

# 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 23, 2023

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## A PATIENT AND LOVING GOD

A God who judges with leniency and clemency, a Spirit groaning because we know not how to pray, a patient master waiting to separate wheat and weeds, a tiny seed growing into a great bush, and the miracle of yeast and flour! All of these images found in our readings today speak of the unexpected, the countercultural, and of the compassion and intimacy of our relationship with God. Many times we are afraid to come to God in prayer, or we may turn away from our God because of our weakness and sinfulness. We are not presented with a vengeful God who is waiting to smite us, but a God of infinite love and wisdom and patience who will show us the way. What an amazing gift this is!

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19).

**Psalms** — Our good Lord forgives (Psalm 86).

**Second Reading** — The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).

**Gospel** — Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God (Matthew 13:24-43).

## UN DIOS PACIENTE Y AMOROSO

Un Dios que juzga con indulgencia y clemencia, un Espíritu que gime porque no sabemos rezar, un maestro paciente que espera para separar el trigo de la cizaña, una pequeña semilla que crece hasta convertirse en un gran arbusto, y el milagro de la levadura y la harina. Todas estas imágenes que se encuentran en nuestras lecturas de hoy hablan de lo inesperado, de lo contracultural y de la compasión e intimidad de nuestra relación con Dios. Muchas veces tenemos miedo de acercarnos a Dios en la oración, o podemos alejarnos de nuestro Dios debido a nuestra debilidad y pecaminosidad. No se nos presenta un Dios vengativo que está esperando para golpearnos, sino un Dios de amor, sabiduría y paciencia infinitos que nos mostrará el camino. ¡Qué regalo tan asombroso es éste!

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## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Tenemos la esperanza bien fundada de que se nos perdonarán nuestros pecados (Sabiduría 12:13, 16-19).

**Salmo** -Nuestro buen Señor perdona (Salmo 86).

**Segunda lectura** - Cuando no sabemos qué pedir, el Espíritu ruega por nosotros (Rom 8:26-27).

**Evangelió** — El Hijo del Hombre siembra buena semilla, que son los hijos del reino (Mateo 13:24-43).



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



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

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.



Tithes

## STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK

### ENDING JULY 16, 2023

5 PM Mass	-\$1,652.00	
9 AM Mass	-\$ 778.00	
11 AM Mass	-\$1,050.00	
Altar Flowers	-\$ 417.00	2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$ 1,600.00	
On Line	-\$ 120.00	
Gift of Giving	-\$ 200.50	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,817.50</b>	

## SECOND COLLECTION

July 22-23, 2023  
Religious Education

## 2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending July 16, 2023	\$ 200.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,251.22</b>

# Announcements



## Saturday, July 22 - ST. MARY MAGDALENE

5:00 p.m. † Frankie Weddel - Aunt  
 † Joe Weddel - Sister

## Sunday, July 23

9:00 a.m. † Jose & Virginia Ponce - Family  
 † Ana B. Canales - Angelita Canales  
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
 † Hector Sanchez - Victoria Sanchez  
 † Dolores Crittall - Victoria Sanchez  
**Health** Angie Canales - SJB Family  
**Health** Joe Villanueva - Family

11:00 a.m. † Isidro Mata - Kim & Khloe Mata

## Monday, July 24

## Tuesday, July 25 - ST. JAMES

12:00 p.m. † David Santoyo - Family  
**Health** Angie Canales - SJB Family  
**Health** Gigi Velasquez - Family

## Wednesday, July 26

12:00 p.m. † Frances Ramirez - SJB Family  
**Gift of Life** John R. Escobedo - Mom

## Thursday, July 27

12:00 p.m. † Roland Rendon - SJB Family  
**Health** Marty Carrera Tobias - SJB Family

## Friday, July 28

12:00 p.m. † Frank & Mary Lou Barrera - SJB Family  
**Health** John Kavanagh - SJB Family

## MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

**Kimberly Mata - Chairperson**

Angie Diaz	Stella Rico
Cynthia Sandoval	Olivia Lopez
Robert Gallegos, Jr.	Olivia Santoyo
Dolores Guardiola	
Robert Prieto	

## CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

### Act of Love

O my God, I love you  
 above all things,  
 with my whole heart and soul,  
 because you are all good  
 and worthy of all love.

I love my neighbor as myself  
 for the love of you.

I forgive all who have injured me  
 and ask pardon of all whom  
 I have injured.



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The new Parish Pastoral Council met for the first time this past Wednesday, July 19th to commence the process of setting goals and manners to implement them. The Parish Pastoral Council is a body that has an advisory and consultative role with the Pastor of the Parish (1983 Code of Canon Law, c. 536).

It's role is to enhance the process of:

1. Pastoral planning and goal setting
2. Development and implementation of pastoral programs
3. Improvement of pastoral services
4. Evaluating pastoral effectiveness

The Pastor and the Parish Pastoral Council cannot accomplish its goals without our parishioners input and feedback. A suggestion box will be placed at the entrance of the church, or in the cafeteria, for the purpose of allowing you to input your constructive criticism. You may remain anonymous or choose to write your name and telephone number in case we need to explore more of your suggestions or ideas. I hope this process will bring us closer and allow us to focus on what matters the most in our community.

Today, Sunday, July 23rd, 2023 is our last Sunday to celebrate Mass in our sanctuary. A new floor will be placed in our church and will require the removal of pews and several sacred items utilized during our Eucharistic celebrations. The church will remain sealed until the completion of the project. Our mass celebrations will take place, provisionally, in the cafeteria. I will not be able to celebrate funerals, Quinceañera, weddings and baptisms until we resume our celebrations in the church. We hope to return to the church by the end of September. I implore your patience and attendance in our daily mass and on weekends. We are excited and blessed with the opportunity of a new floor in our sanctuary!

Our Good Samaritans ministry met this past Tuesday, July 18th, 2023 to discuss effective ways to serve those in need in our community and at large. As of now, the service to the needy of our community will take place two days a week, Monday and Friday from 3:00 thru 5:00 in the afternoon. We offer food and may also assist with a portion of utility bills and/or prescriptions for only our parishioners. We need volunteers to assist. You may donate on hour or two hours a week. "Amen, I say to you, whatever you do for one of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:31-46

Our fall festival is scheduled on Saturday, September 30th from 2:00 in the afternoon until midnight. I invite each one of you to support our efforts to make

**PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...**

# Announcements

## PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED...

this fall festival a success. The festival committee has been working hard to organize and plan this yearly celebration. We have several bands in place, DJ, food booths, children's rides, raffle, drinks, silent auction,...

Please remember that our Fall festival is our only yearly fundraiser for the parish. Please be as generous as you can by either selling raffle tickets, donating towards chicken plate sale or volunteering in different capacities. Let us come together to celebrate all the blessings and also raise the money needed for our church community.

May God bless you!



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



### Sunday, July 23

9:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church  
11:00 a.m. Mass - Church

### Monday, July 24

Tuesday, July 25  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House

### Wednesday, July 26

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House  
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

### Thursday, July 27

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House

### Friday, July 28

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House

### Saturday, July 29

5:00 p.m. Mass - Cafeteria

## REST IN PEACE

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

† Amelia C. Jaramillo



## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR: ST. ELIJAH

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

## ⇒ BBQ PLATE FUNDRAISER

**DATE: Sunday, August 20, 2023**

**TIME: 11AM - 4 PM**

**COST: \$12.00**

(Tickets will be available after all Masses and in the Parish Office)

**PLATES WILL BE PICK UP AND TO GO ONLY!!**

## CLARIFICATION ON BBQ PLATE TICKETS

Ticket reflects Saturday, August 20. Event is scheduled on SUNDAY, AUGUST 20th. Date is correct however the day is incorrect. Thank you!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CCD

We are excited to be begin the Fall term of Religious Education, for grades K-10 and RCIA. We need your help in recruiting students. Please reach out to family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Help us to build on our community of faith. We are also in need of CATECHISTS (English & Bilingual). We will begin taking CCD applications on Saturday, August 5th after each Mass.

- CCD classes begin at 9am, Sunday, September 10th. Breakfast will be provided.
  - Information on start date for RCIA classes is forthcoming. We appreciate your support.
- Thank you, Cynthia Sandoval, DRE

## 7 simple ways to grow in holiness before noon



### Get out of bed with the first alarm

The first small sacrifice of the day: don't press snooze!



### Make your bed

Your bed and your home are a gift. Take care of that gift.



### Say a little extra grace before breakfast

Make an intention for something or someone.



### Take care of your dishes

Offer up that extra minute as a prayer for someone.



### Smile at a stranger on your way to work

Do a simple gesture of kindness for someone you don't know.



### Deny the urge to snack after breakfast

Deny yourself small pleasures and offer them to God.



### Take notice of something (or someone) you normally wouldn't

Think of yourself less and serve others more.

Source: Churchpop.com



## Announcements!



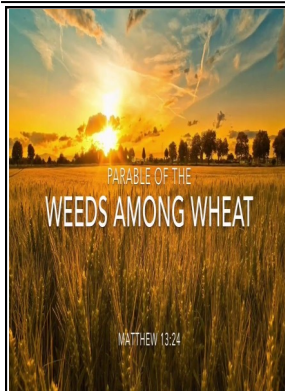
## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. Bulletins are printed on Thursdays.



## 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.



The first reading says that God’s might is the basis for divine justice. We might take this to mean that God uses mighty power to punish sinners, in the legal sense of justice. But God is too powerful to be injured by our sins. God can afford to wait for us to repent. That is the point of the parable of the wheat and the weeds. We are used to expecting swift justice. The idea of God giving sinners until the end of time to repent is almost un-American—at least, until we realize that we are sinners, too. Yet God is still willing to wait for all of us to repent. That is the wonder of God’s love, that God’s Son came to die for sinners, even before we sinned. Of course, that means that we also share forgiveness with others. Jesus ended his parable with a warning, “Whoever has ears ought to hear” (Mt 13:43). Let’s take his words to heart. Let’s believe that his grace is powerful enough to save us from sin and to trust that he can make us “shine like the sun.” Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Pope Francis established the celebration of the **World Day for Grandparents and Elderly** on the fourth Sunday of July, “close to the commemoration of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.” The theme for the 2023 celebration by the Pope is **“His mercy is from age to age. (Luke 1:50)**

On this occasion, the Holy Father explained the objective of this World Day is to promote the encounter between generations, of grandchildren with grandparents and grandparents with grandchildren, to “guard the roots and pass them on.”

**ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT FORMATION**

**Sessions will not be conducted for the rest of the Summer.**

We will resume sessions in the Formation House the **Wednesday after Labor Day, September 6th.** Times will remain the same: 10am for the morning session and 7pm for the evening sessions. Have a blessed and restful summer!

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM STELLA RICO REGARDING CHURCH CLEANING**

**As Fr. Fidèle has informed us, the church will not be available after Sunday, July 23rd, therefore the cleaning of the church will cease for a couple of months and will reschedule ministries at a later time.**

**However, since we will be celebrating mass in the school cafeteria the cleaning never stops. Let us continue to be mindful of keeping our temporary place of worship clean and the restrooms as well.**



**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS GUADALUPANA**

**“FALL BASKET” BINGO**

Date: Sunday, August 6, 2023

Time: 1 - 4 PM

Cost: \$10 per card

Good for 15 regular games

Tickets? Contact Sylvia Quintana

**SPECIALS**

**FOOD**

**DRINKS**

**INTRODUCCIÓN A LA LITURGÍA DEL DÍA**

Hace dos años el Papa Francisco estableció la Jornada Mundial de los Abuelos y de los Mayores a celebrarse cada año en el cuarto domingo de julio. El papa habló acerca de los abuelos haciendo un vínculo entre una generación más joven y otras generaciones pasadas. Estamos llamados a valorar y tomar en serio la sabiduría y la experiencia de nuestros mayores. En el Evangelio de hoy Jesús compara el Reino de los cielos con una pequeña semilla de mostaza, que con el tiempo se convierte en un enorme arbusto. Los mayores de hoy fueron una vez pequeñas semillas de mostaza. Con las bendiciones de Dios estas personas han perseverado y florecido, y continúan contribuyendo a que se realice el Reino de los cielos en este mundo.

**PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA**

¿Que servicio substancial puedo ofrecerle esta semana a una persona mayor, ya sea miembro de mi familia o no? ¿Que puedo aprender con esa acción?