

# 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/Quinceañeras/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 26, 2025 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

# THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**JANUARY 26, 2025**

**www.stjohnberchmans.com**

## A PARTY? TO CELEBRATE RULES? REALLY?

Twenty-first-century American culture relies so much on brief social media texts—Facebook, Twitter—that we might wonder how the “men, women, and those children old enough to understand” (Nehemiah 8:2) could spend the entire morning listening to Ezra the priest read from the book of Jewish law. Returning home after seventy years of exile, the people had to rebuild their homeland—the city of Jerusalem, the temple, social and economic structures—all of it. Listening to Ezra reading the ancient law seems to have reconnected the people to traditions that gave meaning to all their struggles. They were weeping tears of joy!

The psalmist is likewise moved by the beauty of God’s law. It is not a bothersome restriction on human behavior, but a wise guide for people seeking wisdom and enduring happiness. At the conclusion of his reading, Ezra instructs them to be joyful, to “eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks . . . for today is holy to our LORD” (Nehemiah 8:10). Rejoicing is the proper response to the rediscovery of God’s law.

## AND EVERYONE GETS TO ATTEND!

Ezra also tells the people to “allot portions to those who had nothing prepared,” to make sure that everyone is included, whether or not they had anything to share. When Jesus reads a much shorter passage to a much smaller assembly in the synagogue, he announces his intention to ensure that no one is excluded. The Spirit of the Lord is leading him to heal the afflictions of those who are almost routinely “exiled” from mainstream society, people who are poor, people who have been in prison, people with physical or mental disabilities. Unlike Jesus, we cannot work miracles to heal them or mitigate their conditions; but like Jesus, we can work to bring these “exiles” to a “homeland” where God’s law ensures that everyone can rejoice, because everyone is included.

**TODAY’S READINGS:** Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

## ¿UNA FIESTA? ¿PARA CELEBRAR REGLAS? ¿EN SERIO?

La cultura estadounidense del siglo XXI se basa demasiado en breves textos en las redes sociales, Facebook, Twitter, que podría hacernos preguntar cómo los “hombres, mujeres y esos niños con edad suficiente para entender” (Nehemías 8, 2) podrían pasar toda la mañana escuchando al sacerdote Ezra leer el libro judío de la Ley. Regresar a casa después de setenta años en el exilio, las personas tuvieron que reconstruir su tierra natal, la ciudad de Jerusalén, el templo, las estructuras sociales y económicas, todo eso. Escuchar a Esdras leer la antigua ley parece haber reconectado a las personas a las tradiciones que les dieron significado a todos sus conflictos. ¡Ellos lloraban lágrimas de alegría!

El salmista es asimismo conmovido por la belleza de la ley de Dios. No es una restricción pesada para el comportamiento humano, sino una guía sabia para las personas que buscaban sabiduría y felicidad permanente. Al término de la lectura, Esdras los instruye para estar alegres, para “comer alimentos exquisitos y beber licores dulces . . . este día ha sido consagrado a nuestro Señor” (Nehemías 8:10). El júbilo es la respuesta apropiada al redescubrimiento de la ley de Dios.

## ¡Y TODOS ASISTIERON!

Esdras también le dice al pueblo que “manden su porción a los que no han preparado nada” para asegurarse que todos están incluidos, si es que ellos no tenían nada que Compartir. Cuando Jesús leyó un pasaje mucho más pequeño a una asamblea más pequeña en la sinagoga, él anuncia su intención de procurar que nadie sea excluido. El Espíritu del Señor lo está guiando para sanar las aflicciones de quienes habitualmente casi son “excluidos” de la sociedad dominante, personas que son pobres, personas que han estado en prisión, personas con discapacidades físicas o mentales. A diferencia de Jesús, no podemos hacer milagros para sanarlos o mitigar sus condiciones; pero como Jesús, podemos trabajar para llevar a estos “exiliados” a una tierra natal donde la ley de Dios asegura que todos pueden alegrarse, porque todos están incluidos.

**LECTURAS DE HOY:** Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Sal 19:8 - 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lc 1:1-4; 4:14-21



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



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

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 JANUARY 19, 2025

5 PM Mass	-\$	632.00
9 AM Mass	-\$	561.00
11 AM Mass	-\$	984.00
Altar Flowers	-\$	400.00 2nd Coll
Mail In	-\$	385.00
On Line	-\$	45.00
Gift of Giving	-\$	198.24
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 3,205.24</b>

## SECOND COLLECTION

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH!**

## 2025 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending, Jan. 19, 2025	\$	198.24
<b>NEW BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 3,134.15</b>

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, January 25

5:00 p.m. † Sarah Castañeda - Socorro & Raquel  
 † Consuelo Saucedo - Family  
 † Jennifer Davila - Mom & Dad  
**Health** Rebecca Clay-Flores -  
 Thompson Association Member

## Sunday, January 26

9:00 a.m. † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family  
**In Thanksgiving** Sophie Alonzo - Aunt Connie  
 11:00 a.m. † M/M Felipe & Guadalupe Saldaña - Family  
 † Ryan Sanchez - Family  
 † Daniel Lizalde - Patty Lizalde  
 † Pilar Rubio - Alma Rubio  
 † Andres & Concepcion Solis - Family  
 † Suzanne Gutierrez - Salinas Family  
 † M/M Gregorio & Angie Ramirez - Daughter

## Monday, January 27

### Tuesday, January 28 - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

12:00 p.m. † Pilar Rubio - Alma Rubio

### Wednesday, January 29

8:15 a.m. † Clara Perez - SJB Family  
**Gift of Life** Deanna & David Santoyo - Family

### Thursday, January 30

12:00 p.m. † Aurora Perez - SJB Family

### Friday, January 31 - ST. JOHN BOSCO

12:00 p.m. † Maria Polanco - SJB Family  
 † Mary Herrera - SJB Family

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** - Rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength (Nehemiah 8:2-10).

**Psalm** - Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life (Psalm 19).

**Second Reading** - In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body (1 Cor. 12:12-30).

**Gospel** - The Spirit of the Lord has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21).



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

Sarah Contreras  
 Olivia Lopez

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: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30  
 Tue: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2-11; Mk 3:31-35  
 Wed: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20  
 Thu: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25  
 Fri: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-40; Mk 4:26-34  
 Sat: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41  
 Sun: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I will be taking my annual vacation on Monday, January 27th through Thursday, February 27th, 2025. Please keep me in your prayers as I travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to spend some needed time with my family and my Grandson Fidelito, who will be celebrating one year and 4 months on February 1, 2025. God is great, all the time.

Today, Sunday, January 26th, 2025 we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Our church has been blessed with a beautiful school for many years. Many of your parents and successful citizens of our nation studied in our Catholic school. I challenge you to continue supporting the school financially and also by sending your children and grandchildren to our school to support this beautiful legacy. I thank all past leaders who led the foundation and sacrifice so that we all enjoy this great institution. May God bless our teachers, faculty members, parents and our beloved students.

I invite you to our friendly competition that intends to improve our health. You can register anytime 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. Remember, the deadline for our friendly competition is on Friday, January 31, 2025. May the year 2025 improve our relationship with God and our brothers and sisters.

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](mailto:fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com)



### LIFE AFTER LOSS PROGRAM

The Ecumenical Center is designed to help people better understand the process of grief and how to live through it in a way that is healing. It provides a place to share experience and to support one another.

Each six-week session is a combination of teaching, discussion, and learning activities. It is led by trained facilitators with knowledge of bereavement and grief support, the session are open to those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, and there is no charge for the program.

DATE: February 11, 2025 - March 18, 2025

TIME: 6:30 PM - 8PM

THE ECUMENICAL CENTER

8310 Ewing Halsell Drive

San Antonio, Tx 78229

Website: [ecrh.org](http://ecrh.org)

Phone: (210) 616-0885



**INVITING MEN OF ALL FAITH  
JOURNEYS TO THE ANUAL  
CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

*"Master, I want to see." Mark 10:51*

**DATE:** Saturday, February 22, 2025

**WHERE:** Holy Trinity Banquet Hall  
20523 Huebner Road

Mass, Speakers, Eucharistic Adoration Service  
For more information, call (210) 521-3377

**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL HOSTING  
ANNUAL BBQ PLATE SALE**

**DATE:** SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

**PLATE PICK UP TIME:** 11AM - 4PM

**LOCATION:** SJB SCHOOL CAFETERIA,  
1147 CUPPLES ROAD

**COST:** \$10.00 PER PLATE

Desserts and Drinks available for purchase  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SJB SCHOOL  
Thank you for your support of our School!!

**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

Am I conscious of Jesus' presence in our midst?  
How do I show others that I am part of the Body of Christ?



**Sunday, January 26**

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church  
11:00 a.m. MASS - Church  
11:00am-4pm SJB School BBQ Plate Sale

**Monday, January 27**

**Tuesday, January 28**

12:00 p.m. COMMUNION SERVICE - Chapel

**Wednesday, January 29**

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

**Thursday, January 30**

12:00 p.m. COMMUNION SERVICE - Chapel

**Friday, January 31**

12:00 p.m. COMMUNION SERVICE - Chapel

**Saturday, February 1**

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



**PATHWAY TO GRACE: EVENING OF  
PRAYER & OPPORTUNITY OF PLENARY  
INDULGENCE**

You're invited to celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025 with El Camino de San Antonio Missions at Pathway to Grace: An evening of prayer and opportunity for plenary indulgence.

On **Friday, January 31st at 6:00 pm**, El Camino de San Antonio Missions will host Pathway to Grace, a prayer service with the Capuchin Franciscans in San Antonio.

The program begins with a presentation about the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope, followed by a processional to Mission Concepcion where Mass, Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration will be available followed by a reception at the Padre Margil Pilgrimage Center at El Camino de San Antonio Missions, 263 Felisa St., SA TX 78210.

No RSVP needed for questions, contact Binisa Zentella at (210) 355-1884 or [Binisa.Zentella@archsa.org](mailto:Binisa.Zentella@archsa.org)

**JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO TO  
CELEBRATE NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

**FEBRUARY 7 - 14, 2025**

"Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal.  
Pursue a Lasting Love!"

Archbishop Gustavo invites all married couples to celebrate and recognize the sacrament of Marriage. This is an opportunity on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. This is going to be a **Bilingual Mass** and Archbishop Gustavo will give a special blessing to married couples.

**DATE:** Saturday, February 8, 2025  
St. Luke Catholic Church, 4603 Manitou Dr.  
San Antonio, Tx 78228

**TIME:** 5:30 PM  
For questions contact Esperanza Sanchez, Coordinator, at (210) 734-1966 OR email: [esperanza.sanchez@archsa.org](mailto:esperanza.sanchez@archsa.org)



Our Church Cleaning Ministry meets **EVERY SATURDAY @ 8AM** to clean our beautiful place of worship.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULED  
FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

**GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB/JOY**



**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.