# 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: ALTAR SERVERS:** Eddie Campa **BOY & GIRL SCOUTS:** 

CHOIRS: Saturday 5pm Choir

John A. Campa Sunday 9am Choir Roy Sanchez

Javier Sauceda

CYO: Esmeralda "Ezmi" Tamez

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** FINANCE COMMITTEE:

GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

**GUADALUPANAS:** 

CAFETERIA RENTAL:

FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL:

HOSPITALITY: JOY MINISTRY:

LECTORS:

**PASTORAL COUNCIL:** 

Emilio Semersky esemersky@gmail.com ecampa@swri.org

Aussie Mata rotorwing2@gmail.com

ihowardcampa@aol.com rsanchez34@satx.rr.com Sunday 11am Choir

javierrufus@gmail.com ezmiet09@gmail.com

Cecilia Sandoval cecilsand@yahoo.com Linda Campbell linda40849@satx.rr.com Flida Gonzales redg90@sbcglobal.net John Diaz johndiaz7538@sbcglobal.net

Angie Diaz Cecilia Sandoval cecilsand@yahoo.com Cecilia Sandoval cecilsand@yahoo.com Kathy Flores kflores0411@att.net

jessicaramosfischer@gmail.com Jessica Ramos tootsweez@hotmail.com Chayo Gomez

Stella Rico stellav28@att.net LITURGY COMMITTEE: Joan Orosco dorosco08@yahoo.com Kimberly Mata mata kimberly@yahoo.com **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Cyndi Sandoval ventimochafrap@yahoo.com

**ROSARY MAKERS:** Victoria Sanchez

SHARE THE WORD: Rosalinda Garza

VIGIL TEAM: Oralia Cantu Garza rosalinda@att.net

dduran57@outlook.com

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 hacia 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 practica 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



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

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,

Alfred Marin

## **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

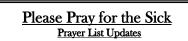
> Mail In -\$ 3,640.00 -<u>\$ 255.70</u> Gift of Giving TOTAL \$7,629.70

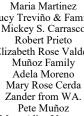
> > **SECOND COLLECTION** MARCH 2-3, 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

### **2024 GIFT OF GIVING**

Contributions ending Feb. 25, 2024 5,731.96

TOTAL







#### 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

Emma O. Velasquez - Daughters Health 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

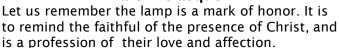
12:00 p.m. † Beatrice Villarreal - SJB Family

Gift of Life Libby Castillo - Tias Friday, March 8 - ST. JOHN OF GOD

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

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE **TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:** Sandra C. Lockwood

Emma O. Velasquez





#### **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



## www.stjohnberchmans.com



# ST. JOHN BERCHMANS GUADALUPANA MEAT BINGO

**DAT**E: Sunday, March 3, 2024 **TIME**: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

\$10 per card for 15 regular games

\$10 reserves your seat

Sausage, Hamburger patties) 5 Specials will be for Baskets. **Food, Drinks, Desserts available for sale** 

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS NEXT <u>SUNDAY</u>, 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



## 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

### 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.



assisting us to clean our beautiful church.

EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM!!!

MINISTRY SCHEDULED
MARCH 9 - ACTS





#### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All requests must be sent by email to <u>osantoyo1104@gmail.com</u> 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.