

# 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 30, 2023

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## MAKING WISE CHOICES

An old expression admonishes, "Be careful what you wish for." Another one warns about money "burning a hole in your pocket" as you try and determine all the possibilities about how you will spend it. If God were to grant you a wish, what would it be? Our readings are about making wise choices and following God's ways. When Solomon is given this opportunity, he does not make a rash or selfish decision but requests an "understanding heart" so that he might better govern the people with justice. The responsorial psalm is part of a long acrostic poem about the beauty of following God's law. Saint Paul speaks to the Romans about God's master plan, in which we each have a special calling and purpose. The Gospel provides several parables about the kingdom of heaven, and how we might take right action and necessary steps in order to obtain it.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Solomon prays for an understanding heart (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12).

**Psalms** — The law of the Lord is precious to me (Psalm 119).

**Second Reading** — All things work for good for those who love God (Romans 8:28-30).

**Gospel** — The one who knows of the kingdom of heaven brings new and old from the storeroom (Matthew 13:44-52).

## TOMAR DECISIONES SABIAS

Una vieja expresión advierte: "Ten cuidado con lo que deseas". Otra advierte de que el dinero "te quema el bolsillo" mientras intentas determinar todas las posibilidades sobre cómo lo vas a gastar. Si Dios te concediera un deseo, ¿cuál sería? Nuestras lecturas tratan de tomar decisiones sabias y seguir los caminos de Dios. Cuando Salomón tiene esta oportunidad, no toma una decisión precipitada o egoísta, sino que pide un "corazón comprensivo" para poder gobernar mejor al pueblo con justicia. El salmo responsorial forma parte de un largo poema acróstico sobre la belleza de seguir la ley de Dios. San Pablo habla a los romanos del plan maestro de Dios, en el que cada uno de nosotros tiene una vocación y una finalidad especiales. El Evangelio ofrece varias parábolas sobre el reino de los cielos y sobre cómo podemos actuar correctamente y dar los pasos necesarios para conseguirlo. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Dame a mí, tu servidor, la capacidad de juzgar bien (1 Reyes 3:5, 7-12).

**Salmo** — Los mandamientos del Señor son preciosos para mí (Salmo 119).

**Segunda lectura** — Todo contribuye para bien de los que aman a Dios (Romanos 8:28-30).

**Evangelio** — Cuando encontramos la perla de gran valor, tenemos que ofrecer por ella todo lo que poseemos (Mateo 13:44-52).



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras  
Marty Carrera Tobias  
Frances Lozano  
Irma Urias  
Mary S. Martinez  
Galilea Romero  
Flora Torres  
Iris Luna Sullivan  
Sandy Guerra  
Abraham Guerra  
Emma O. Velasquez  
Leticia Martinez  
Kenny De La Rosa  
Raymond Sarabia  
Frank Rodriguez  
Julissa Rodriguez  
Miliana Bullock  
Lydia Soriano  
Adam Alonzo, Jr.

Albert Casillas  
Robert Sanchez  
Vanessa Quintero  
Joe Cevallos  
Juanita Martinez  
Maria Rios  
Virginia R. Lucio  
Guadalupe Rodriguez  
Lori Bañuelos  
Joe Villanueva  
Edith Flores  
Isaiah Vasquez  
Esther Nicholson  
Valerie Vigil  
Dolores Muñoz  
Marty Wind  
Maldonado Family  
Margie Zuniga  
Ann Marie Eickenroht

Rosemary Flores  
Anthony Ramirez  
Carmen Garza  
Gloria Rubio  
Duncan Paul Brown  
Lisa Brown  
Mary Herrera  
Rebecca Zuniga  
Rosa Elva Villaseñor  
Irene Lloyd  
Fred Guerra  
Lupe Gomez  
Mary Cano  
Angie Canales  
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 23, 2023

5 PM Mass	-\$ 505.00	
9 AM Mass	-\$ 650.00	
11 AM Mass	-\$ 1,163.00	
Religious Educ.	-\$ 395.00	2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$ 300.00	
On Line	-\$ 141.00	
Gift of Giving	-\$ 166.10	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,320.10</b>	

## SECOND COLLECTION

July 29-30, 2023  
Festival Expenses

## 2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending July 23, 2023	\$ 166.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,417.32</b>

# Announcements



## Saturday, July 29

5:00 p.m. † Jack Weddel - Daughter  
† Ashlee Traspesa - Socorro & Raquel  
† Lydia Valdez - Joe Blanco

## Sunday, July 30

9:00 a.m. † Jose M. Canales - Angelita Canales  
† Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
† Josue Hid - Wife

Health Angie Canales - SJB Family  
Health Joe Villanueva - Family

11:00 a.m. † Deacon Librado Cena - SJB Family

## Monday, July 31 - ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

### Tuesday, August 1

12:00 p.m. † Daniel B. Paredes, Jr. - Family  
Health Edith Flores - SJB Family  
Gift of Life Esther & Ernest Nicholson - Friends

### Wednesday, August 2

12:00 p.m. † Martin & † Margaret Burrell - SJB Family

### Thursday, August 3

12:00 p.m. † Robert Gallegos, Sr. - Wife & Family  
† Cayetano & Oralia Araguz - Friends  
Health Gloria Rubio - Family

### Friday, August 4 - ST. JOHN VIANNEY

12:00 p.m. † Jesse & † Pauline Arocha - SJB Family  
Health Carmen Garza - Family  
Gift of Life Felicia Martinez - Family

## GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB

If anyone is interested in volunteering their time for 1-2 hours on Monday and Friday from 3pm-5pm, please contact our parish office at (210) 434-3247.

At this time, there is a great need for food in our parish community. **We assist between 15-20 families on a weekly basis.**

## CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

### The *Suscipe* Prayer

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
my memory, my understanding,  
and my entire will,  
all I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.  
To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.  
Give me only your love and your grace,  
that is enough for me.

—Saint Ignatius of Loyola



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The new Parish Pastoral Council met for the first time on Wednesday, July 19th to commence the process of setting goals and manners on how 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).

Its 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.

Our Eucharistic celebrations will continue taking place, provisionally, in the school cafeteria. A new floor will be placed in our church. The church will remain sealed until the completion of the project. I will not be able to celebrate funerals, Quinceañeras, weddings and baptisms until we resume our celebrations in the church by the end of September. I implore your patience and attendance in our daily masses and on weekends. We are excited and blessed with the opportunity of a new floor in our sanctuary!

Our Good Samaritans ministry attends to the needy of those unfortunate within our community. We will service individuals two days a week, Monday and Friday from 3:00 thru 5:00 in the afternoon. We offer food bags and we may also assist with a portion of utility bills and/or prescriptions for only our parishioners. I thank all volunteers: Angie and John Diaz, Minnie and Carlos Sandoval, Robert Gallegos and Dora Duran. However, we still need volunteers to assist. You may donate one 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 this Fall **PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...**

# Announcements

## PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED...

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

Please remember 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 our blessings and also raise the money needed for our church community. Please pick up 100 raffle tickets and sell as many as you can.

May God bless you!

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




### Sunday, July 30

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

### Monday, July 31

### Tuesday, August 1

12:00 p.m. Mass - FORMATION HOUSE

### Wednesday, August 2

12:00 p.m. Mass - FORMATION HOUSE  
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

### Thursday, August 3

12:00 p.m. Mass - FORMATION HOUSE

### Friday, August 4

12:00 p.m. Mass - FORMATION HOUSE

### Saturday, August 5

5:00 p.m. Mass - CAFETERIA

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR:

Edith & Kathy Flores  
Linda Campbell

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



## COMPASSION

If you love the justice of Jesus Christ more than you fear human judgment, **then you will seek to do compassion.** —Mechtilde of Magdeburg

## ⇒ 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!

## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC CHURCH MENS ACTS RETREAT

**Dates:** August 24 - 27, 2023

**Retreat Fee:** The cost of the retreat is \$210.00 for the entire weekend.

### Contact Info:

Director - John Diaz (210) 799-6927

Co-Directors: Tomas Torres III (210) 313-4204

Bobby Gallegos (210) 379-1984

Spiritual Companion: Sam Hernandez  
(210) 749-2188

## FESTIVAL NEWS

**Festival T-Shirt orders will begin on Saturday, August 5 - Sunday, September 3.**

This year's T-Shirt was designed by a St. John Berchmans 7th grader.

**COST:** \$10.00 per shirt for children and adults  
\$12.00 for 2XL - 4XL

This year's colors will be heather gray, hunter green and pink. **All T-Shirt orders will be pre-paid.**

## 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 our community of faith.

**We are 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, Sept. 10th.**

Breakfast will be provided.

- Information on start date for RCIA classes is forthcoming. We appreciate your support.

Thank you, Cynthia Sandoval, DRE



## 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.

## REST IN PEACE

The ending of today's Gospel speaks about "the new and the old." Jesus is saying that a person "instructed in the kingdom" has wisdom both old and new; in other words, that person learns from the past as well as from the present. Let's look at each of those.

We learn from the past by studying it. So the wisdom of the kingdom comes first from the scriptures. The more familiar we are with the word of God, the more wisdom we possess. We can also learn from the lives of the saints and writings of the Church. If you only have time to go to Mass on Sunday, just listening to the homily can help to apply the scriptures to your life.

One way we can learn from "the new" is to learn from our mistakes. That includes learning from our sins. When we are truly sorry, we make an effort to change our ways. We can also learn from the mistakes and the successes of our friends. As we share our faith with them, we share the stories of our lives, both good and bad. God can speak to us through a friend or relative whose advice we seek. A truly wise person is one who has received a lifetime of good advice. Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED**

**Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**Time: 6:00 pm.**

**Location: Brentwood Middle School Cafeteria  
1626 W. Thompson Place**

This is the perfect opportunity for you to share issues, concerns or complaints. Compliments are always welcome as well. As always, SAPD, Code Compliance, District 5 and other elected officials attend our meetings.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE 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 ministries will be rescheduled 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 AND DRINKS**

**LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

Lunes: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Sal 106:19-23; Mt 13:31-35

Martes: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Sal 103:6-13; Mt 13:36-43

Miércoles: Ex 34:29-35; Sal 99:5-7, 9; Mt 13:44-46

Jueves: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Sal 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53

Viernes: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Sal 81:3-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58

Sábado: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Sal 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12

Domingo: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Sal 97:1-2, 5-6, 9;

**INTRODUCCIÓN A LA LITURGÍA DEL DÍA**

Dios nos congrega hoy para alimentarnos con la palabra y la Eucaristía. Puede que tomemos nuestra fe y nuestros ritos como algo usual, pero el Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que don tan precioso Dios nos ha dado. Nuestra fe, igual que el Reino de los cielos, es un Tesoro. El don que Jesús no ha dado al entregarnos su cuerpo y el poder compartirlo en la Eucaristía es un Tesoro. Su mandato de que continuemos celebrando la Eucaristía en memoria suya es un Tesoro. Demos gracias a Dios por estos dones que atesoramos. Cuando amamos a Dios y a nuestro prójimo, nos entregamos a la misión de Jesús y ayudamos a realizar el Reino. Por eso Pablo promete que "todo el que contribuye para bien de los que aman a Dios. (Romanos 8,28).

**PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA**

¿Como puedo ayudar a construir un mundo que valga la pena tener? ¿A quienes necesito perdonar o pedirles perdón a fin de reconciliarnos, aunque estemos en desacuerdo?