

# 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

## THE RULERS OF THIS AGE

Saint Paul speaks of both the “wisdom of this age” and the “rulers of this age.” He refers specifically to the so-called wise people and institutions responsible for unjustly condemning Jesus to death. As we mourn the human sin that killed Jesus two thousand years ago, we also consider contemporary errors and evils that wound the Body of Christ in our own age. We easily recognize the crimes of our leaders. Religious, corporate, and government institutions have inflicted suffering on countless innocent souls. The depth of our modern-day failures threatens us with despair. But Jesus calls us to renewed faithfulness and hope. Jesus tells us to “surpass” our leaders in righteousness. He instructs us to simplify our own lives: “Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’ Anything more is from the evil one.” We are right to work against the sins of our leaders, but we must also scrutinize our own lives and make peace with our families, neighbors, and coworkers.

## PASSING AWAY

There is some urgency in Christ’s call to holiness. Everything in this age is passing away. Jesus’ call is timely and radical, pleading with us to drop other business and make reconciliation a priority. The Lord actually says to “leave your gift at the altar” and return to worship after making peace with the adversaries in our lives. Jesus is deadly serious about the need for reconciliation and righteousness, insisting that nothing—not even our eyes and arms—are worth more than love. All of today’s readings reflect on the deep connection between God’s law and healthy, peaceful love. As Saint Paul says in Romans 13:10, “love is the fulfillment of the law.” Here in the twenty-first century, we modern disciples of Christ can cultivate that mystery deep in our hearts, nurturing the tremendous twin gifts of God’s love and God’s law, offered to us freely to help us sustain a healthy and holy Body of Christ.

**Today’s Readings:** Sir 15:15–20; Ps 119:1–2, 4–5, 17–18, 33–34; 1 Cor 2:6–10; Mt 5:17–37

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## LOS GOBERNANTES DE ESTE TIEMPO

San Pablo habla tanto de la “sabiduría de este tiempo” como de “aquellos que dominan al mundo”. Él se refiere específicamente a los sabios y las instituciones responsables de condenar injustamente a muerte a Jesús. Aunque nos lamentamos el pecado humano que mató a Jesús hace dos mil años, también consideramos errores y males actuales que hieren el cuerpo de Cristo en nuestro tiempo. Fácilmente reconocemos los crímenes de nuestros líderes. Religiosos, empresariales e instituciones gubernamentales han causado sufrimiento en incontables almas inocentes. La profundidad de nuestros fracasos actuales nos amenaza con el desánimo. Pero Jesús nos llama a una fidelidad y esperanza renovadas. Jesús nos dice que “superemos” a nuestros líderes en la justicia. Él nos instruye a simplificar nuestras propias vidas. “Deja que tu ‘sí’ sean un ‘sí’ y tu ‘no’ sea un ‘no’”. Cualquier otra cosa viene del mal.” Estamos en lo correcto cuando trabajamos en contra de los pecados de nuestros líderes, pero también debemos analizar nuestras propias vidas y hacer las paces con nuestras familias, vecinos y compañeros de trabajo.

## AL FALLECER

Hay algo de urgencia en la invitación de Cristo a la santidad. Todo en este tiempo muere. La llamada de Jesús es oportuna y radical, una súplica para dejar otros asuntos y hacer una prioridad la reconciliación. El Señor de hecho dice “deja tu ofrenda en el altar” y regresa a la alabanza después de que hagas las paces con tus adversarios de nuestra vida. Jesús toma muy en serio la necesidad de reconciliación y justicia, insistiendo que nada, ni siquiera nuestros ojos y brazos, valen más que el amor. Todas las lecturas de hoy muestran la profunda conexión entre la ley de Dios y un amor saludable y pacífico. Como dice san Pablo en Romanos 13:10 “el amor es la plenitud de la ley”. Aquí en el siglo XXI, nosotros, discípulos modernos de Cristo podemos cultivar ese misterio profundo en nuestros corazones, alimentando los enormes dones gemelos del amor de Dios y su ley, ofrecida a nosotros libremente para ayudarnos a sostener un cuerpo de Cristo santo y saludable.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Eclo 15:15–20; Sal 119:1–2, 4–5, 17–18, 33–34; 1 Cor 2:6–10; Mt 5:17–37 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Danny Rae Schexnayder, Sr.	Marty Carrera Tobias	Jessica Diaz
Sandra Jean Guerra	Jesse R. Diaz	Robert Campos
Kayla Scott	Celina Herrera	Gloria Martinez
Maria Langley	Kevin Ryan Martinez	Carlos Guardiola, III
Irma Urias	David Santoyo	Joe R. Martinez
Mary S. Martinez	Eva Flores	Baby Sophia
Frances Lozano	Paul Muñoz, Sr.	Antonio Mendoza
Mary Escalera	Joe Espinoza	Sophie Alonzo
Maximus James Tobar	Virginia & Jose Ponce	Helen Lloyd
Suzanne Gutierrez	Victoria Orosco	Odilion G. Flores
Benny Martinez	Henry Vidal	JoAnn Almager
Edward Martinez	Hope Esquivel	Diana Calderon
Terry Moreno	Victor Cruz	Janie Ramirez
Sarah Contreras	Tomas Johnson	Liz
Donnie Vordenbaum	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez	Ana Garcia
Gary Stanko	Rosalinda Esparza	Gina
Jose Flores	Daniel Rodriguez	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.
Frances Ramirez	Rosie Flores	Leonor Maldonado
Ramiro Davila	John Ruiz	Sandra Garza

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

**FEBRUARY 8-9, 2020**

<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>-\$1,100.13</b>	<b>(123)</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>-\$ 703.00</b>	<b>(085)</b>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>-\$1,228.00</b>	<b>(194)</b>
<b>12 NOON</b>	<b>-\$2,095.89</b>	<b>(324)</b>
<b>School Mass</b>	<b>-\$ 33.54</b>	
<b>Children’s Basket</b>	<b>-\$ 8.86</b>	
<b>Good Samaritans of SJB</b>	<b>-\$ 553.94</b>	<b>2nd Collection</b>
<b>Mail In</b>	<b>-\$ 117.40</b>	
<b>2020 Gift of Giving</b>	<b>-\$ 296.91</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,412.61</b>	

## SECOND COLLECTION

**February 16, 2020 - Altar Flowers**

## 2020 GIFT OF GIVING

<b>Contributions 2/8 - 9/2020</b>	<b>\$ 296.91</b>
<b>RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,524.57</b>

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



### Saturday, February 15

5:00 p.m. † George Hernandez - Wife & Family

### Sunday, February 16

8:00 a.m. † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Ramiro Huerta - Familia Alvarez

10:00 a.m. † Rosalinda S. Hernandez - Family  
† Pedro B. Martinez - Family  
† Pedro E. Martinez - Family  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† John G. Casteñeda - Daughter Laura Casteñeda

12:00 p.m. † Paul G. Salinas - Family  
† Elodia Silva - Family

### Monday, February 17

### Tuesday, February 18

12:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family

### Wednesday, February 19

8:15 a.m. † Mary Fernandez

### Thursday, February 20

12:00 p.m. † Dolores T. Resendes

### Friday, February 21

12:00 p.m. † Pedro B. Martinez - Family

### Saturday, February 22

5:00 p.m. † Lucy M. Valdez - Ponce Family

### Sunday, February 23

8:00 a.m. † Felicitas Juarez - Angelita Canales  
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Eddie C. Vasquez - Wife  
† Vicente Alvarez - Familia Alvarez

10:00 a.m. † Gloria Lloyd - Children  
† Pedro B. Martinez - Family  
† Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family  
† Gene Toscano - Family

Gift of Life Travis Denn - Grandparents

12:00 p.m. † Paul G. Salinas - Family

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

A Home Bound Committee has been established for the purpose of specifically addressing the needs of our brothers and sisters in need of assistance due to health reasons. This particular ministry intends to focus on those persons who are home or at a health care facility, elderly, sick and unable to attend Church. Please contact the office in case you know or are aware of parishioners in need of assistance.

I invite you to join your fellow parishioners on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 7:00 in the evening in the Church to listen to Faith and Culture with Los Inocentes, the light of the world. Los Inocentes led by Dr. Citlali Maria Zentella, Ph.C., with music by Binisa Zentella, will explore Christmastide Traditions in San Antonio; the Three Wise Men followed by Light, the Shepherds followed the Light, the Virgin of Candlemas celebrated the Light, auto de Los Reyes Magos 12th Century, Toledo, Los Pastores and Virgen de la Candelaria 18th and 19th Centuries.

J.O.Y. Ministry is hosting a one day "Lenten Journey of You", community retreat, The retreat prepares us for Lent. Remember Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. The one day retreat will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2020 from 8:30 am thru 4:30 pm concluding with our 5:00 pm Mass. This retreat is free of charge and food will be provided. Please register as soon as you can.

I will be leading a pilgrimage to The Holy Land for 10 days from June 2nd thru June 11th, 2020. We will explore and meditate in places where Jesus was born, worked, suffered, died and rose from the dead. We will also visit places where Mary, Mother of God, was born where she raised Jesus, and witnessed her son's suffering, death and resurrection. This is an opportunity for us to connect with scriptures and the reality. The trip cost is \$3,100 per person (double occupancy) which includes round trip airfare from San Antonio, 4 & 5 star hotels, breakfast and dinner included, daily sightseeing, tips, daily Masses, airport taxes, fuel surcharges and assistance of professional local catholic guides. Invite your family members and friends to join me in this memorable trip. If you intend to walk with me in this journey, please stop by the office for a brochure or speak with me after Mass for more information.

May God bless you always,



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

### CONGRATULATIONS TO DOLORES GUARDIOLA

Recipient of the 2020 *Lumen Gentium Award*. We are all very proud of Dolores and are extremely blessed to have her as a member of our parish community!



### Sanctuary Light

† Dolores T. Resendes  
† Mary Fernandez  
† Rachel Davila Faz



# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

**Second Reading** — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Cor 2:6-10).

**Gospel** — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matt 5:17-37)

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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13

Tue: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21

Wed: Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-26

Thu: Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33

Fri: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34 - 9:1

Sat: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Sun: Lv 19:1-18; Ps 103:1-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

## Events of the Week ~ February 16 - 23, 2020

### Sunday, Feb. 16

8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church

10:00 a.m. Mass - Church

12:00 p.m. Mass - Church

### Monday, February 17

### Tuesday, February 18

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Class - Formation House

7:00 p.m. Homebound Comm- Formation House

### Wednesday, February 19

8:15 a.m. School Mass - Church

9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Formation House

7:00 p.m. Youth Group - Formation House

### Thursday, February 20

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

7:00 p.m. Faith and Culture - Church

### Friday, February 21

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

### Saturday, February 22

8:30 a.m. J.O.Y. Retreat - Formation House

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

### Sunday, February 23

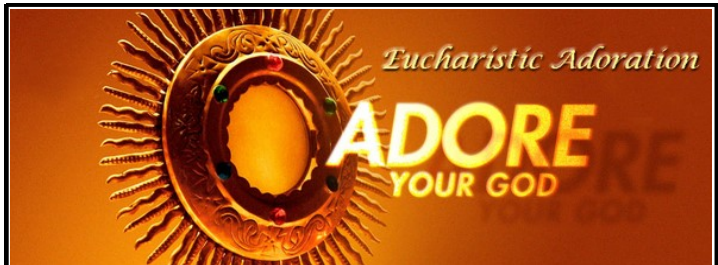
8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church

10:00 a.m. Mass - Church

12:00 p.m. Mass - Church

1:30 p.m. IGBO Mass - Church

3:00 p.m. IGBO Fellowship - Cafeteria



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020**  
**9:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.**

## TAX LETTERS FOR 2019

If you are a registered parishioner who made monetary contributions in 2019, you may need a tax letter. At this time, you may contact the Parish Office and speak to Olivia Lopez, Parish Bookkeeper, to make your request and allow a few days for the letter to be prepared.

Fr. Fidèle thanks you for your continued support!



## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year is now open. Please contact the school office at (210) 433-0411 to schedule a tour of our school.

## ATTENTION St. John Berchmans

**Alumni!!** Please join the school community for an Alumni Mixer on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. You are also invited to celebrate a very special Mass to honor SJB Alumni on Wednesday, February 19th at 8:15 am followed by breakfast tacos and refreshments.

The Catholic Arts and Academic Competition CAAC will be on Saturday, February 22nd at St. Anthony High School. Please pray for our students who will be competing in Math, Spelling, Music, Art and Religion.

## 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 22, 2020 - ACTS



**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!! GUADALUPANAS ANNUAL MEAT BINGO FUNDRAISER**

Will be held on **Sunday, March 1, 2020** from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Cost is \$7.00 for 15 regular games. There will also be special bingos and a variety of prizes. There will also be food, refreshments and sweets available for purchase.

Come join us for a good time and help us as we continue to raise monies for our organization and church. Thank you as always for your support!

## **ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CYO**

Our organization is currently registering for the 2020 Baseball/Softball/T-Ball Season. Ages: 3 years - 14 years old. Registration fee: \$70.00 per player and discount applies if more than one player in one family.

For information contact: Rachel Gonzales (210) 823-0017 or Liz Hernandez at (210) 842-0673.



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

Will be hosting its first one day Lenten community retreat, "**Journey of You**". 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 in the school cafeteria. 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.



## **FATHER FIDELE ANNOUNCES SJB HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**

A Pastoral Care ministry that seeks to minister to those who are at home or at a health care facility and are elderly or sick and unable to come to Church.

If you or someone you know is in need of Homebound Pastoral Care, please call (210) 434-3247 to have someone assess their Pastoral needs and set up scheduled visits.

## **CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES - CARITAS LEGAL SERVICES**

Circulates throughout our community with free or low-cost legal assistance through Ask a Lawyer. Our lawyers are experienced in multiple fields to offer clients the best legal advice on a wide range of legal issues:

- ◆ Guardianship, Financial Wellness and Care
- ◆ Wills, Immigration Assistance
- ◆ Property Deeds, Grandparent Rights, etc.

To schedule an appointment for free or low-cost legal services contact Caritas Legal Services at (210) 455-6105.

## **CHOICE**

"If you choose you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

With whom do I need to reconcile? How can the Holy spirit guide me in doing the right thing?