

# 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*

• **Rev. Fr. Anthony Male** •  
**Pastor**

• **Deacon Luis Guardiola** •

Cathy Martinez, Bookkeeper  
Laly Arocha, Administrative Assistant  
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance

Connie Peché, Family Records  
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement  
Jessica Ramos, Sacramental Records

Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor  
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

**Rev. Fr. Anthony Male, Pastor**  
anthony.male@archsa.org

**Cathy Martinez, Bookkeeper**  
cmartinez@stjohnberchmans.com

**Laly Arocha, Administrative Assistant**  
larocha@stjohnberchmans.com

**Parish Office Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

**Mass Times:**  
Saturday Vigil 5pm-English  
Sunday 9am - English  
Sunday 11am- English

**Weekday Services:**  
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

**School Mass:**  
Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

**Baptisms/Quinceñeras/Sweet 16:**  
Please contact office for more information

**Baptism Classes:**  
Please contact office for more information

**Weddings:**  
Father Anthony Male, 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

**ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:**  
**ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT:**  
**ALTAR SERVERS:**  
**CHOIRS:**  
*Saturday 5pm Choir*  
*Sunday 9am Choir*  
*Sunday 11am Choir*  
**CYO:**  
**CAFETERIA RENTAL:**  
**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**  
**GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:**

**GUADALUPANAS:**  
**FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :**  
**HOSPITALITY:**

**J.O.Y. MINISTRY:**

**LECTORS:**  
**LITURGY COMMITTEE:**  
**OCIA/OCIC:**  
**PASTORAL COUNCIL:**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION :**  
**ROSARY MAKERS:**  
**VIGIL TEAM:**

## Parish Ministries

Victor Gomez  
Rosalinda Garza  
Eddie Campa

Roy Sanchez  
Javier Saucedo  
Michael S. Rodriguez

Contact Office  
Linda Campbell  
Elida Gonzales  
John Diaz  
Angie Diaz  
Sylvia Quintana  
Arleen Garcia  
Dolores Guardiola  
Esmeralda Tamez  
Jessica Ramos  
Chayo Gomez  
Chayo Gomez  
Dolores Guardiola  
Martha Garcia  
Kimberly Mata  
Elida Gonzales

Oralia Cantu  
Dora Duran

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religiously@stjohnberchmans.com

dduran57@outlook.com

## ONLINE GIVING

We are partnering with **ParishSOFT Giving** and the Archdiocese of San Antonio to help you with online contributions to our church. This would be done automatically from your checking account or credit card, just as you do now with other payments.

If interested proceed as follows:

- Simply visit [giving.parishsoft.com/giving/sjbsanantonio](http://giving.parishsoft.com/giving/sjbsanantonio)
- Text "Give" to 210-934-0959 or
- Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to go directly to our parish's online giving page. From there, you can give a one-time or recurring offering, and set up your account from the "Sign in" tab.



**NOVEMBER 30, 2025 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## WALK IN THE LIGHT

When we encounter the daily news, it can seem as though Isaiah's prophecy of swords turned into plowshares is running in reverse, making despair seem wiser than hopefulness. This is where Advent as the brink of God's reign comes into play. Advent can be a time for each of us to de-weaponize, even in the smallest of ways, the world around us.

Advent's days offer a chance to look for opportunities to make the world a bit more hopeful for others. As we head through Advent, the elevated focus we have when we are standing at those new moments, those new stages of life, can help us tune out the despair, so we might open our ears and hearts to Jesus. This way, we can turn our backs on gloom, and accept Isaiah's invitation to walk in the light of the Lord: Jesus Christ, the Word-made-Flesh!

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

## CAMINAR EN LA LUZ

Cuando nos encontramos con las noticias cotidianas, puede parecer que la profecía de Isaías de las espadas convertidas en rejas de arado va al revés, haciendo que la desesperación parezca más sabia que la esperanza. Aquí es donde entra en juego el Adviento como el umbral del reino de Dios. El Adviento puede ser un tiempo para que cada uno de nosotros desarme, incluso en lo más mínimo, el mundo que nos rodea. Los días de Adviento ofrecen la oportunidad de buscar oportunidades para hacer que el mundo sea un poco más esperanzador para los demás. A medida que avanzamos en el Adviento, el enfoque elevado que tenemos cuando estamos en esos nuevos momentos, en esas nuevas etapas de la vida, puede ayudarnos a sintonizar con la desesperación, para poder abrir nuestros oídos y nuestros corazones a Jesús. De este modo, podemos dar la espalda a la tristeza y aceptar la invitación de Isaías a caminar en la luz del Señor: Jesucristo, la Palabra hecha carne.

**LECTURAS DE HOY:** Is 2:1-5; Sal 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras	Richard Santoyo	Baby Marlon
Frances Lozano	Mickey S. Carrasco	Sara McCumba Garcia
Mary S. Martinez	Elizabeth Rose Valdez	Robyn Pesina
Galilea Romero	Henrietta Ramos	Viola Garza
Iris Luna Sullivan	Cristina Santoyo	Reymundo Padilla
Emma O. Velasquez	Marisol Longoria-Parker	Dominique Dominguez
Raymond Sarabia	Jerry Salazar	And Baby
Julissa Rodriguez	Baby Ezra Rios	Elida Rocha
Miliana Bullock	Socorro Castillo	Edna Cruz
Robert Sanchez	Alexis Ramos	Armando Cantu
Vanessa Quintero	Nicole Guerra	Tere Peña
Virginia R. Lucio	Bryan Ramos	Irma Brunn
Guadalupe Rodriguez	Valerie Vigil	Olga Serna
Lori Bañuelos	Lillie Velez	Ruben Martinez
Edith Flores	Bobby Gallegos II	Oralia Rodriguez
Isaiah Vasquez	Baby Wade Trinidad	
Gloria Rubio	Simon Peter Jesus Garcia	
Angie Canales	Stephanie Perez	
Rosie Gallegos	Danny 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.



## SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

## ST. JOHN BERCHMANS SCHOOL

**REMINDER TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. HELP US SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

St. John Berchmans Catholic School - San Antonio  
1147 Cupples Road  
San Antonio, TX 78226

and  
Catholic Life Insurance Branch 101  
1635 NE Loop 410, San Antonio, Texas 78209

### CHARITABLE RAFFLES

All proceeds from the sale of this ticket benefit St. John Berchmans Catholic School - San Antonio

#### Charitable Raffles Grand Prize

**\$20,000** worth of PREPAID VISA GIFT CARDS  
*Drawn from tickets sold by all schools participating in the raffle*

St. John Berchmans Catholic School - San Antonio  
**\$1,000** PREPAID VISA CARD  
*Drawn from tickets sold by their school*

CATHOLIC LIFE INSURANCE



19th ANNUAL  
**\$5 each**

School must turn in tickets by  
Friday, January 23, 2026.

All prizes to be awarded on  
Friday, February 13, 2026



Thanks for Your Support!

## STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 23, 2025

MASS TIMES	ENVELOPES	LOOSE	TOTAL
5:00 PM	\$ 666.00	\$	\$ 666.00
9:00 AM	\$ 861.00	\$	\$ 861.00
11:00 AM	\$ 1,271.00	\$	\$ 1,271.00
2nd COLLECTION GOOD SAMARITANS	\$ 523.55	\$	\$ 523.55
DROP OFF	\$ 165.00		\$ 165.00
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 3,486.55</b>

**SECOND COLLECTION - NOVEMBER 29 - 30, 2025**  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD)

# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, November 29

5:00 p.m. † Natividad, Raymundo &  
Genevieve Cruz, Jr. - Cruz Family  
† Joe Villanueva - Family

## Sunday, November 30

9:00 a.m. † Zulema Fernandez - Family  
† Daniel C. & Maria C. Arzola - Family  
† Alfonso Grothues - Leonor Rodriguez

**Health** Mary Martinez - Socorro & Raquel  
**Health** Linda Campbell - Rosary Makers

11:00 a.m. † Ryan Sanchez - Family  
† Sister Gloria Ann Fiedler - Friend  
† Robert Gallegos - Family

**Gift Of Life** Marissa Gallegos - Family

## Monday, December 1

## Tuesday, December 2

12:00 p.m. † Sister Gloria Ann Fiedler - Friend  
† Nancy Ramirez - SJB Family

## Wednesday, December 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

12:00 p.m. † David Santoyo - Family

## Thursday, December 4 - ST. JOHN DAMASCENE

12:00 a.m. † Jerry Craig Otte - Tom & Nelda Otte  
**Health** Linda Campbell - Cruz Family

## Friday, December 5

12:00 p.m. † JC Alvarez - Family



### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

**For World Peace  
For the Unemployed**

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.

### IN MEMORIUM

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

† GABRIEL GOMEZ



### ALTAR SOCIETY MINISTRY

St. John Berchmans Altar Society warmly invites all interested parishioners to our first meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 6:30pm in the church. Come learn about our mission, the way we serve, and how your gifts can enrich the beauty and reverence of our liturgical celebrations!

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear People of God,

Advent is here, which begins the Church's new liturgical year. It encompasses the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation of our hearts and minds for the birth of our Savior.

We also find the wreath in the church. Wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. May this season of Advent deepen spiritual growth and healing, of meaningful connections with loved ones, and a renewed sense of purpose as we journey towards the manger, where we encounter the Saviour of the world. Have a blessed Advent Season.

Fr. Anthony



**"Be watchful!  
Be alert!"  
Jesus tells his disciples.  
"You do not know  
when the time will come."  
Mark 13: 33-37**

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tue: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;  
Lk 10:21-24

Wed: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thu: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27;  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Fri: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 -  
10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sun: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;  
Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



## Christmas Poinsettia

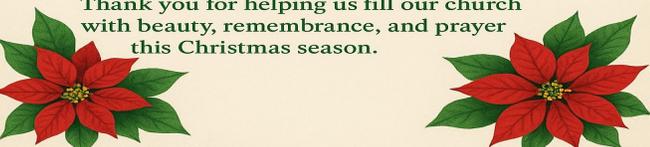
*in honor of loved ones*

Honor or remember a special loved one this Christmas with a \$20 poinsettia, sponsored by the Altar Society Ministry.

The names you submit will be lovingly placed in our Mass Petition Book and presented on the altar on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Please place your Poinsettia envelope in the collection basket or drop it off at the office.

Thank you for helping us fill our church with beauty, remembrance, and prayer this Christmas season.



### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Sunday, November 30**

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

**Monday, December 1**

**Tuesday, December 2**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel  
 6:30 p.m. Altar Society Meeting - Church

**Wednesday, December 3**

8:15 a.m. SCHOOL MASS - Chapel  
 6:30 p.m. Training for Lectors & EM's - Church

**Thursday, December 4**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Church

**Friday, December 5**

12:00 p.m. MASS - Church

**Saturday, December 6**

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



#### WHAT IS THE ADVENT WREATH?

Perhaps the best know of all the Advent symbols is the Advent wreath. It consists of four candles (3 purple and 1 pink) arranged in a circle with evergreen foliage. The purple candles represent the penitential nature of the season, while the pink candle calls to mind the respite of Gaudete Sunday.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDER

**Make-up Training Session for Lector and Extraordinary Ministers will be this Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:30pm in the Church.**

**If you do not attend this training you will not be scheduled to serve!!!**

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Monday, December 1, 2025**  
 Hope for the Future applications open

**Tuesday, December 2, 2025 - 6:30 pm. - Church Meeting for Altar Society Ministry.**

**Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:30 pm**  
 Make-Training for Lector and Extraordinary Ministers in Church

**Friday, December 5, 2025**  
 St. John Berchmans School - Early Dismissal

**Monday, December 8, 2025**  
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED in observance of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Monday, December 8, 2025**  
 MASS at 8:15 am and 6:30 pm  
 Solemnity of Immaculate Conception

**Wednesday, December 10, 2025 - 6:30 pm**  
 Reconciliation Service/Confessions

**Friday, December 12, 2025**  
 MASS at 8:15 am and 6:30 pm  
 Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day

Our Church Cleaning Ministry meets EVERY SATURDAY MORNING to clean our place of worship. New faces are always welcome for this behind-the-scenes activity. Take time to clean the house of God!

**Ministry scheduled:**  
 Saturday, December 6, 2025  
 LECTORS, JOY AND GOOD SAMARITANS



**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 Anthony. **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.