. His first response is to withdraw, to leave Nazareth and go to Capernaum. There he is perhaps both consoled and challenged by the words of Isaiah that Matthew quotes: "the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, / on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death / light has arisen" (Matthew 4:16). Jesus contemplates his cousin's death, perhaps his own death, and he seeks the light. Maybe it is these words of Isaiah that move Jesus out of his withdrawal and into action. He begins to preach, teach, cure disease and illness, and proclaim the gospel of the kingdom.

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## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

What divisions among the people in my life can I help to heal? How can I build unity in my family, parish, or community?