

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 26, 2020

www.stjohnberchmans.com

THE REVELATION OF YOUR WORD SHEDS LIGHT

Jesus is speaking in parables and offers three different images for the kingdom of heaven. Remember that popular line from a phone commercial: "Can you hear me now?" Jesus is trying to teach and basically says, "Do you understand me now? Do you get it now? Then let me explain it another way." He is shedding light on just how very important his mission is, that the kingdom of God is the most important thing, and that we must make every choice, every effort to strive for it. To use a sports metaphor, Jesus is telling us we must not look for immediate satisfaction, but we must "play the long game" because in the end, this is the only thing that really matters.

GIVING UNDERSTANDING TO THE SIMPLE

This message again seems very countercultural. We live in an age of instant gratification. Consumer debt is at an all-time high. Houses get bigger and bigger and more luxurious. Instead of saying "I can't afford a new car," people stretch payments out over six or seven years in an attempt to afford the unaffordable. Today we are called to put it all in perspective, to follow the "pearl of great price," to put all things aside that we might seek the kingdom of God and reach our heavenly goal, our salvation. This may require a paradigm shift and making radical changes in our lifestyle, in how we spend our time, our money, our energy, how we define what is important to us. May each of us find the wisdom of Solomon to guide us in making the right choices.

Today's Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

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LA REVELACIÓN DE TU PALABRA DERRAMA LUZ

Jesús habla en parábolas y presenta tres imágenes diferentes del reino de los cielos. Recuerda la famosa frase de una compañía telefónica que decía: "¿me puedes oír ahora?" Jesús está tratando de enseñar y básicamente dice, "¿ahora me entiendes?, ¿ahora lo entiendes? Entonces déjame explicártelo de otra manera". Él está derramando luz sobre lo importante que es su misión, que el Reino de Dios es lo más importante, y que debemos tomar cada decisión, cada esfuerzo, para luchar por él. Para usar una metáfora deportiva, Jesús nos dice que no debemos buscar la satisfacción inmediata, sino que debemos "jugar el juego extenso" porque al final, esto es lo único que en verdad importa.

ENTENDIENDO LO SENCILLO

Este mensaje de nuevo parece muy contracultural. Vivimos en una época de gratificación instantánea. La deuda de los consumidores está en su punto más alto. Las casas son cada vez más grandes y lujosas. En lugar de decir "no puedo pagar un carro nuevo", las personas extienden sus pagos por seis o siete años como una manera de pagar lo que no se puede pagar. Hoy estamos llamados a poner todo en perspectiva, seguir la "perla de gran precio", a dejar todo a un lado para que podamos buscar el reino de Dios y llegar a nuestra meta celestial, nuestra salvación. Esto puede requerir un cambio de paradigma y hacer cambios radicales en nuestro estilo de vida, a qué dedicamos nuestro tiempo, en que gastamos nuestro dinero, energía y cómo definimos lo que es importante para nosotros. Que cada uno de nosotros encuentre la sabiduría de Salomón para que nos guíe cuando hagamos decisiones correctas.

Lecturas de hoy: 1 Re 3:5, 7-12; Sal 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



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 & Bela
John Ruiz	Pedro Maldonado, Sr.	Villalpando
Jessica Diaz	Sandra Garza	Joe Villanueva
Mary Martinez	Elena Gonzales	Lydia Soriano
Frances Lozano	Roxanne Joseph	Dominique & Mariah
Robert Campos	Matthew Reyna	Mary Esther Arriaga
Gloria Martinez	Joe G. Martinez	Yanes Family
Carlos Guardiola, III	For All Afflicted with	Nicky Valtierra
Joe R. Martinez	Corona Virus	Edward Santoyo
Baby Sophia	Melissa Muñoz	Isidro Mata

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

sharing the gifts we have been given

WEEK OF JULY 18 - 19, 2020

5:00 p.m.	-\$ 490.00
9:00 a.m.	-\$ 102.00
11:00 a.m.	-\$ 322.93
Altar Flowers	-\$ 194.26 Second Collection
Drop Off	-\$2,259.00
Mail In	-\$ 237.00
Daily Mass	-\$ 58.00
Online	-\$ 145.00
Gift of Giving	-\$ 24.00
TOTAL	- \$4,136.93

Second Collection

Sunday, July 26, 2020: Religious Education

2020 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 7/18 - 7/19/2020	\$ 24.00
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$ 7,326.62

Announcements

Mass Intentions For The Week



Saturday, July 25 - ST. JAMES, APOSTLE

5:00 p.m. † Ginny Cruz - Socorro & Raquel
† Helen Lloyd - Socorro & Raquel

Sunday, July 26

9:00 a.m. † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Roland Cuellar - Mom & Dad
† Tomasita Garza - Daughter & Son
† Margarita Ventura - Ventura Family
† Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family

11:00 a.m. † Mary A. Hernandez - Family
† Joseph Solis - Family
John R. Escobedo - Mom

Gift of Life

Monday, July 27

Tuesday, July 28

12:00 p.m. † Conrad Soriano, Jr.

Wednesday, July 29 - ST. MARTHA

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

Thursday, July 30

12:00 p.m.
For Health Nicky Valtierra
For Health Edward Santoyo

Friday, July 31 - ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

12:00 p.m. † Mary Esther Arriaga

Saturday, August 1

5:00 p.m.
For Health Isidro Mata

Sunday, August 2

9:00 a.m. † Jose M. Canales - Angelita Canales
† Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
† Paul G. Salinas - Grace Salinas
† Daniel C. Arzola - Family

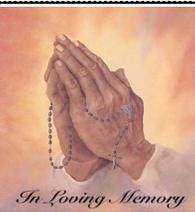
11:00 a.m. † Maria Treviño - Cisneros Family
† Josue Hid - Wife

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

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



Ministry Cleaning Schedule
August 1, 2020 - Guadalupanas



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

† Nelda Lemus

In Loving Memory

SANCTUARY LIGHT

Isidro & Kimberly Mata



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

As your Pastor, your wellbeing and spiritual needs are my top priority. The rapid increase of COVID-19 and its spread across San Antonio, the state of Texas and Bexar County is alarming and very concerning. Some persons within our St. John Berchmans community have tested positive and/or have been exposed to this virus. Each person is now under quarantine. It is urgent to take precautions in order to limit the spread of the virus within our parish community and to prevent the spread of the virus within our parish community and to protect our most vulnerable parish members.

As your Pastor, I have made the decision to diligently follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines effective immediately:

- ♦ **All church celebrations** will be maintained to a **maximum of 10 persons**. Daily Masses are celebrated Tuesday - Friday at 12 noon in the Church. Three Masses are celebrated during the weekends: Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday Bilingual Mass at 9:00 am and Sunday English at 11:00 am. Solely the 11 am Mass will be live streamed on my Facebook page
- ♦ Please call the Parish office if you wish to attend Mass on the weekend. These masses are on a first call first named basis.
- ♦ All persons who are sick, or exhibiting signs of the virus or who have been exposed to someone with the virus are urgently requested to stay home.
- ♦ Sunday 11:00 am English Mass will be live streamed. I highly encourage you to remain at home and participate through my personal and church Facebook page.
- ♦ Your temperature will be taken as you enter church property which also includes the office and the sanctuary.
- ♦ The door of the Parish office will remain locked for the safety of all, but you are invited to ring the bell for further assistance. You will be allowed to enter the office solely when it is necessary. We encourage you to call for any questions, or assistance, to avoid any unnecessary outside contact. Your home is the best and safest place for you and your family.
- ♦ We have placed a table outside the parish office with bulletins for your convenience with information, and envelopes for your donations. Please use the slot near the door, that is our mail box to insert your envelope (s).
- ♦ Confessions and Adoration are suspended until further notice.
- ♦ Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller has exempted anyone at high risk, underlying medical conditions, the elderly and those of you who feel uncomfortable attending Sunday Mass and days of obligation. You are encouraged to participate for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist through live streams or Catholic televisions.

(Pastor Message continued on next page)

Announcements

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PASTOR MESSAGE (continued)

My sincere gratitude is extended to each of you who send us your donations whether by stopping by the office to drop off your envelopes or money, by mailing your envelopes or by utilizing the apps created for your convenience or by calling the office to use your credit card. Our church will not be able to survive without your generous donations, so for this, I truly appreciate your generosity and financial support.

As your Pastor, I invite you to remain calm and vigilant as we face the COVID-19 pandemic. I thank you for following these guidelines and in protecting, and ensuring that our staff, volunteers and my safety so that we may continue serving you, our parish community. We will overcome it through our daily prayer, rosary, faith, vigilance and in keeping up with guidelines and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC). May God bless our great nation, our great state of Texas, our great city of San Antonio, our great Bexar county, and our community of St. John Berchmans Catholic Church.

Sincerely,

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

Events of the Week ~ July 26 - August 1, 2020

Sunday, July 26

9:00 a.m. **Bilingual Mass** - Church
11:00 a.m. **Mass** - Church
Facebook Livestream
6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

Monday, July 27

Tuesday, July 28

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

Wednesday, July 29

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 30

12:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church
6:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church

Friday, July 31

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

Saturday, August 1

4:00 p.m. **Rosary** - Church
5:00 p.m. **Mass** - Church

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19).

Psalm — Lord, you are good and forgiving (Psalm 86).

Second Reading — The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).

Gospel — Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God (Matthew 13:24-43)

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42
Tue: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50
Wed: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thu: Jer 2:1-3, 7-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17
Fri: Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10-13; Mt 13:18-23
Sat: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28
Sun: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

Everyone counts!
How to respond to 2020 Census
The easiest way to answer is online
Online questionnaire is already available at
<https://2020census.gov>



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
**METROPOLITAN
HEALTH DISTRICT**

COVID-19 WALK-UP TESTING AT SITES BELOW

No Appointment Needed.

MUST HAVE SYMPTOMS!

Limit 300 people per day
Every day in July 10AM - 2PM

◆ Cuellar Community Center
5626 San Fernando Street, 78237

◆ Kazen Middle School
1520 Gillette Blvd, 78224

Only individuals with COVID-19 symptoms will be tested at the listed City-run sites.

Symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficult breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

Parents may be asked to assist with administering the COVID test if their child requires assistance.



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.

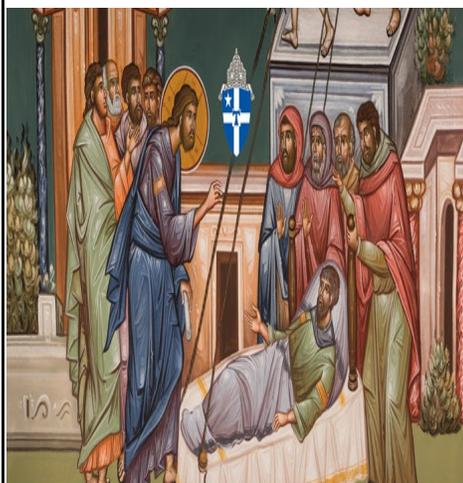


NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

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.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Anuncios

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Healthcare Professionals Mass

2020 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL MASS SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2020/10:00 AM - 11:00 AM SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL - 231 W. COMMERCE, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205

Archbishop Gustavo invites all medical doctors, nurses, healthcare professional and medical students to the Healthcare Professional Mass that will be held at San Fernando Cathedral on Saturday, August 1, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

This Mass provides a special opportunity to express our thankfulness and continuous prayers for those who are on the front lines of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The Liturgy is organized in collaboration with the Catholic Physicians Guild of San Antonio and will include the annual renewal of promises by the Catholic Physicians.

You are welcomed to wear your white coat as traditional representation of the medical field. Appropriate social distancing and the use of face masks will be required. The Mass will be live-streamed through social medical platforms of the Catholic Television of San Antonio.



On behalf of the Cruz family, we wish to thank our St. John Berchmans family for all their love, expressions of support and prayers at the passing of our Sister, Genevieve "Ginny" Cruz.

May she rest in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you.

*Respectfully,
Edna and Cruz Family*

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35
Martes: Jer 14:17-22; Sal 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mt 13:36-43
Miércoles: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Sal 34:2-11; Jn 11:19-27
Jueves: Jer 18:1-6; Sal 146:1b-6ab; Mt 13:47-53
Viernes: Jer 26:1-9; Sal 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58
Sábado: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Sal 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12
Domingo: Is 55:1-3; Sal 145: 8-9, 15-18; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Dame a mí, tu servidor, la capacidad de juzgar bien (1 Reyes 3:5, 7-12).
Salmo — Amo, Señor, tus mandamientos (Salmo 119).
Segunda lectura — Estamos predestinados a ser conformados a la imagen del Hijo de Dios (Rom 8:28-30).
Evangelio — Cuando encontramos la perla de gran valor, tenemos que ofrecer por ella todo lo que poseemos (Mateo 13:44-52). Salmo responsorial: Leccionario Hispanoamericano Dominical © 1970, Comisión Episcopal Española. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

PARTICIPACIÓN EN EL REINO

Hoy concluye la tercera semana de una serie de textos del Evangelio en que hemos escuchado un total de siete parábolas sobre el Reino. Se pide al creyente que considere el pedido que Dios hace a Salomón en la primera lectura de hoy: "pídemelo que quieras, y yo te lo daré" (1 Reyes 3:5). Las parábolas de hoy sobre el tesoro enterrado en el campo y la perla de gran precio nos debería empujar a responder: "¡Una participación en tu Reino, oh Dios!" Hoy descubrimos que el Reino de Dios es invaluable, un tesoro que no tiene precio. Desafortunadamente, nuestra cultura nos bombardea con cosas que considera tesoros inapreciables: vehículo utilitario deportivo, cremas antiarrugas y contra la calvicie, dietas milagrosas, y mucho, mucho más. Tener una participación en el Reino de Dios y contribuir a la venida del Reino son los mayores tesoros que jamás podamos esperar ganar. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿Que o a quien he pasado por alto en mi búsqueda del Reino del cielo? ¿Como puedo adquirir una rectitud de corazón?