

# 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 25, 2023

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## GOD HEARS OUR CRIES

The psalmist cries out to God, "Lord, in your great love, answer me." In each of our readings today, there is movement from darkness and despair to trusting in God as our source of salvation. Jeremiah sounds almost a madman as he describes the evil and vileness that surrounds him. In the midst of that terror, he professes his faith in God. Similarly, in Saint Paul's letter to the Romans, we are reminded that one man, Jesus Christ, came into the world for the sake of many, to overcome the evil and sin that have been prevalent since Adam. In Mark, Jesus calls us from fear, sin, and darkness to live in the light. He reminds us that we are not alone and how very precious each of us is in the eyes of God. Indeed, God hears our cries!

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The LORD has rescued the poor from the clutches of the wicked (Jere 20:10-13).

**Psalm** — Answer me, O Lord, in your bountiful kindness (Psalm 69).

**Second Reading** — The grace of God overflows for all (Romans 5:12-15).

**Gospel** — All who acknowledge Jesus before others will likewise be acknowledged by Jesus before the Father (Matthew 10:26-33).

## DIOS ESCUCHA NUESTROS GRITOS

El salmista clama a Dios: "Señor, en tu gran amor, respóndeme". En cada una de nuestras lecturas de hoy, se pasa de la oscuridad y la desesperación a la confianza en Dios como fuente de salvación. Jeremías parece casi un loco cuando describe el mal y la vileza que le rodean. En medio de ese terror, profesa su fe en Dios. Del mismo modo, en la carta de san Pablo a los Romanos, se nos recuerda que un hombre, Jesucristo, vino al mundo por el bien de muchos, para vencer el mal y el pecado que han prevalecido desde Adán. En Marcos, Jesús nos llama a dejar el miedo, el pecado y la oscuridad para vivir en la luz. Nos recuerda que no estamos solos y que cada uno de nosotros es muy valioso a los ojos de Dios. De hecho, Dios escucha nuestros gritos.

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## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — El Señor ha salvado al desamparado de los manos de los malvados (Jeremías 20:10-13).

**Salmo** — Respóndeme, oh Señor, en tu abundante bondad (Salmo 69).

**Segunda lectura** — Por gracia, el don generoso del Hijo de Dios, Jesucristo, nos ha salvado de todo pecado. (Romanos 5:12-15).

**Evangelio** — No hay miedo cuando el amor de Dios se recibe como don precioso (Mateo 10:26-33).



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras	Adam Alonzo, Jr.	Valerie Vigil
Marty Carrera Tobias	Mary Martinez	Rena Heard
Frances Lozano	Mark Martinez	Marty Wind
Irma Urias	Albert Rodriguez	Maldonado Family
Mary S. Martinez	Albert Casillas	Margie Zuniga
Galilea Romero	Robert Sanchez	Joyce Ochoa
Flora Torres	Vanessa Quintero	Ann Marie Eickenroht
Iris Luna Sullivan	Joe Cevallos	Rosemary Flores
Sandy Guerra	Oscar Arcos	Jennifer Flores
Abraham Guerra	Juanita Martinez	Anthony Ramirez
Emma O. Velasquez	Maria Rios	Carmen Garza
Leticia Martinez	Virginia R. Lucio	Gloria Rubio
Kenny De La Rosa	Guadalupe Rodriguez	Duncan Paul Brown
Raymond Sarabia	Lori Bañuelos	Lisa Brown
Frank Rodriguez	Jesus Lopez	Mary Herrera
Julissa Rodriguez	Joe Villanueva	Rebecca Zuniga
Miliana Bullock	Edith Flores	Rosa Elva Villanueva
Lydia Soriano	Isaiah Vasquez	Irene Lloyd
George Garnica	Esther Nicholson	Fred Guerra

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 FOR THE WEEK

### ENDING JUNE 17-18, 2023

5 PM Mass	-\$ 730.00
9 AM Mass	-\$ 687.20
11 AM Mass	-\$1,456.00
Altar Flowers	-\$ 257.00 2nd Collection
Father's Day Envelopes	-\$ 430.00
Mail In	-\$ 125.00
On Line	-\$ 100.00
Gift of Giving	-\$ 85.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,870.00</b>



## SECOND COLLECTION

June 24-25, 2023

Festival Expenses

## 2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending June 18, 2023	\$ <u>85.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,875.76</b>

# Announcements

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## Saturday, June 24

5:00 p.m. † Petra P. Lopez - SJB Friends  
† Christopher Barrera, Sr. - Daniella Barrera  
**For Health** Deacon Jesus Rodriguez - SJB Family

## Sunday, June 25

9:00 a.m. † Juan C. Velasquez - Daughter  
† Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
† Dolores Crittall - Angelita Canales

11:00 a.m. † Mary Louise Lira - Family  
† Arthur Arevalos - Family  
† Vincent Zerda - Joanne Zerda  
† Clarissa Zerda - Joanne Zerda  
† Charles Zerda - Joanne Zerda  
† Ileen Berenger- Joanne Zerda  
† Mary Helen Flores - Joanne Zerda

## Monday, June 26

## Tuesday, June 27

12:00 p.m. † Raul & Carmen Iruegas - SJB Family  
**Gift of Life** Avelia Banda - Guadalupanas

## Wednesday, June 28

12:00 p.m. † Ray Salcido - Brothers in Christ  
**For Health** Edith Flores - SJB Family

## Thursday, June 29

12:00 p.m. † Priscilla Guerrero - SJB Family  
† Clara Perez - Guadalupanas  
† Zulema Orosco - Daughters

## Friday, June 30

12:00 p.m. † Terry Moreno - Sisters in Christ  
† Mary Polanco - Guadalupanas



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

We have arrived safely from our pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The experience was overwhelming and emotional. We had the opportunity to contemplate and walk in holy sites with Jesus. As pilgrims, we renewed our baptismal promises in the Jordan river where Jesus Christ was baptized by John the Baptist. The Via Dolorosa walk put things into perspective. We felt the pain, suffering, fear and isolation our Savior experienced as he made his way to Calvary. We came to terms with his suffering at the Holy Sepulcher where he was murdered and buried.

Our visit to Bethlehem, challenged us to reflect upon the very humble place where Jesus was born. He walked among the poor and embraced everyone. In Nazareth, at Cana, two couples among the pilgrims renewed their marriage vows.

This trip has taught me that God has blessed me beyond any imagination. He died for all for us regardless of our condition. He arose from the dead for the salvation of all. I also learned that the world needs Jesus' mercy especially in the Holy Land. Muslims and Jews are poisoned to hate each other. Christians seem to be caught in the middle. Politics and religious are at the heart of conflicts. We need to pray for peace in the Middle East especially in Israel. It is my hope and prayer that one day Palestinians and Jews will live side by side.

I would like to assure you that your intentions were brought every single day at our daily Mass. You were being offered to God everyday in my personal prayers. I pray for peace, healing, joy, forgiveness, love and that serenity reign in our midst. Thank you for your prayers during our pilgrimage to the Holy Land. I will be communicating with you on our next pilgrimage.

Our annual financial report will be published next week as an insert in the bulletin. Thank you for your generosity.

This season of summer has finally arrived! I hope that everyone has a restful and fun time with their family and friends. Please remember to attend Sunday Mass and respect the Lord's house by maintaining the appropriate dress code.

If traveling, access [masstimes.org](http://masstimes.org) to locate a church in the area. (Mass times for travel website).

We continue praying for the end of war in Ukraine and for peace.

**May God bless you!**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fidèle Okitembo Dikete'.

**Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor**  
[fr.fidèle@stjohnberchmans.com](mailto:fr.fidèle@stjohnberchmans.com)

## BENEFITS OF THE ROSARY



1. It gradually gives us a perfect knowledge of Jesus Christ
2. It purifies our souls, washing away sin
3. It gives us victory over all our enemies
4. It makes it easy for us to practice virtue
5. It sets us on fire with love of Our Lord
6. It enriches us with graces and merits
7. It supplies us with what is needed to pay all our debts to God and to our fellow men
8. It obtains all kinds of graces for us from the Almighty Lord

# Announcements



**NEED HELP IN ANY OF THESE AREAS?**

SACRD.org is a **FREE** online directory of thousands of compassionate services—help at your fingertips, when you need it, where you need it.

**Just enter your zip code and search your need.**




- Sunday, June 25**  
 9:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church  
 11:00 a.m. Mass - Church
- Monday, June 26**
- Tuesday, June 27**  
 12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
- Wednesday, June 28**  
 12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel  
 10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment - Formation House  
 7:00 p.m. Adult Faith Enrichment - Formation House
- Thursday, June 29**  
 12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
- Friday, June 30**  
 12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
- Saturday, July 1**  
 8:00 a.m. Church cleaning  
 5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR:**

**DEACON JESUS RODRIGUEZ**

We are reminded of the faithful presence of Christ, and is a profession of HIS love and affection.

**Announcements!** **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.

**WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?**

We encourage all newcomers to register and get to know your parish community. Please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.



**OVERCOME the 7 DEADLY SINS**

**Lust**  
 Unrestrained sexual craving  
**Be pure.** Guard your heart. Give yourself a project, exercise when you're bored.

**Gluttony**  
 To over-indulge, especially by over-eating  
**Be moderate.** Exercise regularly, avoid excess in eating and drinking.

**Pride**  
 Inflated sense of one's accomplishments  
**Be humble.** You need God and others. Pray and serve.

**Sloth**  
 Laziness, lack of effort  
**Be diligent.** Have a schedule, don't let your life revolve around resting.

**Wrath**  
 Uncontrolled feelings of hatred and anger  
**Be patient.** Moderate your emotions, take deep breaths before reacting.

**Greed**  
 The excessive desire for material things  
**Be generous.** Donate something you like but don't need to the poor.

**Envy**  
 Jealousy towards another's happiness  
**Be thankful.** Thank God everyday for what you have and don't have.

"BE HOLY IN ALL YOU DO" (1 PETER 1: 15) 

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon: Gn 12:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 18-20, 22; Mt 7:1-5  
 Tue: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14  
 Wed: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mt 7:15-20  
 Thu: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19  
 Fri: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 8:1-4  
 Sat: Gn 18:1-15; Lk 1:46-50, 53-55; Mt 8:5-17  
 Sun: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

**REST IN PEACE**

We offer condolences and sympathy to our parishioners and their families who have experienced the loss of their loved ones:

† MARIA V. REYES  
 † JUAN ARTURO CORDOVA





Matthew 10:31

**THE PARADOX OF FAITH**

Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Fear no one,” Jesus says. He is talking about fearing those who persecute you for your faith. In the verses before this Gospel passage, he tries to prepare us for that persecution and says that since it was done to him (Jesus), it would be done to his followers. But he triumphed over his persecutors; they could not stop him. And that is what he promises us. We cannot be destroyed as long as we keep that faith.

Now the best way to keep that faith is to give it away. That sounds like a paradox, but it means that when we spread the faith, our faith grows, too. And when we allow others to share their faith with us, we are encouraged and supported.

Sometimes we may hesitate to talk about our faith. That is the only thing to fear: not Satan’s power, but our weakness. That’s why Jesus said whoever denies him will be denied by him. Yet Jesus died for our sins, so even they cannot destroy us if we turn back to the Lord. So thank him for his forgiveness, but don’t forget to spread the news that you are forgiven. You might give someone else the courage to come back to the Lord, and so score another victory for faith over fear. Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

We welcome anyone to assist us with cleaning our beautiful church. Every weekend we are faced with needing assistance. When: Every Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.



**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Ministry Scheduled for Saturday, JULY 1, 2023

ALTAR SERVERS/LITURGY COMMITTEE



**GRACE COUNSELING** provides quality, holistic, and affordable counseling to individuals, children, couples and families. Our therapists can help anyone seeking support and guidance on their mental health, in their relationships, or with healing following a trauma. Specialties include: Anxiety, depression and stress management, Grief and loss, Relationship and marriage counseling, Anger management, Family conflict.

Spanish-speaking therapists and teletherapy virtual appointments are also available. Visit us online to learn more about Grace Counseling and to begin the intake process online. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (210) 377-1133.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday: St. Cyril of Alexandria
- Wednesday: St. Irenaeus
- Thursday: Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles
- Friday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
- Saturday: St. Junípero Serra; Blessed Virgin Mary;

**LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

- Lunes: Gn 12:1-9; Sal 33:12-13, 18-20, 22; Mt 7:1-5
- Martes: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Sal 15:2-4ab, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14
- Miércoles: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Sal 105:1-4, 6-9; Mt 7:15-20
- Jueves: Hch 12:1-11; Sal 34:2-9; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
- Viernes: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Sal 128:1-5; Mt 8:1-4
- Sábado: Gn 18:1-15; Lc 1:46-50, 53-55; Mt 8:5-17
- Domingo: 2 Re 4:8-11, 14-16a; Sal 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

**LITURGIA DEL DÍA**

La vida es difícil. Cosas terribles nos suceden a nosotros, y a otras personas alrededor de La planeta y al mundo en general. Pero nuestra fe nos da esperanza. Sabemos que Dios nos guarda, nos cuida y nos ha hecho la promesa de la vida eterna. Venimos aquí hoy para alabar y dar gracias a Dios por todas la bendiciones que nos ha concedido, bendiciones que nos ayudan a lidiar con los infortunios, los agravios y los males que sufrimos. Gloriamonos en el amor y la misericordia de Dios.

**PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA**

¿Qué es aquello a lo cual me siento reacio para tomar una postura? ¿De qué manera puedo dar un testimonio mas efectivo y realista?