

# Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2020

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## GROWTH REQUIRES PATIENCE

Every child in school has experienced the excitement of growing a simple bean seed planted in a paper cup or watched a time lapse video of the growth process. We watch this miracle sprout in a matter of days, and marvel at the whole process. A seed must be planted and die to itself in order to create a new life. Then it must be fertilized and watered and cared for. But most importantly, one must be patient and wait. Seeds take a certain amount of time to develop and may require being dormant for a while. Similarly, a human baby takes nine months to grow from the time the seed is fertilized.

But no matter what we do, and how well we do it, not all seeds will yield fruit. Sometimes the conditions are just not right to allow it. Not all pregnancies go full term. Farmers know the pain of a drought year, or storms that ruin a crop before it can be harvested. Diseases and blight and other things can take hold.

### SOME WILL BE LOST

Growing up in the Western states, beautiful fields of wheat and beans were a common sight for me, but I did not fully understand this parable until going to the Holy Land and seeing the rocky ground that Jesus spoke of. This was an "aha" moment, as I witnessed what a miracle it was when something had the strength and tenacity to grow among the crags despite the arid conditions. What a sign of faith and trust and hope even to plant crops there, knowing that some would be lost! It would seem easier to write them all off, or even less work not to plant them at all.

Jesus could do that to us, but he has not. He has faith and trust that a number of the seeds planted in us will bear great fruit. They will not wither and fade away, but will produce fruit, a hundred-, or sixty- or thirty-fold. And his faith in us gives us hope.

**Today's Readings:** Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## CRECER REQUIERE DE PACIENCIA

Cada niño en la escuela ha tenido la experiencia de ver crecer una semilla de frijol en un vaso de papel o ver una grabación de video del tiempo transcurrido del proceso de crecimiento. Observamos el brote milagroso de esta semilla en pocos días, y nos maravillamos de todo el proceso. Una semilla debe ser plantada y morir a sí misma para crear una nueva vida. Luego se debe fertilizar, regar y cuidarse. Pero lo más importante, uno debe ser paciente y esperar. Las semillas requieren de cierto tiempo para desarrollarse y requieren estar inactivas durante un tiempo. De la misma manera, a un bebé humano le lleva nueve meses para crecer desde que la semilla es fecundada.

Pero no importa lo que hagamos, y que tan bien lo hagamos, no todas las semillas darán fruto. Algunas veces las condiciones no son las adecuadas para permitirlo. No todos los embarazos llegan a término. Los agricultores conocen el dolor de un año de sequía, o de las tormentas que arruinan los campos antes de la cosecha. Las enfermedades, las plagas y otras cosas pueden arriesgar la cosecha.

### ALGUNOS SE PERDERÁN

Crecí en los estados del Oeste estadounidense y para mí fue muy común ver los campos de trigo y frijol, pero solo entendí bien esta parábola hasta que fui a Tierra Santa y vi el suelo rocoso del que Jesús habló. Ese fue un momento de "aja", pues fui testigo del milagro de la tenacidad y fuerza para crecer de algo en medio de peñascos y condiciones áridas. ¡Qué signo de fe, confianza y esperanza se debe tener para plantar un cultivo allí, sabiendo que algunos se perderán! Parecería más fácil descartarlas a todas, o incluso trabajar menos para no plantarlas.

Jesús podría hacernos eso, pero no lo ha hecho. Él tiene fe y confianza en que varias de las semillas plantadas en nosotros darán grandes frutos. No se marchitarán ni se desvanecerán, sino que producirán fruto, un ciento, sesenta o treinta veces más. Y su fe en nosotros nos da esperanza.

**Lecturas de hoy:** Is 55:10-11; Sal 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



## Please Pray for the Sick

### Prayer List Updates



Joe Espinoza	Joe R. Martinez	Corona Virus
Virginia & Jose Ponce	Baby Sophia	Melissa Muñoz
Victoria Orosco	Antonio Mendoza	Angelita Canales
Henry Vidal	Sophie Alonzo	Deacon Joe Diaz
Hope Esquivel	Odilion G. Flores	Roland Valverde
Victor Cruz	JoAnn Almaguer	Maria Langley
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	David Santoyo	Marty Carrera Tobias
Irma Urias	Ana Garcia	Mary Shaw
Rosie Flores	Gina	Valerie & Bella
John Ruiz	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.	Villalpando
Jessica Diaz	Sandra Garza	Mariah Vasquez
Mary Martinez	Elena Gonzales	Joe Villanueva
Frances Lozano	Roxanne Joseph	Conrad Soriano
Robert Campos	Matthew Reyna	Dominique & Daughter
Gloria Martinez	Joe G. Martinez	Mary Esther Arriaga
Carlos Guardiola, III	For All Afflicted with	Yanes Family

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 JULY 4-5, 2020

5:00 p.m. - \$ 855.00 (036)

9:00 a.m. - \$ 544.00 (035)

11:00 a.m. - \$ 591.00 (041)

Capital Improvements - \$ 616.00 Second Collection

Daily Mail/Drop In - \$ 2,493.00

Mail In - \$ 185.00

Daily Mass Offerings - \$ 28.00

Gift of Giving - \$ 50.80

**TOTAL - \$5,574.80**

## Second Collection

**Sunday, July 12, 2020: Good Samaritans of SJB**

## 2020 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 7/4 - 7/5/2020 \$ 50.80

**RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL \$ 7,237.22**

# Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



### Saturday, July 11 - ST. BENEDICT

5:00 p.m. † Genevieve Cruz - Family  
† Mr. George Hernandez - Wife & Family  
Gift of Life Robert Vidal - Tia's  
Gift of Life Evelyn Parra - Family

### Sunday, July 12

9:00 a.m. † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family  
† Helen Lloyd - Rosalinda Garza

11:00 a.m.

Gift of Life Raquel Castillo - Family

### Monday, July 13

### Tuesday, July 14

12:00 p.m.  
Gift of Life Mary S. Martinez - Family

### Wednesday, July 15

12:00 p.m. † Juan C. Velasquez - Sister  
† Eudelio Velasquez, Jr. - Sister

### Thursday, July 16

12:00 p.m. † Genevieve Cruz

### Friday, July 17

12:00 p.m. † Jeannie Ybarra

### Saturday, July 18

5:00 p.m. † Luis Duran, Sr. - Wife & Family  
† Leroy Tobar - Ray Garza  
† Helen Lloyd - Cruz Family

### Sunday, July 19

9:00 a.m. † Camilo Juarez - Angelita Canales  
† Ana B. Canales - Angelita Canales  
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
† Gloria Lloyd - Children  
† Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas  
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family

11:00 a.m. **For Our Parish Community**



We pray for the souls of our dearly departed who have who have passed away from our parish community:

† **Pablo Z. Martinez**

### SANCTUARY LIGHT

† **Maria Isabel Castro**



## FROM THE PASTOR

### Dear Parishioners and Friends,

St. John Berchmans financial report for the fiscal year 2019 -2020 is now available for your review. As you will see, COVID-19 has had a profound impact on our finances. Our daily collection has decreased dramatically as well as all donations. We have been forced to cancel our Fall Festival which is a major source of income for our savings and projects. However, your loyalty and generosity has been inspiring and goes beyond my wildest imagination because your generosity has allowed us to pay our bills, save and live within our means. I am very grateful for your contributions and donations and truly hope you feel proud in reading the report. As we begin a new fiscal year 2020-2021, and considering the fact that Mass attendance is still very limited due to the COVID-19, I strongly encourage you to continue supporting our community with your weekly donation. **THANK YOU** for your continued generosity. Our financial report is inserted in the bulletin for your review.

All indications suggest COVID-19 is quickly spreading within 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 church services on Saturday and Sunday, including daily Mass, require 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.

Sincerely in Christ,

**Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor**

**fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com**

# Announcements

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

**Psalms** — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

**Second Reading** — We, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

**Gospel** — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23).

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## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon:** Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16-23; Mt 10:34 -11:1

**Tue:** Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

**Wed:** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-15; Mt 11:25-27

**Thu:** Is 26:7-19; Ps 102:13-21; Mt 11:28-30

**Fri:** Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8

**Sat:** Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

**Sun:** Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

## Events of the Week ~ July 12 - July 18, 2020

### Sunday, July 12

9:00 a.m. **Bilingual Mass** - Church

11:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church  
Facebook Livestream

6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

### Monday, July 13

### Tuesday, July 14

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

6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

### Wednesday, July 15

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

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

6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

### Thursday, July 16

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

6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

### Friday, July 17

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

### Saturday, July 18

4:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

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

## OUR PARISH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

These are difficult days our country is experiencing. The need is no different within our parish community.



**Good Samaritan Ministry** needs your help with donations for the following food items:

- **Canned goods:** (corn, green beans, assorted beans, tomato & spaghetti sauce)
- **Dried products:** Noodles (pastas, fideo, spaghetti, rice)
- **Cereals** (any kind)

During the course of the year the students of St. John Berchmans School provide some canned goods. However, due to home learning this has not occurred since late Spring.

Sadly, we are experiencing an **increase** in the request of food from families with children.

Our parish community has always been supportive and we appreciate your help for the needy. Call the Parish office to arrange drop off. Thank you!

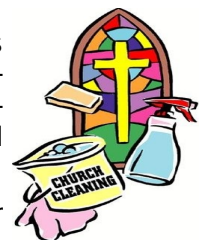


We are accepting Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year. Please contact the school office at (210) 433-0411 information.

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 18, 2020 - Boys/Girls Scouts**

**Saturday, July 25, 2020 - All Choirs**



## 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. 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.

# Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Anuncios

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## MESSAGE FROM FATHER FIDELE

We are always thankful for your presence at Mass however, please remain vigilant and help us as we continue to observe the guidelines and procedures which have kept us safe. And as your spiritual leader it is my obligation to ensure our entire parish congregations safety. **Please note the following:**

- Your temperature will be taken as you enter the church property including the office and the sanctuary.
- The door of the office will be locked for the safety of all, but you are invited to ring the bell for service.
- We encourage you to call the office for any questions to avoid unnecessary outside contact.
- A table will be placed outside of the office with bulletins and envelopes for your convenience and donations. Please use the slot near the door that is our mail box to insert your envelope (s).
- Confessions will be by appointment only on Saturdays. Please call the office for any questions.
- You are required to wear a mask at **ALL TIMES!!!**
- Maintain 6 feet distancing from each other, and Please wash your hands regularly or sanitize them.
- All church celebrations in the church will continue to be kept a minimum of 100 persons.
- **AS A REMINDER**, we encourage parishioners **not to wear gloves when receiving communion**. The sacrament of receiving communion is a holy one and should be received directly into the hand without gloves. You may sanitize before and after receiving communion.
- **If you are sick of show any symptoms of COVID-19, we strongly advise you to stay home!!**

Join us as we have begun the recitation of the Holy Rosary in our Church at 6:00 p.m. (and via Facebook livestream). We must unite as a Christian family in this present tragic situation, and we fly to Mary, Mother of God, and our Mother. We seek refuge under your protection, and ask that you turn your merciful eyes toward us amid this pandemic.

## THANK YOU

TO ALL THE  
HEALTHCARE  
AND  
FRONTLINE WORKERS

**THANK YOU!! To our Essential Frontline Workers for your Commitment and Courage. You are truly appreciated and we are beyond thankful for your daily sacrifice to ensure our medical and day to day needs are met.**

**May God Bless you and your families!**

## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

**Lunes:** Is 1:10-17; Sal 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 - 11:1

**Martes:** Is 7:1-9; Sal 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24

**Miércoles:** Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Sal 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27

**Jueves:** Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Sal 102 (101):13-14ab, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30

**Viernes:** Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8

**Sábado:** Miq 2:1-5; Sal 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

**Domingo:** Sab 12:13, 16-19; Sal 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — La palabra de Dios siempre cumple lo que él quiere (Isaías 55:10-11).

**Salmo** — Los granos que caen en la tierra buena darán una cosecha abundante (Salmo 65).

**Segunda lectura** — Toda la creación anticipa ansiosamente la revelación de la gloria plena de Dios (Romanos 8:18-23).

**Evangelio** — El que tenga oídos, que entienda y reciba las enseñanzas de Jesús (Mateo 13:1-23).

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## LAS PALABRAS DE DIOS

Cada día somos bombardeados por miles de palabras. Desde el momento en que suena el despertador en la mañana, hasta el último momento del día cuando apagamos el televisor o alguien nos dice 'buenas noches', tenemos la vida llena de palabras. Algunas palabras nos traen noticias que nos deprimen. Algunas palabras nos levantan el espíritu. Muchas de las palabras que escuchamos tratan de hacernos comprar algo. Algunas palabras son hirientes. Hoy la Iglesia nos hace prestar atención a la Palabras de Dios. ¿Son las Palabras de Dios igual que las demás -parte de una corriente sin fin de palabras que fluyen por nuestro oídos todos los días? El reto hoy es permitir que las Palabras de Dios nos inspiren renovando nuestra perspectiva y actitudes para que estén en mayor consonancia con el corazón y la mente de Cristo Jesús. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿Cómo puedo ser mas receptivo a la palabra de Dios, como el terreno fértil? ¿Que acción específica puedo lograr esta semana para dar fruto?