

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 20, 2023

www.stjohnberchmans.com

VOICE OF A PROPHET

We reflect upon the voice of the prophet in this Sunday's readings. We hear of the suffering and the rescue of Jeremiah. We hear how Jesus anticipates his suffering and death. As with Jeremiah and Jesus, the prophets were sent by God to the leaders and people of Israel. A prophet is one who speaks truth to the powerful, exposing their darker hidden motives and injustices. The prophet presents a way forward that aligns with God's purposes. A prophet can force people away from a comfortable neutrality or indifference. The prophet creates an urgency to make a choice: Are we content with the status quo, or are we to change our ways and pursue a new and better path? Today, we may also ask, how do we identify and respond to prophets of our time? How might we provide a prophetic voice in our Church and in our world?

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: "Stand firm in justice; do what is right" (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalms — May all the peoples exalt you, O God! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Jesus told the Canaanite woman of great faith, "It shall be done as you wish" (Matthew 15:21-28).

LA VOZ DEL PROFETA

En las lecturas de este domingo reflexionamos sobre la voz del profeta. Escuchamos el sufrimiento y el rescate de Jeremías. Oímos cómo Jesús anticipa su sufrimiento y su muerte. Al igual que Jeremías y Jesús, los profetas fueron enviados por Dios a los dirigentes y al pueblo de Israel. Un profeta es alguien que dice la verdad a los poderosos, exponiendo sus motivos ocultos más oscuros y sus injusticias. El profeta presenta un camino hacia adelante que se alinea con los propósitos de Dios. Un profeta puede obligar a la gente a salir de una cómoda neutralidad o indiferencia. El profeta crea la urgencia de tomar una decisión: ¿Nos conformamos con el statu quo, o vamos a cambiar nuestros caminos y seguir una senda nueva y mejor? Hoy también podemos preguntarnos cómo identificamos y respondemos a los profetas de nuestro tiempo. ¿Cómo podemos proporcionar una voz profética en nuestra Iglesia y en nuestro mundo?

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Mi salvación se viene acercando; mi justicia está a punto de aparecer (Isaías 56:1, 6-7).

Salmo — ¡Que todos los pueblos te exalten, oh Dios! (Salmo 67 [66]).

Segunda lectura — Los dones y la llamada de Dios son irrevocables (Romanos 11:13-15, 29-32).

Evangelio — Mujer, ¡qué grande es tu fe! (Mateo 15: 21-28).



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
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
Rosie Gallegos
Isidoro Munoz
Aurora Moreno
Trinidad Torres

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 AUGUST 13, 2023

5 PM Mass -\$ 605.00

9 AM Mass -\$ 1,300.00

11 AM Mass -\$1,518.00

Good Samaritans of SJB -\$ 320.00 2nd Collection

Assumption of Mary -\$ 331.00

Mail In -\$ 751.00

On Line -\$ 80.00

Gift of Giving -\$ 157.10

TOTAL \$5,062.10

SECOND COLLECTION

August 19-20, 2023

MISSION COOPERATIVE PLAN (MCP)

2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending August 13, 2023 \$ 157.10

TOTAL \$ 10,960.97



Saturday, August 19

5:00 p.m. † Pedro E. Martinez - Family

Sunday, August 20

9:00 a.m. † Pedro E. Martinez - Family
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
 † Lisa Marie Vozzella - Calderon Family
 † Luis Angel Campa - Mother
Gift of Life Daniel Rodriguez - Family

11:00 a.m. † Jose Juventino Arzola - Teresa Arzola
 † Paul & Juan Salinas - Salinas Family
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family
Health Rosie Gallegos - SJB Family
Health Aurora Moreno - SJB Family
Health Angie Canales - SJB Family

Monday, August 21

Tuesday, August 22

12:00 p.m. † Belen Granados - SJB Family
For Health Marty Carrera Tobias - SJB Family

Wednesday, August 23 - ST. ROSE OF LIMA

8:15 a.m. † Helen Lloyd - SJB Family

Thursday, August 24 - ST. BARTHOLOMEW

12:00 p.m. † Lucy Hermosa Villarreal - SJB Family
For Health Dr. Dolores Muñoz - Friends

Friday, August 25

12:00 p.m. † William Valdez - SJB Family
 † Clara Perez - SJB Family

ONLINE DONATIONS:

- Cash App: \$StJohnBerchmans
- Pay-Pal: administrator@stjohnberchmans.com
- Venmo: administrator@stjohnberchmans.com

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Hail, Holy Queen (Salve, Regina)

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy:
 our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
 To you do we cry, poor banished children of
 Eve;
 to you do we send up our sighs,
 mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
 Turn then, most gracious advocate,
 your eyes of mercy toward us;
 and after this our exile
 show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
 O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
 V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God
 R. That we may be made worthy of the promises
 of Christ.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

This is to inform you that effective July 16, 2023, Deacon Jose Ocampo is being reassigned from our parish to St. Gerard Parish to assist Father Donald Willard, C. So. R. Deacon Jose's short time with us has been impactful and we wish him a successful ministry at St. Gerard. You will be missed.

I challenge men from our parish community to join the ACTS Retreat on Friday, August 24 thru 27, 2023 at Cordi Marian Center. This is an opportunity to encounter with our Lord, Jesus Christ and begin a new journey in the Lord. We all need Jesus in our daily life.

I will take the remaining 10 days of my annual vacation from August 29 thru September 7, 2023 to visit with my daughter Angelique Dikete, who is expecting to deliver her baby in September of this year, and visit with my Sister Angelique Dikete, (Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary), who has been elected First General Councillor (Vicar General) by her peers (I have not seen my Sister Angelique since the pandemic). Please keep me in your prayers as I travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I invite you to join me on **Saturday, August 26th, 2023** as we walk in the neighborhood to recruit children for our CCD and CYO program. We will meet at 7:30am at the Santa Maria Taqueria Restaurant for a prayer and breakfast before we embark on our mission. CCD registration is open as well as CYO. "It takes a village to raise a child". Please make a special effort to join us for this adventure with the Lord in our community.

Our Eucharistic celebrations will continue taking place, provisionally, in the school cafeteria. A new floor is being placed in our church. The church will remain sealed until the completion of the project. I will not be able to celebrate funerals, Quinceñeras, 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. The service takes place 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.

PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

Announcements

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PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED...

However, we still need volunteers. You may donate 1 or 2 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 2023 is scheduled Saturday, September 30th from 2pm until midnight. I invite each one of you to support our efforts to make this Fall festival a huge success. We have several bands, 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 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

THIS WEEK!
Here's What's On The Calendar!

SharePath

Sunday, August 20

9:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Cafeteria
11:00 a.m. Mass - Cafeteria
11:00 a.m. BBQ Plate Fundraiser

Monday, August 21

Tuesday, August 22

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House

Wednesday, August 23

8:15 a.m. School Mass - Cafeteria
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

Thursday, August 24

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House
5:00 p.m. Send Off Men's ACTS Retreat - Cafeteria

Friday, August 25

12:00 p.m. Mass - Formation House

Saturday, August 26

7:30 a.m. CCD & CYO Round up
5:00 p.m. Mass - Cafeteria

⇒ BBQ PLATE FUNDRAISER

DATE: Sunday, August 20, 2023

TIME: 11AM - 4 PM

COST: \$12.00

PLATES WILL BE PICK UP AND TO GO ONLY!!

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 "Bringing Joy through God", will be taken through Sunday, Sept. 3.

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.**



3 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT PURGATORY

IT MAKES US
IMAGES OF
CHRIST

It isn't a punishment. Rather, it's a state of purification to make us "perfect images of Christ".

WE NEED TO
PRAY FOR THE
SOULS
IN PURGATORY

This process of purification can be long and painful, so we need to pray for them - always.

THE SOULS IN
PURGATORY CAN
PRAY FOR US

Though they can't pray for themselves, as members of the body of Christ, can pray for us.

PRAYER FOR THE SOULS OF THE DEPARTED

V. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
R. And let the perpetual light shine upon them.
And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

 CatholicLink



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. 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.

**A CLEVER WOMAN OF FAITH**

Why is Jesus being so difficult with the Canaanite woman? At first he seems to be putting her off. He does this not to discourage her, but to draw a response of faith. He wants to see how persistent she is in her request.

We can tell ourselves that we are people of faith, but how easily are we discouraged? Do we think God has forgotten us when we experience trouble? The woman's clever reply to Jesus reminds us that she trusted in Jesus' power and willingness to help. She refused to give up and stop asking.

Jesus shows us that we can keep praying until we get an answer to our prayer. The more time we spend in prayer, the more likely we are to listen to God's answer. Prayer can help us come to the peaceful acceptance that God only does what is best for us. Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE RESPECTFUL?

The significance of Mass is endless, so your intentional dress at Mass is a statement to you and to others that this is not just any other activity...rather it is important.

- Mass is to be treated honorably, it is holy, it's the sacrifice of our Savior for us.
- From the moment you start to get dressed, you are preparing your hearts for communion with your Savior, which calls for your utmost reverence.
- We must promote respect and modesty since it is a reflection of our faith and our respect for God.
- Let our dress be humbling and aim for what is most fitting in the house of God.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CCD & RCIA

REGISTRATION underway for Catechism K - 10th grade, and RCIA through Sunday, September 3rd.

Our Director for Religious Education, Cynthia Sandoval, will be in the SJB school office, Room 22, on Saturdays: 4-5 pm and 6-7 pm, and on Sundays 10am-2pm. For an appointment during the week, leave a message at the rectory, or email Cynthia Sandoval, at ventimochafrap@yahoo.com.

CCD classes begin at 9am, Sunday, Sept. 10th. Breakfast will be provided.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

Classes for Adult Faith Enrichment will **resume on Wednesday, August 23rd** in the Formation House. The **morning session will be at 10am** and the **evening session will be at 7pm.**

We will continue our study of the Parables of the Kingdom of God. Come join us and bring a friend!

**FESTIVAL BINGO**

We need your help for our Festival Bingo. At this time, we need Prizes of \$10.00 or more. Also asking for volunteers to help out on the floor (To check bingo winners and sell Specials).

For more information, please contact Marie Sanchez or Dora Duran.

As always, we thank you for your support.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Jue 2:11-19; Sal 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Mt 19:16-22

Martes: Jue 6:11-24a; Sal 85:9, 11-14; Mt 19:23-30

Miércoles: Jue 9:6-15; Sal 21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16

Jueves: Apo 21:9b-14; Sal 145:10-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Viernes: Rut 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Sal 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

Sábado: Rut 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Sal 128:1b-5; Mt 23:1-12

Domingo: Is 22:19-23; Sal 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

INTRODUCCION A LA LITURGIA DEL DIA

En la primera lectura de hoy oímos a Dios decirle a Isaías: "Mi templo será la casa de oración para todos los pueblos." Estamos reunidos aquí hoy en un templo de oración y por tanto acogemos a todas las personas que han venido aquí hoy para juntos invocar a Dios con alabanzas, súplicas y acción de gracias. Unamos nuestros voces para invocar a nuestro Dios con nuestra oración.

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

El mensaje de inclusion en las lecturas de hoy, a quienes me desafía a mirar de forma diferente? Como pudiera aceptar mejor a otras personas?