

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

www.stjohnberchmans.com

STRENGTHENED TO LIVE AS CHRIST'S OWN

We might look at the world around us and conclude that this is the most challenging time in history during which to live as a person of faith. Yet we know this is not so. Throughout the ages, people of faith have faced mockery, persecution, and even death as a result of their commitment to Christ. Still, it is important for us to acknowledge the challenge of living as a Christian today, when faith is viewed with ambivalence at best, and often with antagonism. Some do not understand how faith and reason can sit side by side, even though many of the world's greatest scientific discoveries have been made by people of faith. Others see the failures of the Church or its leaders and discount faith as a result. We rely on the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit to be with us when we are mocked or simply misunderstood on account of our faith in Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, we will find the grace to live with conviction as Christian people.

THE REASON FOR OUR HOPE

Saint Peter admonishes us, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." One of the greatest gifts of faith in our lives is our hope in Christ Jesus. Through Christ, we keep our eyes on the wider view of life here on earth and everlasting life with God. We know that the trials and challenges of today do not have the final word, and do not have power over us. With the presence of the Advocate, we have the help we need to live as God directs and desires, so that the world might come to know Christ through the witness of our lives. This is a hope-filled, meaningful way of life. When so much of our surrounding culture speaks of impermanence and momentary distractions, we have the hope of meaning and purpose today and the promise of eternal life to come.

Today's Readings: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

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FORTALECIDOS PARA VIVIR COMO EL MISMO CRISTO

Podemos ver el mundo alrededor de nosotros y concluir que este es el tiempo más desafiante en la historia para vivir como una persona de fe. Pero sabemos que no es así. A través de los tiempos, las personas de fe han enfrentado la burla, la persecución e incluso la muerte como resultado de su compromiso con Cristo. Aún así, es importante que reconozcamos el desafío de vivir hoy como cristianos, cuando la fe es vista con ambivalencia en el mejor de los casos y a menudo con antagonismo. Algunos no entienden como la fe y la razón pueden coexistir, aunque muchos de los grandes descubrimientos científicos fueron hechos por personas de fe. Otros ven las fallas de la Iglesia y de sus líderes y descartan la fe como resultado. Confiamos en la presencia poderosa del Espíritu Santo para que esté con nosotros cuando se burlen o simplemente malinterpreten nuestra fe en Jesucristo. Por medio del Espíritu Santo, encontraremos la gracia para vivir con convicción como pueblo cristiano.

LA RAZÓN DE NUESTRA ESPERANZA

San Pedro nos exhorta a que "siempre estemos listos a dar razones de nuestra esperanza a quien nos la pida". Uno de los grandes dones de la fe en nuestras vidas es nuestra esperanza en Jesucristo. Por medio de Cristo, ponemos nuestros ojos en una visión más amplia de la vida aquí en la tierra y en la vida eterna con Dios. Sabemos que las pruebas y los desafíos de hoy no tienen la última palabra, y no tiene poder sobre nosotros. Con la presencia del Espíritu Santo, tenemos la ayuda que necesitamos para vivir de acuerdo a la voluntad de Dios, como el quiere y desea, para que el mundo pueda conocer a Cristo por medio del testimonio de nuestras vidas. Esta es una forma de vida con significado y llena de esperanza. Cuando gran parte de la cultura alrededor nuestro habla de las distracciones momentáneas e impermanentes, tenemos la esperanza del significado y propósito de hoy y la promesa de la vida eterna por venir.

Lecturas de hoy: Hch 8:5-8, 14-17; Sal 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pe 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Maria Langley	Victoria Orosco	JoAnn Almaguer
Irma Urias	Henry Vidal	Diana Calderon
Mary S. Martinez	Hope Esquivel	Janie Ramirez
Frances Lozano	Victor Cruz	Liz
Mary Escalera	Tomas Johnson	Ana Garcia
Maximus James Tobar	Deacon Jesus Rodriguez	Gina
Suzanne Gutierrez	Rosalinda Esparza	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.
Terry Moreno	Daniel Rodriguez	Sandra Garza
Sarah Contreras	Rosie Flores	Elena Gonzales
Jose Flores	John Ruiz	Roxanne Joseph
Frances Ramirez	Jessica Diaz	Matthew Reyna
Marty Carrera Tobias	Robert Campos	Joe G. Martinez
Jesse R. Diaz	Gloria Martinez	Joe G. Martinez
Celina Herrera	Carlos Guardiola, III	For All Afflicted with
Kevin Ryan Martinez	Joe R. Martinez	Coronavirus
David Santoyo	Baby Sophia	Melissa Muñoz
Paul Muñoz, Sr.	Antonio Mendoza	Angelita Canales
Joe Espinoza	Sophie Alonzo	Deacon Joe Diaz
Virginia & Jose Ponce	Odilion G. Flores	Roland Valverde

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.



May 9, thru	May 10, 2020
All Masses	\$3,347.00
Mother's Day	\$ 295.00
Mail/Drop In	\$ 176.00
Online	\$ 195.00
TOTAL	\$4,013.00

2020 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 5/9- 5/10/2020 \$ 22.00
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL \$ 6,532.77

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, May 16

5:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family
† Uvalde "Uncle Lalo" Villarreal - Sweet Family
† George Hernandez - Wife & Family
Anniversary Sandra & Greg Domineck - Sweet Family

Sunday May 17

9:00 a.m. † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Jesús Gurrola - Socorro & Raquel
† Paul Salinas - Wife Grace Salinas

11:00 a.m. † Gloria Lloyd - Children
† Helen Lloyd

Gift of Life Austin Garza - Family
60th Anniversary - Rosie and Robert Gallegos

Monday, May 18

Tuesday, May 19

12:00 p.m. † Eudelio Velasquez, Jr. - Juan Velasquez Family

Wednesday, May 20

12:00 p.m. † Justin Rey Martinez

Thursday, May 21 - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

12:00 p.m. † Lorenzo Castro - Family

Friday, May 22

12:00 p.m. † Helen Lloyd

Saturday, May 23


5:00 p.m. For our Parish Community

Sunday May 24

9:00 a.m. † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
† Paul Salinas - Wife Grace Salinas

Gift of Life Marcos Treviño - Norma Treviño

11:00 a.m. † Bernardino Villaseñor - Family



SUNDAY MASS WILL REOPEN TO THE PUBLIC BEGINNING THE WEEKEND OF MAY 23-24, 2020.

Information will be forthcoming from Father Fidèle with directives from Archbishop Gustavo-Siller.

We are excited to return to church but must remember to adhere to the rules.

gg89013120 GoGraph.com

In Loving Memory

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

†

Sanctuary Light

† Lorenzo Castro
† Helen Lloyd



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I welcome the good news to reopen the church and the opportunity to see you again and be able to worship together as a family. It has been 72 days, until the weekend of May 23rd and 24th, which was the official date for the reopening of the church for public Mass to take effect. You have all been very much missed.

Reopening the church raises the fundamental question: "Has the COVID-19 corona virus been eradicated in our society, city and community?" My humble answer will be no. The virus is still very much alive and represents a great threat to our society and to our people. As long as we face the invisible enemy, we must remain vigilant and apprehensible. We cannot afford to become complacent especially when dealing with the most vulnerable in our society, the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions.

As your pastor, I have consulted with the parish Task Force Committee for the COVID-19. The Committee is working in conjunction with the CDC, state and city recommendations and is taking into consideration the directives from Archbishop Gustavo. Guidelines have been created and will remain in effect for the safety of all involved, including myself. This will allow us to gradually and responsibly reopen the church for prayer and public celebrations of the sacraments within our community of St. John Berchmans.

I will be celebrating three masses on weekends: an English Mass at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday bilingual Mass at 9:00 a.m. and an 11:00 a.m. English Mass. I will hear confessions every Saturday from 4:00 in the afternoon to 4:50 in the afternoon or by appointment with strict observance of the social distancing policy.

Our maximum capacity for each mass is 100 persons including daily masses, in compliance with the state 25% policy for gathering in public settings. This number takes into consideration the social distancing policy of 6 feet apart from each other. Once this limit is reached, persons will regrettably be turned away and asked to attend mass at another time.

All persons coming into church must wear masks to cover their nose and mouth, except those too young to wear a mask, throughout the entire Mass and anyone unable to remove a mask without assistance. Hand sanitizers are placed at the doors of the church. We ask that everyone should sanitize their hands as they enter and exit the church.

We will be able to resume the celebration of Baptism, weddings, and funerals but with all the applicable restrictions in place. Contact the parish office for more information. We will be communicating the dates for the celebration of First Communion for our children and for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Thank you to all of you who have been able and extremely generous to financially support our parish during these troubling times. Your generous donation is highly appreciated and helps us to fulfill our financial obligations.

Please see attached copies for guidelines for the reopening of the church.

God bless you.
Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor



Announcements

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The people of Samaria accepted the word of God preached by Philip; they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17).

Psalms — Let all the earth cry out to God with joy (Psalm 66)

Second Reading — Act with gentleness and reverence toward all, so that when you are maligned those who defame you will be the ones put to shame (1 Peter 3:15-18)

Gospel — I will not leave you orphans, but will come to you (John 14:15-21)

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 - 16:4
Tue: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
Wed: Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
Thu: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20
Fri: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23
Sat: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23-28
Sun: Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11

Events of the Week ~ May 17 - 23, 2020

Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. **Bilingual Mass** - Church
Facebook Livestream
11:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Monday, May 18

6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Tuesday, May 19

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Wednesday, May 20

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee Break with Father
Fidèle—Facebook Livestream
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Thursday, May 21

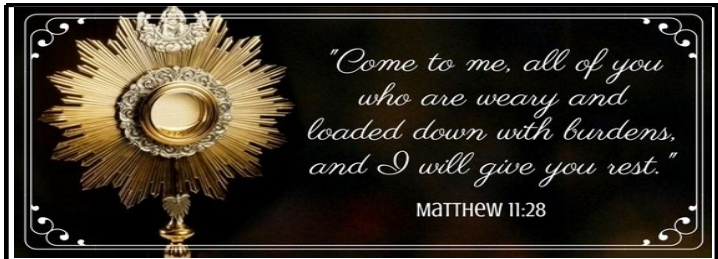
12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Friday, May 22

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church

Saturday, May 23

5:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. Rosary—Church



Please note that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is cancelled and the Chapel is closed until further notice. Thank you!

Loved One in Jail or Prison?
Let Us Help You
Criminal Justice Ministry
Archdiocesan Office
(210) 734-1980
www.archsa.org/criminal-justice

CATHOLIC CHARITIES - ST. STEPHEN'S CARE CENTER

located on Zarzamora Street were fully stocked this past Saturday and now they are almost completely empty. They have helped hundreds of families in need and would like to continue helping many more. And that's where you come in. We know everyone's struggling but if you are able to assist us, we are humbly asking the community to donate the following :

- Canned Food - Vegetables, Fruit and Tuna
- Peanut Butter
- Soup
- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Cereal
- Dry Goods - Rice and Pinto Beans
- Instant Mashed Potatoes

MAY IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Since the start of this pandemic Fr. Fidèle has led our parish community in a daily recitation of the rosary (via Facebook livestream) at 6:00 p.m. and will continue leading us until **Sunday, May 31, 2020.**

However, we are encouraged to continue with this daily meditation. It has led to the conversion of many. And when you pray the Holy Rosary, you have the power of God in your hands.

"The rosary is the weapon for these times"
Saint Padre Pio



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.

RAZÓN DE NUESTRA ESPERANZA

“¿Cuál es la razón de tu esperanza?”. Imagina que alguien se te acerca y te hace esa pregunta. No “¿qué es lo que esperas?” o ¿qué esperas hacer?”. No; no se trata de los deseos de poseer cosas o de aspiraciones en la vida, sino “¿por qué tienes esperanza?”. Hoy Pedro nos dice que debemos estar dispuestos a responder esta pregunta. A decir verdad, pocos son los que se dedican a pensar por qué tenemos esperanza. Por suerte, las Escrituras de hoy nos ofrecen la respuesta. Esperamos porque Cristo sufrió por nosotros, a fin de que podamos venir a Dios. Esperamos porque sabemos que, en el Espíritu, Dios nos concede otro Defensor en Cristo que permanecerá con nosotros por siempre. Sin importar lo que podamos esperar, o lo que esperamos poder hacer, siempre debemos saber y proclamar la razón de nuestra esperanza: la presencia de Dios en Cristo con nosotros por el poder del Espíritu.

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INTENCION MENSUAL DEL PAPA FRANCISCO PARA MAYO 2020

Intención de Oración Por La Evangelización: Por los Diáconos.

Recemos para que los Diáconos, fieles al servicio de la Palabra y de los pobres, *sean un signo vivificante para toda la iglesia.*

MAYO EL MES DE MARÍA Y EL ROSARIO



LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura —Pedro y Juan les impusieron las manos, y recibieron el Espíritu Santo (Hechos 8:5-8, 14-17).

Salmo — Que aclame a Dios con alegría toda la tierra (Salmo 66).

Segunda lectura —Cristo murió en la carne, y luego resucitó por el Espíritu (1 Pedro 3:15-18)

Evangelio — Yo rogaré al Padre y les dará otro Protector (Juan 14:15-21) o Juan 17:1-11a.

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LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

Domingo: Sexto Domingo de Pascua

Lunes: San Juan I

Miércoles: San Bernardino de Siena

Jueves: La Ascensión del Señor (a menos que sea transferida al domingo);
San Cristobal Magallanes y compañeros

Viernes: Santa Rita de Casia



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Sexto Domingo de Pascua
17 de mayo de 2020

*“Yo le rogaré al Padre
y él les enviará . . .
el Espíritu de verdad”.*

— Juan 14:16-17

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Hch 16:11-15; Sal 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 - 16:4

Martes: Hch 16:22-34; Sal 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

Miércoles: Hch 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Sal 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15

Jueves: Hch 1:1-11; Sal 47:2-3, 6-9; Ef 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

Viernes: Hch 18:9-18; Sal 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23

Sábado: Hch 18:23-28; Sal 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23-28

Domingo: Hch 1:12-14; Sal 27 :1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pe 4:13-16;
Jn 17:1-11a



EL ARZOBISPO anuncio que Misas se reiniciarán el fin de semana del 23 y 24 de Mayo de 2020, en la fiesta de la Ascension. Volveremos a La Misa con Alegría y Prudencia