

St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

1147 Cupples Road, San Antonio, TX 78226 210-434-3247 FAX 210-432-0431

www.stjohnberchmans.com



Welcoming and liturgical community celebrating the spiritual needs of God's people in the spirit of St. John Berchmans.
"My penance is to live the common life. I will pay greatest attention to the least inspiration of God." - St. John Berchmans

Parish Office Staff:

• Fr. Fidèle O. Dikete, Pastor •

Stella Rico, Secretary
Olivia Lopez, Bookkeeper/Office Manager
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance
Christine McWilliams, WebMaster/ FB

Connie Peché, Family Records
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement
Kathy Flores, Sacramental Records
Cynthia Sandoval, Director of Religious Education

Raquel Castillo, Office Volunteer
Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-2pm

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 5pm-English
Sunday 9am-Bilingual
Sunday 11am-English

Weekday Services:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

School Mass:

Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

Holy Days of Obligation:

Bilingual Mass at 7pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

Adoration:

Every Thursday 9am-5pm

Baptisms/Quinceñeras/Sweet 16:

Please contact office for more information

Baptism Classes:

Please contact office for more information

Weddings:

Father Fidèle Dikete, Pastor
Please make an appointment
six months in advance.

CCD:

Sunday 9:30am – 12 Noon

Good Samaritans of SJB:

Monday and Friday; 3pm - 5pm

SJB School: Nora Garcia, Principal - 210-433-0411

Parish Ministries

ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:

Emilio Semersky

esemersky@gmail.com

ALTAR SERVERS:

Eddie Campa

ecampa@swri.org

BOY & GIRL SCOUTS:

Aussie Mata

rotorwing2@gmail.com

CHOIRS:

Saturday 5pm Choir

John A. Campa

jhowardcampa@aol.com

Sunday 9am Choir

Roy Sanchez

rsanchez34@satx.rr.com

Sunday 11am Choir

Javier Saucedo

javierrufus@gmail.com

CYO:

Esmeralda "Ezmi" Tamez

ezmiet09@gmail.com

CAFETERIA RENTAL:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Linda Campbell

linda40849@satx.rr.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Elida Gonzales

redg90@sbcglobal.net

GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

John Diaz

johndiaz7538@sbcglobal.net

Angie Diaz

GUADALUPANAS:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY:

Kathy Flores

kflores0411@att.net

JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos

jessicamosfischer@gmail.com

Chayo Gomez

tootsweez@hotmail.com

LECTORS:

Stella Rico

stellav28@att.net

LITURGY COMMITTEE:

Joan Orosco

dorosco08@yahoo.com

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Kimberly Mata

mata_kimberly@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Cyndi Sandoval

ventimochafrap@yahoo.com

ROSARY MAKERS:

Victoria Sanchez

SHARE THE WORD:

Rosalinda Garza

Garza_rosalinda@att.net

VIGIL TEAM:

Oralia Cantu

dduran57@outlook.com

Dora Duran

MARCH 3, 2024 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 3, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

"THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT . . ."

For pious Jews in first-century Palestine, the Mosaic Law prescribed the way every action in life is dedicated to God. Today's reading from Exodus tells how the Ten Commandments, the introduction to this larger legal code, is given to Israel as a gift from God.

In the Gospels Jesus is portrayed as a rabbi, or someone learned in the Law. A rabbi's learning ideally included both the precepts of the Law and its reverent contemplation as a divine gift, within which one could hear God's own voice. This was the way rabbis through the centuries used the Law to adapt to changing circumstances. This seems to be what Jesus was doing with the moneychangers in the temple.

JESUS, THE LAW, THE JEWS—AND US

When Jesus accused the moneychangers of sacrilege and cleared them out of the temple, the onlookers asked for a sign of his authority to do such a thing. After all, wasn't it a sacrilege to purchase animals for sacrifice with pagan coins? Wasn't this how the Jews adapted to Roman rule? Jesus says nothing about that; he only knows that this commercial activity inside the temple was a sacrilege. Elsewhere in the Gospels Jesus is criticized for not being strict enough with the Law, as when he ate with prostitutes and tax collectors, but here he is prescribing something stricter, something "more."

Jesus is doing something extraordinary, contrary to ordinary practice, prompting the onlookers to request a sign, evidence that God is acting here through Jesus. His insistence that the moneychangers depart, his clear vision regarding "my Father's house," and his cryptic reference to himself as a temple, are signs of his contemplative intimacy with his Father that is the source of his authority about the Law.

Catholics, like first-century Jews, have our regular means for living in God's presence. We have the liturgy, sacraments, devotions, and personal prayer. During Lent, we are asked to be a little stricter with ourselves, listening for God's own voice. If we do, we might discover that we, too, are being called to something "more."

TODAY'S READINGS: Ex 20:1 - 17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

LA LEY DEL SEÑOR ES PERFECTA . . ."

Para los judíos piadosos de la Palestina del siglo I, la Ley mosaica prescribía la forma en que cada acción de la vida se dedicaba a Dios. La lectura del libro del Éxodo nos dice cómo los Diez Mandamientos, la introducción a esta Ley amplia, se le da a Israel como un regalo por parte de Dios.

En los evangelios, Jesús es representado como un rabino, o alguien que estudió la Ley. El conocimiento de un rabino idealmente incluía tanto los preceptos de la Ley como su contemplación reverente como regalo de Dios, dentro de la cual uno podía escuchar la propia voz de Dios. Esta era la forma en que los rabinos a través de los siglos utilizaron la Ley para adaptarse a las circunstancias cambiantes. Esto parece ser lo que Jesús estaba haciendo con los cambistas en el Templo.

JESÚS, LA LEY, LOS JUDÍOS Y NOSOTROS

Cuando Jesús acusó a los cambistas de profanación y los sacó del Templo, los mirones preguntaron con qué autoridad hacía tal cosa. Después de todo, ¿qué no era un sacrilegio comprar animales para los sacrificios y pagar con monedas paganas? ¿No fue así como los judíos adoptaron el mandato romano? Jesús no dice nada acerca de eso, él sólo sabe que ese tipo de comercio dentro del Templo era un sacrilegio. En otras partes del Evangelio a Jesús se le critica por que no es lo suficiente estricto con la Ley, así como cuando come con prostitutas y recaudadores de impuestos, pero aquí está indicando algo "más".

Jesús está haciendo algo extraordinario, contrario a la práctica ordinaria, provocando a los mirones que pidan una señal, una evidencia de que Dios está obrando por medio de Jesús. Su insistencia para que los cambistas se vayan, su visión clara sobre "la casa de mi Padre" y su referencia enigmática a él mismo como un templo, son signos de su intimidad contemplativa con su Padre que es el origen de su autoridad sobre la Ley.

Los católicos, como los judíos del primer siglo, tienen nuestros medios habituales para vivir en la presencia de Dios. Nosotros tenemos la liturgia, los sacramentos, las devociones y la oración personal. Durante la Cuaresma, se nos pide que seamos un poco más estrictos con nosotros mismos, escuchando la propia voz de Dios. Si lo hacemos, podríamos descubrir que nosotros también estamos llamados a algo "más".

LECTURAS DE HOY: Ex 20:1 - 17 ; Sal 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras
Marty Carrera Tobias
Frances Lozano
Irma Urias
Mary S. Martinez
Galilea Romero
Iris Luna Sullivan
Emma O. Velasquez
Kenny De La Rosa
Raymond Sarabia
Julissa Rodriguez
Miliana Bullock
Lydia Soriano
Robert Sanchez
Vanessa Quintero
Virginia R. Lucio
Guadalupe Rodriguez
Lori Bañuelos
Edith Flores

Isaiah Vasquez
Esther Nicholson
Valerie Vigil
Rosemary Flores
Anthony Ramirez
Carmen Garza
Gloria Rubio
Lisa Brown
Mary Herrera
Rebecca Zuniga
Rosa Elva Villaseñor
Lupe Gomez
Angie Canales
Joseph Kavanaugh
Rosie Gallegos
Maritza Garcia
Liam Adrian Martinez
Michael P. Ramirez
Alfred Marin

Maria Martinez
Lucy Treviño & Family
Mickey S. Carrasco
Robert Prieto
Elizabeth Rose Valdez
Muñoz Family
Adela Moreno
Mary Rose Cerda
Zander from WA.
Pete Muñoz
Mary Alice Vasquez
Terry Herrera
Rosa Castoreno
Henrietta Ramos
Cecilia Muñoz
Maria Dorado
Jose Calderon
Carmen Perez

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 FEBRUARY 25, 2024

5 PM Mass	-\$	857.00
9 AM Mass	-\$	762.00
11 AM Mass	-\$	1,600.00
IGBO Mass	-\$	120.00
Religious Education	-\$	505.00 2nd Collection
IGBO Religious Education	-\$	70.00 2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$	3,640.00
Gift of Giving	-\$	255.70
TOTAL		\$7,629.70



SECOND COLLECTION MARCH 2-3, 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Feb. 25, 2024	\$	255.70
TOTAL	\$	5,731.96

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 2

5:00 p.m. † Johnny Arocha - Family
 † Ruth Cruz Villarreal - Sweet Family
 † Baldemar Rodriguez - Socorro & Raquel
Health Carmen Covarubia - Sweet Family

Sunday, March 3

9:00 a.m. † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
 † Daniel "Danny" Romero - Family
 † Juan & Gabriela - Virginia Velez
 † Francisco Ibarra - Hija Leonar

Health Emma O. Velasquez - Daughters
Gift of Life Becky Lopez - Socorro & Raquel

11:00 a.m. † Angelina Ramirez - Daughter & Family
 † Robert Ortiz - Ortiz Family
Health Matthew Araguz - Victor Araguz

Monday, March 4 - ST. CASMIR

Tuesday, March 5

12:00 p.m. † Elizabeth Flores - Family
Health Emma O. Velasquez - Daughters

Wednesday, March 6

8:15 a.m. † Fred Estrello - Cindi Sanchez
Health Infant Peyton - SJB Family

Thursday, March 7 - STS. PERPETUA AND FELICITY

12:00 p.m. † Beatrice Villarreal - SJB Family
Gift of Life Libby Castillo - Tias

Friday, March 8 - ST. JOHN OF GOD

12:00 p.m. † Steven V. Fischer - Ramos Family

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE
 TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:
 Sandra C. Lockwood
 Emma O. Velasquez**



Let us remember the lamp is a mark of honor. It is to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.



REST IN PEACE

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

† Beatrice G. Villarreal

LENT, A ROAD TO EASTER

Lent makes it clear to us that all encounters with God need a moment of purification and repentance, a period of time when we can reflect and come to terms with ourselves and our reality; we need this moment when our human figure appears fragile before this God who comes to meet us, Lent is precisely this, a moment to tell Jesus: I need you, I wish to follow you and be able to see at the end of this Lenten path a Cross with a body having extended arms, awaiting our answer of love.



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

As you well know, our Christmas raffle has been our only fundraiser since the pandemic broke out in 2019 with a profit of \$31,029.12 (2020), \$31,727.00 (2021) \$30,739.46 (2022) achieved by sponsoring raffle tickets, prizes, and selling tickets.

This year's attempt to plan a Fall Festival and recapture the magic of fellowship and big profit has fallen short. The Festival this past year netted a profit of \$30,114.64 less than our Christmas raffle from prior years. The festival also required a year's work of long commitments and hard work. Our parish is also experiencing a significant decrease in volunteers, contributions, sponsorships and manpower. In light of these challenges, the Pastoral Council met Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 and made the following decisions:

- There will not be a Fall festival this year
- A major raffle will take place on **Wednesday, December 25th, 2024 after the 11:00 morning mass**
- A small fellowship will be organized in the fall which will include chicken plates, children's games and music.


In order for us to be successful this year each parishioner will receive 100 raffle tickets to sell for \$2.00 each. Please make a great effort to sell all your tickets and perhaps sell more. Knowing that this will be our only fundraiser this year, please be generous in supporting our parish and all the persons working for its success.

Our Pastoral Council encourages each one of you to support Father Fidèle Dikete's efforts to raise money for the school. My plan to register 50 new students is to launch a scholarship initiative to offer \$1,000 to each new registered student attending St. John Berchmans Catholic School. I will be sponsoring a 10k (6.2 miles) run on Mother's Day weekend, **Saturday, May 11th, 2024 at 8:00 in the morning at Woodlawn Lake Park** for the purpose of raising money for our beloved school and also to celebrate all our beloved mothers. Schedule of events for the day:

- **8:00 a.m.:** 10k run (6.2 miles) by Fr. Fidèle Dikete and anyone who wishes also to run
- **9:30 am:** 1.3 mile run by students
- **10:00 am:** 1.3 mile walk by all the mothers
- **10:30 am thru 11:00 am:** Mariachis

I am asking for a donation of \$20 to support the effort. Generous donations are also welcomed to raise \$50,000 to assist the school.

God bless you always,
Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com



**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS
GUADALUPANA MEAT BINGO**
DATE: Sunday, March 3, 2024
TIME: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
\$10 per card for 15 regular games
\$10 reserves your seat
 (15 Game Meat prizes: Brisket, Sausage, Hamburger patties) 5 Specials will be for Baskets. Food, Drinks, Desserts available for sale

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY,
MARCH 10, 2024**



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
 Tue: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-9; Mt. 18:21-35
 Wed: Deut 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-20; Mt 5:17-19
 Thu: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23
 Fri: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6-17; Mk 12:28-34
 Sat: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
 Sun: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

**WEEKLY
EVENTS**

Sunday, March 3

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church

11:00 a.m. MASS - Church

Monday, March 4

Tuesday, March 5

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

Wednesday, March 6

8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Church

10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment Sessions - Formation House

2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

Thursday, March 7

9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

6:00 p.m. HOLY HOUR - Church

Friday, March 8

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

6:00 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS- Church

Saturday, March 9

8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning

5:00 p.m. MASS - Church



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. **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.

ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year is now open. Registration is \$260 per student until April 19th. Beginning April 20th the registration fee will increase to \$300 per child. For more information or to schedule a school tour, contact Mrs. Hopcus (School Secretary) at (210) 433-0411.

2023-2024 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Ms. Evangelina Carrera, who was selected by her peers to represent St. John Berchmans Catholic School as the 2023-24 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Carrera is an excellent Spanish, PE, Technology and Ballet Folklorico teacher. We are so blessed to have her as a great mentor and role model.

ACTS ANNUAL FISH FRY

The ACTS Community will be hosting their annual **Fish Fry Plate Sale on Friday, March 29th** in the School Cafeteria. **Cost is \$15.00 per plate and will consist of Fish, Corn on the cob, coleslaw, green beans, bread, drink and condiments.**

Volunteers are needed to help sell tickets, set up/clean up, cook and serve. Monetary donations to help offset costs of food is appreciated.

Please contact Dolores Guardiola or any ACTS core member for tickets/information.

We thank you for your continued support of our ministry.

WHAT WEEDS ARE YOU GOING TO PULL UP...

PRIDE GREED LUST WRATH GLUTTONY ENVY SLOTH

...AND WHAT SEEDS ARE YOU PLANTING THIS LEAF?

HUMILITY CHASTITY TEMPERANCE DILIGENCE
 GENEROSITY MEekNESS CHARITY



Welcome to anyone interested in assisting us to clean our beautiful church.

EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM!!!

MINISTRY SCHEDULED

MARCH 9 - ACTS

