

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 3, 2023

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FOLLOWING THE PATH OF JESUS

We are invited to reflect on the path of discipleship offered by Jesus in our readings today. Jesus, now seen by the disciples as Messiah and Christ, begins to describe most fully what this means: he will not march into Jerusalem filled with God's power like a conquering general. His path is like that of Jeremiah; he will be rejected and mocked. His path is like that described by Paul, offering his body as a living sacrifice. Jesus summons his followers down the same path of death and resurrection, to live the radical paradox that "whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Loving and trusting God will entail self-surrender, leading us to joy in service to others. We will learn to let go of what we desire and what we think we need, trusting God to provide what we truly need. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The name of the LORD has become like fire burning in Jeremiah's heart (Jeremiah 20:7-9).

Psalm — My soul longs for you, O my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Be transformed; renew your mind; discern what is good (Romans 12:1-2).

Gospel — Those who lose their lives for Jesus' sake will find them (Matthew 16:21-27).

SIGUIENDO EL CAMINO DE JESÚS

Se nos invita a reflexionar sobre el camino del discipulado ofrecido por Jesús en nuestras lecturas de hoy. Jesús, que ahora es visto por los discípulos como el Mesías y el Cristo, comienza a describir de manera muy completa lo que esto significa: no marchará hacia Jerusalén lleno del poder de Dios como un general conquistador. Su camino es como el de Jeremías; será rechazado y burlado. Su camino es como el descrito por Pablo, ofreciendo su cuerpo como un sacrificio vivo. Jesús convoca a sus seguidores por el mismo camino de muerte y resurrección, para vivir la paradoja radical de que "quien pierda su vida por mí, la encontrará". Amar y confiar en Dios implicará la entrega de uno mismo, lo que nos llevará a la alegría en el servicio a los demás. Aprenderemos a desprendernos de lo que deseamos y de lo que creemos necesitar, confiando en que Dios nos proporcionará lo que realmente necesitamos. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Me sedujiste, Señor, y me dejé seducir por ti (Jeremías 20:7-9).

Salmo - Mi alma te anhela, oh Dios mío (Salmo 63).

Segunda lectura — No se dejan llevar por las cosas del mundo, más bien transfórmense por la renovación de su mente (Romanos 12:1-2).

Evangelio — Si quieres seguirme, renuncia a ti mismo, carga con tu cruz y sígueme (Mateo 16:21-27).



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
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
Fred Guerra
Lupe Gomez
Mary Cano
Angie Canales
Joseph Kavanaugh
Rosie Gallegos
Isidoro Muñoz
Maritza Garcia
Saucedo Family

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 27, 2023

5 PM Mass	-\$ 868.00
9 AM Mass	-\$ 543.00
11 AM Mass	-\$ 1,333.00
IGBO Mass	-\$ 307.00
A/C Unit	-\$ 1,985.00 2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$ 435.00
On Line	-\$ 163.00
Gift of Giving	-\$ 135.25
TOTAL	\$5,769.25

SECOND COLLECTION September 2-3, 2023 Capital Expenditures

2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending August 27, 2023	\$ 163.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,252.82



Saturday, September 2

- 5:00 p.m. † Robert Gallegos, Sr. - Wife & Family
- † Maria Elena Martinez - Family
- † Ramon C. Campa - Family
- † Helen Lloyd - Family & Friends
- † Irene Lloyd - Family & Friends
- Gift of Life** Carina M. Martinez - Family
- Gift of Life** Violet G. Flores - Family

Sunday, September 3

- 9:00 a.m. † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
- † Aurora Moreno - SJB Family
- Gift of Life** Mary Rose Cerda "90 Years" - Family
- 11:00 a.m. † Robert Gallegos, Sr. - Wife & Family
- † Paul & Juan Salinas - Salinas Family
- † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family

Monday, September 4 - LABOR DAY

Tuesday, September 5

- 12:00 p.m. † Dolores Graham - SJB Family
- Gift of Life** Marcus Evan Torres - Family

Wednesday, September 6

- 8:15 a.m. † Estela De La Vega - SJB Family

Thursday, September 7

- 12:00 p.m. † Margaret Ochoa Cruz - Family

Friday, September 8

- 12:00 p.m. † Esther Guevara - SJB Family

FIRST COMMANDMENT

"I am the Lord your God. You shall not have strange gods before Me". Exodus 20:2-3

- Did I doubt or deny that God exists?
- Do I give God time, every day in prayer?
- Do I seek to love him with all my heart?
- Did I deny that I was Catholic?

ONLINE DONATIONS:

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

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Before a Day's Work

Direct, we beg you, O Lord,
 our actions by your holy inspirations,
 and grant that we may carry them out
 with your gracious assistance,
 that every prayer and work of ours
 may begin always with you,
 and through you be happily ended.
 Amen.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I arrived safely in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to visit with my daughter Angelique Dikete, who is expecting to deliver her baby this month of September, 2023. I will also be spending some quality time with my Sister Angelique Dikete (Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary), who has been elected first Counselor (Vicar General) by her peers and have not seen since the pandemic. Please keep me in your prayers as I am preparing to return to the United States of America this coming week.

Our church renovation is completed!! We are returning to our church next weekend, September 9 & 10, 2023. Please stop by the church to help as much as you can to put furniture in place and clean the house of the Lord before next Sunday's celebration. Thank you for your patience and generosity.

On this Labor Day let us be thankful for our employment that sustains our household and brings us pride in being a productive citizen in our great country. Let us pray for persons that are presently seeking employment that they soon find a job for the betterment of their families.

I thank all the St. John Berchmans missionaries who accompanied me in the neighborhood to recruit CCD and CYO children over the past two weekends Saturday, August 19th and 26th, 2023 for the upcoming program. They are: Cindy Sandoval, Cecilia Sandoval, Janie Jimenez, Mary Ann Arocha, Rosalinda Gomez, Stephanie Laque, Sylvia Serna, Sandra Torres, Alice Esparza, Elizabeth Mainez, Teresa Arzola, Esmeralda Tamez and Amber Elizondo. The CCD registration is open. "It takes a village to raise a child."

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, 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. Thank you.

May God bless you!

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

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13;
Lk 4:16-30
Tue: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14;
Lk 4:31-37
Wed: Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44
Thu: Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-6; Lk 5:1-11
Fri: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
Sat: Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5
Sun: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 13:8-10;
Mt 18:15-20



FESTIVAL BINGO

We need your help for our Festival Bingo. At this time, we desperately need Prizes of \$10.00 or more.

Also need volunteers to help out on the floor (Check bingo winners and sell Specials). For more information, please contact Marie Sanchez or Dora Duran. As always, we thank you for your support.

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.**

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2023



For People Living on the Margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



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

Sunday, September 3

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

Monday, September 4 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 5

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Formation House

Wednesday, September 6

8:15 a.m. School Mass - Cafeteria
10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment-Formation House
7:00 p.m. Adult Faith Enrichment-Formation House

Thursday, September 7

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Formation House

Friday, September 8

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Formation House

Saturday, September 9

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

- 1 GOD KNOCKS ON THE DOORS OF EVERY FAMILY.
- 2 THE FAMILY HAS A DIVINE IDENTITY CARD.
- 3 WE HAVE TO CARE IN A SPECIAL WAY FOR CHILDREN AND FOR GRANDPARENTS.
- 4 LIKE HAPPINESS, HOLINESS IS ALWAYS TIED TO LITTLE GESTURES.
- 5 OPEN UP TO THE MIRACLES OF LOVE IN OUR HOME.
- 6 MAY ALL FAMILIES BE PROPHETS OF THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL.

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.



“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it”. **Matthew 16:24**
 The Gospel for this Sunday, unveils a crucial moment in Jesus’ ministry. He unveils his future suffering, death and resurrection, prompting Peter’s protest. Jesus rebukes Peter, emphasizing self-denial and carrying the cross for true discipleship. This passage contrasts worldly gains with spiritual fulfillment and underscores impending judgment. The Gospel of Matthew, by Apostle Matthew, provides a comprehensive account of Jesus’ life, teachings, and compassion. It includes iconic lessons like the Sermon of the Mount, highlighting Jesus’ sacrificial love exemplified by the crucifixion. This Gospel prompts followers to embrace selflessness, mirroring Jesus’ profound dedication to humanity.

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.



THANK YOU to all who have submitted monies for their raffle tickets. We are hopeful this will be a successful raffle. We encourage everyone to please continue selling their tickets. You may submit raffle ticket monies directly to the Parish Office during normal business hours.



THOMPSON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Will hold its next meeting **Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** and is held at the Brentwood Middle School Cafeteria, 1626 W. Thompson Place. All residents are encouraged to attend. This organization acts as a forum for neighbors to discuss community needs, concerns and recommendations to improve the image and livability of our neighborhood.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CCD & RCIA

REGISTRATION underway for Catechism K - 10th grade, and RCIA through this weekend Sunday, September 3rd. Our Director for Religious Education, Cynthia Sandoval, will be in the SJB school office, Room 22, on Saturday: 4-5 pm and 6-7 pm, and on Sunday 10am-2pm. For information, please call the rectory or email Cynthia Sandoval, at ventimochafrap@yahoo.com.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: 1 Tes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Sal 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22
 Martes: 1 Tes 2:1-8; Sal 139:1-6; Mc 6:17-29
 Miércoles: 1 Tes 2:9-13; Sal 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
 Jueves: 1 Tes 3:7-13; Sal 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51
 Viernes: 1 Tes 4:1-8; Sal 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
 Sábado: 1 Tes 4:9-11; Sal 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
 Domingo: Jer 20:7-9; Sal 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2;
 Mt 16:21-27

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 AT 8 AM
 City of San Antonio Animal Care Services**

LITURGIA DEL DIA

Hoy, al honrar a todas aquellas personas cuya labor enriquece nuestra vida y la vida de otras personas, reconocemos que el trabajo que hacemos es vía de santidad. Ya que trabajemos para un empresario, o para nuestra propia familia o ambas cosas, dejamos a un lado nuestros propios deseos para hacer algo por los demás. Jesús les dice a sus discípulos que deben renunciarse a sí mismo y cargar con sus cruces.

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿En qué aspectos encuentro difícil renunciar a mis propios deseos, mis prioridades y mi propia voluntad para seguir a Cristo?