

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 28, 2020

www.stjohnberchmans.com

THE MESSAGE SEEMS HARSH

On first reading, our Gospel seems very harsh. The idea of taking up our cross can be fearful or have negative connotations, as if it were something only a few can do. It is also confusing. Scripture tells us to honor our father and mother, and yet here are told we must love Jesus more than our parents or children, or we are not worthy. The message that Jesus intends to convey, however, is not to give up these people, but rather to choose Christ first.

Sometimes this means being countercultural. For a family, how do we make choices to keep Christ in the picture? It could mean that when you make plans to take the family to that water park for the weekend, you should also locate the local church so you can attend Mass. Or maybe it means not placing your child on the soccer team with 10 a.m. Sunday games, or rescheduling another part of your life to keep Christ foremost. Perhaps it is something as simple as locking yourself in the bathroom for five minutes so that you have time to pray. Maybe it means listening to an audiobook of scriptures on your commute to work. All we do is for naught if we do not include Christ.

THERE ARE MANY "CUPS OF WATER"

Don't get caught up in taking this scripture literally. Yes, you may give someone a glass of water, invite the staff of your parish for a meal, hand an apple or a dollar bill to a homeless person, or take a shift in a shelter. But sometimes, what is being asked for is simply a kind word or a helping hand. Seeing an elderly person having trouble and helping them through the crosswalk, calming someone's toddler in the grocery store while they pay their bill. Offer a smile, a compliment, or a word of encouragement. Say hello to a stranger. We do not know who is parched with loneliness or feeling overwhelmed. Look for the Christ in others and respond with simple kindness and hospitality.

Today's Readings: 2 Kgs 4:8-16; Ps 89:2-19; Rom 6:3-11; Mt 10:37-42 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

EL MENSAJE PARECE RIGUROSO

La lectura del Evangelio parece muy rigurosa. La idea de tomar nuestra cruz puede dar temor o tener connotaciones negativas, como si fuera algo que solo algunos pueden hacer. También es confuso. Las Escrituras nos dicen que debemos honrar a nuestro padre y madre, e incluso aquí se nos dice que debemos amar a Jesús más que a nuestros padres o hijos, sino no somos dignos. Sin embargo, la intención del mensaje que Jesús quiere transmitir no es la de abandonar a las personas, sino al contrario, primero elegir a Cristo.

Algunas veces esto significa ser contracultural. Para una familia, ¿cómo tomamos decisiones para mantener a Cristo en la foto? Podría significar que cuando haces planes para llevar a la familia a un parque de diversiones el fin de semana, deberías encontrar una parroquia cercana para ir a Misa. O quizá significa no poner al hijo en el equipo de fútbol en el mismo horario de los juegos dominicales de las 10 de la mañana, o cambiar del calendario una fiesta para mantener a Cristo como lo primero. Quizá es algo tan sencillo como encerrarse en el baño por cinco minutos para dedicar un tiempo para rezar. Tal vez significa escuchar un audio de la Escrituras durante el camino al trabajo. Todo lo que hacemos es nada si no incluimos a Cristo.

HAY MUCHAS "COPAS DE AGUA"

No tomes tan apecho esta frase. Sí, puedes ofrecer a alguien un vaso de agua, invitar una comida a los trabajadores de la parroquia, ofrecer una manzana o un billete de dólar a una persona desamparada, o ser voluntario en un refugio. Pero algunas veces, lo que a veces solo se pide y es necesario es una palabra amable u ofrecer ayuda a alguien. Ver a una persona anciana teniendo dificultad y ayudarle a cruzar la calle, calmar a un niño inquieto en la fila del supermercado. Ofrecer una sonrisa, una felicitación o una palabra de ánimo. Decir hola a un desconocido. No sabemos quién está pasando un momento triste o está solo o se siente agobiado. Busca a Cristo en los demás y responde con una amabilidad sencilla y con cordialidad.

Lecturas de hoy: 2 Re 4:8-16; Sal 89:2-19; Rom 6:3-11; Mt 10:37-42 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Celina Herrera	Frances Lozano	Matthew Reyna
Kevin Ryan Martinez	Robert Campos	Joe G. Martinez
David Santoyo	Gloria Martinez	For All Afflicted with
Paul Muñoz, Sr.	Carlos Guardiola, III	Corona Virus
Joe Espinoza	Joe R. Martinez	Melissa Muñoz
Virginia & Jose Ponce	Baby Sophia	Angelita Canales
Victoria Orosco	Antonio Mendoza	Deacon Joe Diaz
Henry Vidal	Sophie Alonzo	Roland Valverde
Hope Esquivel	Odilion G. Flores	Maria Langley
Victor Cruz	JoAnn Almaguer	Rose Loa Gallegos
Tomas Johnson	Frances Ramirez	Luis Mendoza, Jr.
Deacon Jesus Rodriguez	Diana Calderon	Severo De La Cruz, Jr.
Rosalinda Esparza	Janie Ramirez	Rosa Maria Ruiz
Daniel Rodriguez	Ana Garcia	Marty Carrera Tobias
Irma Urias	Gina	Mary Shaw
Rosie Flores	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.	Valerie & Bella
John Ruiz	Sandra Garza	Villalpando
Jessica Diaz	Elena Gonzales	Mariah Vasquez
Mary Martinez	Roxanne Joseph	Joe Villanueva

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.



WEEK OF JUNE 20-21, 2020

5:00 p.m.	-\$1,084.00	(064)
9:00 a.m.	-\$ 527.00	(046)
11:00 a.m.	-\$1,623.00	(076)
School First Comm.	-\$ 181.00	
Altar Flowers	-\$ 130.00	Second Collection
Father's Day Envelopes	-\$ 412.00	
Online Donations	-\$ 121.00	
Mail In	-\$1,039.00	
Daily Mass Offerings	-\$1,904.00	
Gift of Giving	-\$ 119.38	
TOTAL	-\$7,140.00	

Second Collection

Sunday, June 28, 2020: Religious Education

2020 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 6/20 - 6/21/2020	\$ 119.38
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$ 7,125.32

Announcements



Saturday, June 27

5:00 p.m. † Maria Theresa Rodriguez - Sister & Family

Sunday, June 28

9:00 a.m. † Mr. Daniel C. Arzola - Family
 † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Margarita Ventura - Ventura Family
 † Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas

11:00 a.m.

Gift of Life Cynthia Sandoval - MaryAnn Arocha
 Gift of Life MaryAnn Arocha - Family

Monday, June 29

Tuesday, June 30

12:00 p.m. † Dr, Elizabeth Pompa Garza

Wednesday, July 1

12:00 p.m.
 Gift of Life Lori Nicole Flores

Thursday, July 2

12:00 p.m. † Mr. & Mrs. Vidal M. Ruiz - Daughter

Friday, July 3 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, July 4

5:00 p.m.
 In Thanksgiving Chad & Chantal - Family

Sunday, July 5

9:00 a.m. † Pauline Juarez - Angelita Canales
 † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Refugio Cuellar - Son & Daughter
 † Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas
 † Adela Solis - Family
 † Concepción Solis - Family

11:00 a.m. † Eloy & Mary Alvarado - Riley Family
 † Anna Moreno - Margaret & Erica Moreno

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Congratulations to our young men and women who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, June 28, 2020 at the 12:30 English Mass. May this be an opportunity for you to become adults in your faith as well as his disciples and witnesses in this world divided by race, languages poor and rich, discrimination, gender inequality, and death. I thank all the CCD Coordinators, Victor and Karen Araguz, Catechists and parents who have prepared these young men and women and supported them throughout their journey.

I just completed a major goal in anticipation of my 50th birthday by running a Marathon of 26.2 miles (42.195Km) in 4 hours, 54 minutes, and 55 seconds. This is a great achievement for me and thank God for allowing me this great moment. I challenge you to reach higher as you pursue your personal goals.

COVID-19 is quickly spreading throughout Bexar County. We must continue being vigilant by observing social distancing, wearing masks and washing our hands constantly in order to protect persons around us and ourselves. Our Saturday and Sunday services, including daily Mass, requires you to wear masks throughout the entire celebration and maintain it on until you arrive at your vehicle.

I chose this great nation to become a proud citizen and it devastates me to view the dilemma my adopted country is currently undergoing. Thousands of persons are demonstrating their constitutional liberty of protesting due to the death of Mr. George Floyd while in custody of a police officer along with several other video incidents involving police and Blacks. I join many other citizens of this great nation to demand justice and fair treatment for all ethnicities present in the United States of America. All lives matter including blacks. Many good and honest police officers exist who do a great job to the best of their ability considering how risky and unpredictable their job can be. Honest dialogues and discussions need to take place and pave the way for a better America. Let us rely on the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, to guide us in navigating these very important and complicated issues. We also ask for Her intercession to assist our scientists and physicians to produce a vaccine and medications to stop the COVID-19 deadly pandemic and restore a sense of normalcy. I implore the Holy Spirit to guide us in our limitations, weaknesses and lead us to a peaceful world and justice for all.

God bless our great nation, the United States of America, and all of its citizens.

Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
 fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ST. JOHN BERCHMANS STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Kylee Cardenas | Mason Garcia |
| Gianna Gutierrez | Rene Martinez |
| Olivia Riley | Renee Riley |
| Jose Rivera | Renesmee Rocha |
| Noah Rodriguez | Vicente Valencia |
| Katalina Villanueva | Arkham Villarreal |

SANCTUARY LIGHT

All Afflicted with the COVID Virus



Announcements

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Elisha promises a baby son to the hospitable woman (2 Kings 4:8-16).

Psalm—For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psa 89).

Second Reading — We shall live in newness of life as Christ was raised from the dead (Romans 6:3-11).

Gospel — Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded (Matthew 10:37-42).The English translation of the Psalm

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9;
2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Amos 5:14-15, 21-24; Ps 50:7-13, 16bc-17;
Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Amos 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 20:24-29

Saturday: Amos 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14;
Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Events of the Week ~ June 28 - July 4, 2020

Sunday, June 28

9:00 a.m. **Bilingual Mass** - Church
11:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
Facebook Livestream
12:30 p.m. **English Mass *Confirmation** - Church

Monday, June 29

Tuesday, June 30

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

Wednesday, July 1

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee Break with Father
Fidèle - Facebook Livestream

Thursday, July 2

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

Friday, July 3 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, July 4 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

5:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

*** Due to limited seating, tickets are required to attend Confirmation Mass.**



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. We ask that you submit your requests at least two (2) weeks in advance for placement in the bulletin.



NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

If you are interested in registering as a new parishioner at St. John Berchmans Church, please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

CONFIRMATION MASS

- **Confirmation (CCD) Sunday, June 28 at 12:30 pm. Only 4 tickets per Confirmation candidate** (For Parents, sponsor and candidate)
- For those unable to attend ALL Masses will be live streamed.

We will continue to follow set COVID19 safety guidelines:

- Ushers will seat you and/or your household.
- Face coverings are required throughout the Mass
- Safe social distancing will be enforced by leaving every other pew vacant.
- A minimum of six feet must be maintained between groups and individuals that are not of the same household.
- Use of personal hand sanitizer is strongly encouraged before receiving communion.
- Communion will be received on the hand only.
- Please avoid socializing after Mass. We must clean and disinfect the church after the service.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE SAN ANTONIO AREA

Apply to vote by mail if you are eligible!

You are eligible to vote by mail if you:

- will be away from your county during all of Early Voting and on Election Day
- are sick or disabled
- are 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- are confined in jail, but otherwise eligible to vote

You can get an application to vote by mail:

- by phone: call Bexar County Elections Dept. at 210-335-8683 to have one sent to you
- online: print an [application](#) to mail in

Deadline: Applications to vote by mail must be **received by July 2** at the Bexar Co. Elections Dept.

Mail to: Early Voting Clerk, Bexar County Elections
Department 1103 S. Frio Street, STE 100, San Antonio, TX
78207



INDEPENDENCE DAY THE FOURTH OF JULY commemorates the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America on July 4, 1776. We are grateful for our liberties and that we live in a democratic society. We must value and honor the meaning of our freedom.

Our Parish Office will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2020 and Saturday, July 4, 2020 in observance of the holiday.

Also don't let your guard down, stay safe!



We are in the process of accepting Enrollment for the 2020-2021. Please contact the school office at (210) 433-0411 for additional information.

Students receive a solid foundation academically and religiously. We have committed faculty and teachers who commit themselves to the education of our students. Let us be supportive of our Catholic School and education.

We need God in our lives now more than ever.

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

We always welcome anyone to help us clean, disinfect and sanitize our place of worship. It is important to ensure the cleanliness, safety and well being of our parish community.

Thank you and we appreciate your commitment.

Ministry Cleaning Schedule

Saturday, July 4, 2020 - Knights/Ultreya
Saturday, July 11, 2020 - Hospitality

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: Hch 12:1-11; Sal 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
- Martes: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Sal 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27
- Miércoles: Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Sal 50:7-13, 16bc-17; Mt 8:28-34
- Jueves: Am 7:10-17; Sal 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8
- Viernes: Ef 2:19-22; Sal 117:1bc, 2; Jn 20:24-29
- Sábado: Am 9:11-15; Sal 85 9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17
- Domingo: Zac 9:9-10; Sal 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — La hospitalidad genuina se alaba mucho (2 Reyes 4:8-11, 14-16a).

Salmo — Proclamaré sin cesar la misericordia del Señor (Salmo 89).

Segunda lectura — Están muertos al pecado por su bautismo en Cristo Jesús. Vivan para Dios en Cristo Jesús (Romanos 6:3-4, 8-11).

Evangelio — No es digno de mí el que no toma su cruz para seguirme. El que los recibe a ustedes, a mí me recibe. (Mateo 10:37-42).

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HOSPITALIDAD CRISTIANA

En todo momento se requiere de nosotros que hagamos decisiones para la acción, informadas por el amor cristiano que es difícil, duradero y útil. Hacemos lo que podemos, y Dios presta atención. Dios se encarga de las recompensas, y un vaso de agua es suficiente cuando es lo que podemos proporcionar con corazón abierto y alegre.

Pablo nos da una teología clara para el trabajo misionero que hacemos cuando alguien está cerca. Nos recuerda que nuestro trabajo, nuestro ministerio, se cumple en coordinación con Cristo. Hemos sido bautizados en su muerte y en su vida. A cada momento, tanto la vida como la muerte están presentes, un juego de intercambio entre sombra y luz. A veces, es difícil diferenciar el margen entre la luz y la sombra. Pero, Dios se encargará de esto, también.

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PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿Me permito tratar de ver el mundo desde la perspectiva de Dios? ¿Qué sacrificio puedo hacer para realizar la misión del Señor?