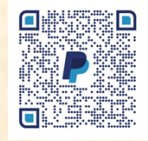


St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

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 cecilсанд@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 cecilсанд@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY:

Dolores Guardiola derod1262@gmail.com

Esmeralda Tamez ezmiet09@gmail.com

JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos jessicaramosfischer@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

Dora Duran

dduran57@outlook.com

JANUARY 5, 2025 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2025

www.stjohnberchmans.com

WHAT KIND OF GOD IS THIS?

Christmas is a season of abundance. Christmas cookies and carols. Parties and presents. Mangers and mistletoe. The same is true in our church. Within a period of nine days we celebrate Christmas, the Holy Family, Mary Mother of God, and today the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Truly an embarrassment of liturgical riches. (And we are not finished yet!)

However, for many people, Christmas is already over. Trees litter the curbside or make their way back to the attic. Presents are put away or returned. We prepare to go back to school or work. But as Christians we have barely dipped our toes into the profound mystery of a God who walks among us. What kind of a God is this whose kingdom is not limited by our borders, fears, expectations, or imaginations? Today's psalm reminds us, "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you." Diversity and inclusion are not new to God's agenda.

TRADITIONS UNCOVER MEANING

Two traditional rituals, one liturgical and one domestic, help underline the meaning of the Epiphany. The Proclamation of the Date of Easter is an option for inclusion at Mass today. This text which formally announces the dates of the upcoming major feast days reminds us that Christmas is best honored in the context of the whole story of salvation that culminates in Easter. Or as writer Nathan Mitchell reflects, the wood of the crib becomes the wood of the cross.

The second tradition connected to Epiphany is the blessing of the door of one's home with chalk. It includes a prayer for protection for all who enter therein. One explanation of this tradition ties it to the Passover in the Book of Exodus: the marking of the doorposts with the blood of the lamb kept the Israelites safe. This tradition too offers a connection between Christmas and Easter.

As we continue to mine the richness of this season we hum along with the angels, *Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

TODAY'S READINGS: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-13; Eph 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12

QUÉ CLASE DE DIOS ES ESTE?

La Navidad es una temporada de abundancia. Galletas navideñas y villancicos. Fiestas y regalos. Pesebres y muérdago. Lo mismo ocurre en nuestra iglesia. En un período de nueve días celebramos la Navidad, la Sagrada Familia, María Madre de Dios, y hoy la Solemnidad de la Epifanía. Un verdadero cúmulo de riquezas litúrgicas. (¡Y aún no hemos terminado!)

Sin embargo, para mucha gente, la Navidad ya ha terminado. Los árboles están en la acera o vuelven al desván. Los regalos se guardan o se devuelven. Nos preparamos para volver a la escuela o al trabajo. Pero, como cristianos, apenas nos hemos sumergido en el profundo misterio de un Dios que camina entre nosotros. ¿Qué clase de Dios es este cuyo reino no está limitado por nuestras fronteras, miedos, expectativas o imaginations? El salmo de hoy nos recuerda: "Señor, todas las naciones de la tierra te adorarán". La diversidad y la inclusión no son nuevas en la agenda de Dios.

LAS TRADICIONES DESCUBREN EL SIGNIFICADO

Dos rituales tradicionales, uno litúrgico y otro doméstico, ayudan a subrayar el significado de la Epifanía. La Proclamación de la fecha de la Pascua es una opción para incluir en la Misa de hoy. Este texto que anuncia formalmente las fechas de las próximas fiestas mayores nos recuerda que la Navidad se honra mejor en el contexto de toda la historia de la salvación que culmina en la Pascua. O como reflexiona el escritor Nathan Mitchell, la madera del pesebre se convierte en la madera de la cruz.

La segunda tradición relacionada con la Epifanía es la bendición de la puerta de la casa con tiza o gis. Incluye una oración de protección para todos los que entran en ella. Una de las explicaciones de esta tradición la relaciona con la Pascua en el libro del Éxodo: marcar los postes de la puerta con la sangre del cordero mantenía a salvo a los israelitas. Esta tradición también ofrece una conexión entre la Navidad y la Pascua.

Mientras continuamos extrayendo la riqueza de esta temporada, tarareamos junto con los ángeles: *¡Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

LECTURAS DE HOY: Is 60:1-6; Sal 72:1-13; Ef 3:2-6; Mt 2:1-12



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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

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 29, 2024

5 PM Mass	-\$	946.00
9 AM Mass	-\$	668.00
11 AM Mass	-\$	870.00
6 pm Christmas Mass	-\$	1,765.00
12 pm Christmas Mass	-\$	475.00
10 am Christmas Mass	-\$	660.00
Assumption	-\$	434.00
Altar Linens	-\$	392.00 2nd Coll
Mail In	-\$	280.00
Gift of Giving	-\$	193.39
TOTAL	\$	6,683.39
SECOND COLLECTION		
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS		

2024 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Dec. 29, 2024	\$	193.39
NEW BALANCE	\$	2,501.52

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 4

5:00 p.m. † Yvette Patrice Gonzales -
Mother Ruby Rios
† Maria Elena Martinez - Family
† Jerry Craig Otte - Socorro & Raquel
† Roger & Elida Garcia -
Luis & Manuela Tellez - SJB Family

Health

Sunday, January 5

9:00 a.m. † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
† Jaime Esteban Lopez - Oralia Cantu
Sister Lissy - Bibi Perez
Sister Estella Ibarra - Bibi Perez
Lupe Castro - Family
Rosa De La Cruz - Family

Health

Health

Gift of Life

Gift of Life

11:00 a.m. † Daniel Lizalde - Patty Lizalde
† Elida Garcia - Garcia Family
† Yolanda Almaguer - Vivian Garcia
† Ryan Sanchez - Family

Monday, January 6

Tuesday, January 7

12:00 p.m. † Maria Elena Martinez - Family

Wednesday, January 8

8:15 a.m. † Jose Z. Castillo - Family

Thursday, January 9

12:00 p.m. † Belen Granados - SJB Family

Friday, January 10

12:00 p.m. † Jose & Rosemary Vasquez - SJB Family



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

† Sarah Castañeda
† Angelina H. Alfaro



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR:

Linda Campbell

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Jn 3:22 - 4:6; Ps 2:7-8,10-12;
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thu: 1 Jn 4:19 - 5:4; Ps 72:1-2,14 - 17; Lk 4:14-22
Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7, Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



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. You can register anytime to lose 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.

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 year's 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

TIPS TO PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY DAY

- Fall asleep praying the Rosary. It is better than counting sheep.
- Say it in moments of sadness or spiritual drought.
- If you can't pray a whole Rosary at once, break it into parts.
- Carry a Rosary in your pocket.
- Say it while you wait (for example, at the bus stop).
- Use each mystery to ask for a particular intention.
- Pray while you walk and think of the people in your life.
- Recite the Rosary while doing chores or while you work out.
- Use images and music. The Rosary is a contemplative prayer.
- If you're upset, pray for the situation that worries you.

SOURCE: ACIPRENSA.COM

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Solemnity of the Epiphany reminds us of the three mysteries that are encompassed in this solemnity: The adoration for the Christ child, by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast of Cana.

Epiphany focuses on the revelation and manifestation that Jesus' light has dawned for all people. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world: after being made known to the Shepherds. The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh portend the manner in which Jesus' light is spread to the whole world. Myrrh, a perfume used for burial, foreshadows his death. Gold is a gift of royalty and frankincense for holiness.

Today's feast brings to fulfillment all the purposes of the Advent Christmas season.

FAITH ENRICHMENT SESSIONS

Looking for ideas for your New Year's Resolution? We invite you to join us on Wednesdays, in the Formation House, for Adult Faith Enrichments sessions to learn from the Word of God. We will start up again this **Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 10am.** Bring a friend!

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday, January 5 - CCD CLASSES RESUME

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

Monday, January 6

Tuesday, January 7

- 12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

Wednesday, January 8

- 8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Church
- 2:00 p.m. 15 Minutes with Fr. Fidèle
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Faith Enrichment Sessions - Formation House

Thursday, January 9

- 12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Friday, January 10

- 12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

Saturday, January 11

- 8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning
- 5:00 p.m. MASS - Church

NEW YEAR, EPIPHANY BLESSING OF THE HOME

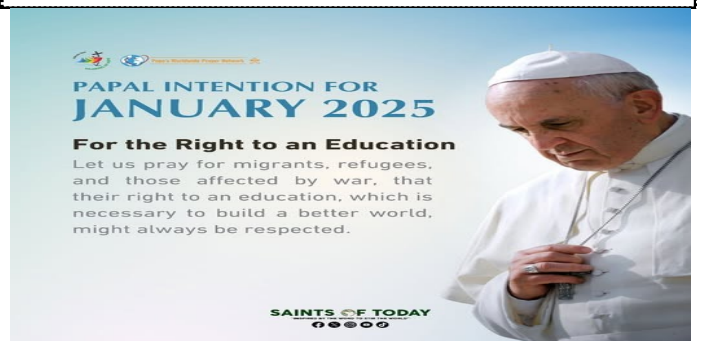
"Chalking the door" is a centuries-old custom in which Christians gather on the feast of the Epiphany to ask God's blessing on their home. Using chalk, mark the lintel of your front door as follows:

20+C+M+B+25

(The numbers refer to the year. The between + symbolizes the cross of Christ. The letters represent the names of the Magi (Caspar, Melchoir, and Balthasar)

Then all the family will say together the following prayer:

Visit, O Lord, our home with the joy of your presence. Bless all who live here, and all who visit us, with the gift of your love. May we show your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we be blessed with health, kindness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of our law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. Guide, comfort and strengthen us in your peace. Amen.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
 Serves all people, regardless of race, national origin, from birth to natural death, through a network of programs that include basic needs for family and children services, legal services, refugee resettlement, counseling, pregnant and parenting education, senior services, safe shelter with the goal of providing basic needs, and promoting self-sufficiency. For more information visit us: **online** www.info@ccaosa.org or call (210) 222.1294.

Our Church Cleaning Ministry meets EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM to clean our beautiful place of worship.
MINISTRY SCHEDULED
JANUARY 11, 2025
MARTINEZ/SANTOYO FAMILIES



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.