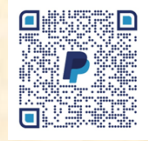


# St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

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

www.stjohnberchmans.com



Venmo

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, Web Master/ FB

Connie Peché & Nancy Ramirez, Family Records  
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement  
Jessica Ramos, 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:

Laura Castañeda missc2060@yahoo.com

### ALTAR SERVERS:

Eddie Campa ecampa@swri.org

### 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:

Michael S. Rodriguez stjbcyo@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:

Sylvia Quintana squintana7678@gmail.com

### FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :

Cecilia Sandoval cecilsand@yahoo.com

### HOSPITALITY:

Dolores Guardiola derod1262@gmail.com

Esmeralda Tamez ezmiet09@gmail.com

### 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 ventimochaftrap@yahoo.com

### ROSARY MAKERS:

Victoria Sanchez

### SHARE THE WORD:

Rosalinda Garza Garza\_rosalinda@att.net

### VIGIL TEAM:

Oralia Cantu dduran57@outlook.com

Dora Duran

DECEMBER 29, 2024 - THE HOLY FAMILY

# THE HOLY FAMILY

## DECEMBER 29, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

### DID YOU NOT KNOW?

A child's first words are usually a source of excitement and joy for family members. Today we hear the first words of Jesus in the Gospel according to Luke. And they are challenging ones. "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" The words *astounded*, *astonished*, and *great anxiety* are used to describe Jesus' extended visit to the Temple. How familiar those emotions are to most parents! Had Jesus' parents forgotten the angel Gabriel's words or the prophecy of Simeon? In Luke's Gospel this passage foreshadows Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem where he will experience his own Passover and again be "lost" for three days. The story of Hannah in the first reading confirms the need and nature of trusting in God's activity in our lives. It seems clear that faithful attention to a family's spiritual life is no guarantee that life will be free from hardship.

### EMMANUEL: GOD IS WITH US

Could Tolstoy have gotten it wrong when he wrote that all happy families are alike and that unhappy families are each unhappy in their own way? It seems that the opposite is equally true. Because happy families foster the unique talents and interests of each member, each person shines according to their own lights. A happy family's faith, goals, and challenges will be uniquely their own. Unhappy families, on the other hand, might look very similar in their woundedness, their fears and confrontations, and their tendency to give negative interpretations to another's actions.

It is tempting to conclude that family life today is more problematic than ever. It might be reassuring to learn that the feast of the Holy Family was added to the Church's universal calendar because of Pope Leo XIII's concern for the state of family life—one hundred years ago! During this season of Christmas when families are everywhere, we welcome Emmanuel—the God who has pitched his tent among us.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

### NO LO SABÍAN?

Las primeras palabras de un niño suelen ser motivo de emoción y alegría para los miembros de la familia. Hoy escuchamos las primeras palabras de Jesús en el Evangelio según Lucas. Y son desafiantes. "¿Por qué me buscan? ¿No sabían que debía estar en la casa de mi Padre?" Las palabras asombradas, sorprendidas y con gran ansiedad se utilizan para describir la prolongada visita de Jesús al Templo. ¿Qué familiares son esas emociones para la mayoría de los padres! ¿Habían olvidado los padres de Jesús las palabras del ángel Gabriel o la profecía de Simeón? En el Evangelio de Lucas, este pasaje presagia el último viaje de Jesús a Jerusalén, donde vivirá su propia Pascua y volverá a estar "perdido" durante tres días. La historia de Ana en la primera lectura confirma la necesidad y la naturaleza de la confianza en la actividad de Dios en nuestras vidas. Parece claro que la atención fiel a la vida espiritual de una familia no garantiza que la vida esté libre de dificultades.

### EMMANUEL: DIOS CON NOSOTROS

¿Se equivocó Tolstoi cuando escribió que todas las familias felices son iguales y que las infelices lo son cada una a su manera? Parece que lo contrario es igualmente cierto. Como las familias felices fomentan los talentos e interés únicos de cada miembro, cada persona brilla según sus propias luces. La fe, los objetivos y los retos de una familia feliz serán los suyos propios. Las familias infelices, en cambio, pueden parecerse mucho en sus heridas, sus miedos y enfrentamientos, y su tendencia a dar interpretaciones negativas a las acciones de los demás.

Es tentador concluir que la vida familiar actual es más problemática que nunca. Puede ser tranquilizador saber que la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia se añadió al calendario universal de la Iglesia debido a la preocupación del Papa León XIII por el estado de la vida familiar, hace cien años. En este tiempo de Navidad, en el que las familias están por todas partes, damos la bienvenida al Emmanuel, el Dios que puso su morada entre nosotros.

**LECTURAS DE HOY:** 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; Sal 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lc 2:41-52



### Please Pray for the Sick

#### Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras	Gloria Rubio	Lucio Vasquez
Marty Carrera Tobias	Rebecca Zuniga	Buddy Ochoa
Frances Lozano	Rosa Elva Villaseñor	Cristina Santoyo
Irma Urias	Lupe Gomez	Rosa Moreno
Mary S. Martinez	Angie Canales	Roger Arizpe
Galilea Romero	Rosie Gallegos	Daniel Rodriguez
Iris Luna Sullivan	Richard Santoyo	Marisol Longoria-Parker
Emma O. Velasquez	Lucy Treviño & Family	Jerry Salazar
Raymond Sarabia	Mickey S. Carrasco	Baby Ezra Rios
Julissa Rodriguez	Robert Prieto	Henry Castro
Miliana Bullock	Elizabeth Rose Valdez	Socorro Castillo
Lydia Soriano	Mary Rose Cerda	Alexis Ramos
Robert Sanchez	Zander from WA.	Clarissa Ramos
Vanessa Quintero	Henrietta Ramos	Nicole Guerra
Virginia R. Lucio	Cecilia Muñoz	Michelle Tijerina
Guadalupe Rodriguez	Joseph Vasquez	Bryan Ramos
Lori Bañuelos	Vanessa Gomez	Daniel Vasquez, Jr.
Edith Flores	Robert Treviño	Valerie Vigil
Isaiah Vasquez	Sulema Hernandez	Lillie Velez

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 DECEMBER 22, 2024

5 PM Mass	-\$	843.00
9 AM Mass	-\$	827.00
11 AM Mass	-\$	1,380.00
Mail In	-\$	320.00
Religious Education	-\$	410.00 2nd Coll
On Line	-\$	240.00
Gift of Giving	-\$	194.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,214.38</b>

### SECOND COLLECTION

#### ALTAR LINENS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED

### 2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Dec. 22, 2024	\$	194.38
<b>NEW BALANCE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,308.13</b>

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, December 28

5:00 p.m. † Ginny Cruz - Cruz Family  
† Luis & Manuela Tellez - SJB Family  
† Erasmo Uribe - Family  
† David Santoyo - Family

## Sunday, December 29

9:00 a.m. † Santos Canales - Angelita Canales  
† Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
† Frank Rodriguez - Wife

11:00 a.m. † Daniel Lizalde - Patty Lizalde  
† Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family  
† Isidro Mata - Kimberly & Koko Mata  
† Rosalinda Ramos - Family  
† Ryan Sanchez - Family  
† Emma H. Mendez - Mendez Family  
† Jose Mendez, Sr. - Mendez Family  
† Celestino Mendez - Mendez Family

## Monday, December 30

## Tuesday, December 31

12:00 p.m. † Jesus Lopez - SJB Family

## Wednesday, January 1 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

6:00 p.m. † Frank Rodriguez - Wife  
† Juan C. Velasquez - Daughter

## Thursday, January 2

12:00 p.m. † Sofie Cruz - SJB Family

## Friday, January 3

12:00 p.m. † Luis Angel Campa - Family



### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:

† Daniel Lizalde

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.

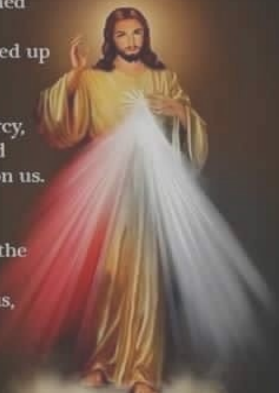
## 3 O'CLOCK PRAYER

You expired, O Jesus,  
but the source of life gushed  
forth for souls  
and an ocean of mercy opened up  
for the whole world.

O Fount of Life,  
unfathomable Divine Mercy,  
envelop the whole world  
and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water,  
which gushed forth from the  
Heart of Jesus  
as a fount of mercy for us,  
I trust in You. (3x)

Amen.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Happy New Year 2025!

My gratefulness to God is overwhelming as we finish the year 2024 and await the arrival of the year 2025. We have been blessed with health, family, love, faith and the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. I pray each one of you finds joy, love and peace in 2025. I love you and wish you the best in 2025!

I invite you to our friendly competition that intends to improve our health. As of Monday, December 30th, 2024 you can register to lose weight and enhance your health.

You are given a year until next Christmas to lose weight. If you lose 10 pounds, you will be awarded a \$50 VISA gift card. For any additional 10 pound loss, a \$50 VISA card will be given to the person. Great luck is offered to each participant. May God walk by our side as we continue improving our health. May the year 2025 improve our relationship with God and our brothers and sisters.

Let us continue making our Christmas Season joyful and amazing. Christmas teaches us the meaning of love because God has become a human and dwells amongst us. Mary and Joseph's courage to say yes to the message from God delivered by the Angel brought forth the son of God. Jesus is born in the manger in a very humble setting. The shepherds who witnessed the baby Jesus laid in the manger were amazed and joyful. They went forth sharing the great news to those around them. I invite each one of you to carry the good news of Jesus our Savior, who is born and share the news with people around us including ourselves. May Our Savior continue to fill us with hope, love, joy, peace and justice.

My congratulations to each of the winners of our Christmas Raffle. Please come by the office with your winning ticket to receive your prize. I thank all of you who participated in our annual campaign by selling and buying raffle tickets. A special thanks goes to Laura Castañeda, the coordinator of the campaign, and my office staff for their active participation on this endeavor. May God bless all of you.

Olivia Santoyo will represent St. John Berchmans community as a recipient of this years Lumen Gentium Award. I will continue to recognize our leaders for their commitment and loyalty to St. John Berchmans. A plaque has been awarded to each one of them in appreciation for their dedication to the church in support for its saving mission and grace.

Thank you for your generosity and God Bless you,

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



We extend **SPECIAL THANKS** to all who contributed to our 2024 Christmas Raffle.

The following are winners of the raffle:

1st	\$3,000	Vivian Garcia
2nd	\$ 500	Rosalinda Gomez
3rd	\$ 500	Charles De Hoyos
4th	\$ 500	Rafaela Gutierrez
5th	\$ 500	Mary Boone Butler
6th	\$ 500	J. Vigil
7th	\$ 500	Raul Martinez
8th	\$ 500	Arturo Piña
9th	\$ 500	Hector Gomez
10th	\$ 100	Sylvia Botello



World Day of Peace, celebrated January 1 every year, is a Catholic feast day dedicated to a universal peaceful society on the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. The Pope and the Vatican Church stress the need to care and share tolerance for each other. To create a society that focuses on good moral values and does not disregard others.

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 29 - NO CCD CLASSES**

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church  
11:00 a.m. MASS - Church

**Monday, December 30**

**Tuesday, December 31**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

**Wednesday, January 1- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

2:00 p.m. 15 Minutes with Fr. Fidèle  
6:00 p.m. BILINGUAL MASS - Church  
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

**Thursday, January 2**

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

**Friday, January 3**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

**Saturday, January 4**

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](mailto: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?**

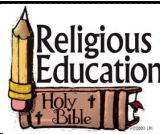
We encourage all newcomers to register and get to know your parish community. Please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**REMINDER - ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT SESSIONS** will resume next week, **Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 10 a.m.** Sessions conducted in the Formation House.



St. John Berchmans Religious Education program will **NOT** conduct classes on Sunday, December 29, 2024. **Classes will resume on Sunday, January 5, 2025.**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- ◆ Parish Office will be **closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2025** in observance of The Solemnity of Mary. We will re-open on Thursday, January 2 at 9 a.m.
- ◆ **Donation envelopes** are ready for distribution. Please stop by our table located in the foyer and pick them up.
- ◆ **Calendars** are also available for all parishioners.

**READINGS OF THE WEEK**

Mon: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40  
Tue: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18  
Wed: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
Thu: 1Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-3; Jn 1:19-28  
Fri: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1-6; Jn 1:29-34  
Sat: 1Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1,7-9; Jn 1:35-42



Our Church Cleaning Ministry meets **EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM** to clean our beautiful place of worship. **MINISTRY SCHEDULED JANUARY 4, 2025 ACTS**