

# 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 4, 2022

www.stjohnberchmans.com

## MINISTRIES AND CALLS—VOCATIONS AND AVOCATIONS

Prior to this week's Gospel, great crowds were beginning to follow Jesus. Excitement was building, as there were whispered conversations wondering if this was the long-awaited King that the Hebrews were hoping for. The crowds idea of a king was very different, however, from what Jesus was offering. The king they were waiting for was a high priest, a Messiah. This was not the kingdom that Jesus was preaching, but rather one of pain, of carrying one's cross and burdens—a kingdom that one must not approach lightly, but make serious plans and efforts to help build. Too often we see this passage, thinking it harsh and referring only to those called to religious life. The truth is that we are all called to charity. Taking up our cross is not a call to suffer for the sake of suffering, but to pursue goodness and righteousness.

### THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

*The Cost of Discipleship* is the name of the powerful book written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the theologian who was killed in a Nazi death camp. Today we see breakdowns in family relationships over religion and politics. We see those who forget how to forgive, and those who were never taught how to love. Bonhoeffer offered a message that could be applied to any story right out of the evening news. He said that Christian love doesn't distinguish between enemies, except that those who hate more bitterly are in greater need of love. Indeed, they should expect only unqualified love from a Christian. Bonhoeffer concludes that if one is not willing to love indiscriminately as a disciple of Christ, then one is not a Christian at all. When Jesus asks us today to take up our cross, he is asking us to take up the discipline of Christian love.

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

## MINISTERIOS Y LLAMADAS-VOCACIONES Y AVOCACIONES

Antes del Evangelio de esta semana, grandes multitudes empezaban a seguir a Jesús. La emoción crecía, ya que había conversaciones susurradas preguntándose si éste era el Rey tan esperado que los hebreos esperaban. Sin embargo, la idea que las multitudes tenían de un rey era muy diferente de lo que Jesús ofrecía. El rey que esperaban era un sumo sacerdote, un Mesías. Este no era el reino que Jesús predicaba, sino uno de dolor, de llevar la cruz y las cargas, un reino al que no hay que acercarse a la ligera, sino hacer planes y esfuerzos serios para ayudar a construirlo. Con demasiada frecuencia vemos este pasaje pensando que es duro y que se refiere sólo a los llamados a la vida religiosa. La verdad es que todos estamos llamados a la caridad. Tomar nuestra cruz no es una llamada a sufrir por sufrir, sino a perseguir el bien y la justicia.

### EL COSTO DEL DISCIPULADO

*The Cost of Discipleship* (El costo del discipulado) es el nombre del poderoso libro escrito por Dietrich Bonhoeffer, el teólogo que fue asesinado en un campo de exterminio nazi. Hoy vemos rupturas en las relaciones familiares por la religión y la política. Vemos a los que olvidan cómo perdonar, y a los que nunca se les enseñó a amar. Bonhoeffer ofreció un mensaje que podría aplicarse a cualquier historia sacada de las noticias de la noche. Dijo que el amor cristiano no distingue entre enemigos, salvo que los que odian más amargamente están más necesitados de amor. De hecho, sólo deberían esperar el amor incondicional de un cristiano. Bonhoeffer concluye que, si uno no está dispuesto a amar indiscriminadamente como discípulo de Cristo, entonces no es cristiano en absoluto. Cuando Jesús nos pide hoy que tomemos nuestra cruz, nos está pidiendo que asumamos la disciplina del amor cristiano.

**LECTURAS DE HOY:** Sab 9:13-18b; Sal 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 y 17; Flm 9-10, 12-17; Lc 14:25-33

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### Please Pray for the Sick

#### Prayer List Updates



Maria Langley	Virginia Morales	Joanne Almaguer
Suzanne Gutierrez	Raymond Sarabia	Antonia Degollado
Syl Vasquez, Jr.	Frank Rodriguez	Baby Zaylee Gaitan
Sarah Contreras	Pat Flores	Jeanette Ortiz
Marty Carrera Tobias	Julissa Rodriguez	Bobby Rollins
Frances Lozano	Kay Towers	Darlene Lopez
Irma Urias	Oscar Arcos	George Garnica
Mary S. Martinez	Miliana Bullock	Adam Alonzo, Jr.
Gina Gonzales	Hope Esquivel	Raymond Serna
Mike Mandujano	Mary Collazo	Mary Martinez
Galilea Romero	Terri Moreno	Mark Martinez
Flora Torres	Lydia Soriano	Cecilia Rodriguez
Iris Luna Sullivan	AB Cruz	Albert Rodriguez
Sandy Guerra	Robert Cruz	Albert Casillas
Abraham Guerra	Celia Garcia	Robert Sanchez
Emma O. Velasquez	Isidoro & Angie Muñoz	Santos Tello
Leticia Lopez Barrera	Eva Flores	Fred Guerra
Leticia Martinez	Roland Lozano	Marie Weaver
Kenny De La Rosa	Deacon J. Rodriguez	Vanessa Quintero

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 WEEK ENDING AUG. 28, 2022

5 PM Mass	-\$ 612.00
9 AM Mass	-\$ 760.00
11 AM Mass	-\$ 1,829.00
IGBO Mass	-\$ 85.00
Religious Education	-\$ 417.00 2nd Collection
IGBO Religious Ed.	-\$ 35.00 2nd Collection
Mail In	-\$ 710.00
On Line	-\$ 45.00
Gift of Giving	-\$ 195.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,688.30</b>



### SECOND COLLECTION

September 4, 2022 - Capital Improvements

### 2022 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Aug. 28, 2022	\$ 195.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,313.27</b>

# Announcements



## Saturday, September 3

5:00 p.m. † Rolando Reyes Robles - Family  
 † Rudy A. Moreno - Family  
 † Maria Onofre - Socorro & Raquel

## Sunday, September 4

9:00 a.m. † Mr. Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño  
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Familia

11:00 a.m. † Robert Gallegos - Wife & Children  
 † Terry Ramos - Grace Salinas  
 † Paul Salinas - Wife  
 † Moises L. Reyes - Son John Reyes

**For Health** Suzanne Gutierrez - Family  
**Gift of Life** Marcus E. Torres - Family

## Monday, September 5

## Tuesday, September 6

12:00 p.m. † Rolando Reyes Robles - Socorro & Raquel  
 † Margarita Ventura - Family

## Wednesday, September 7

8:15 a.m.  
**In Thanksgiving** Martha Rodriguez - Family

## Thursday, September 8

12:00 p.m.  
**For Health** Genevieve Perez - Friends

## Friday, September 9

12:00 p.m.  
**In Thanksgiving** Chantal & Chad - Mom



It is with sadness that we share the passing of **FR. CAMILLO BOTELLO, JR., MSF - of STS. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEW BRAUNFELS, TX.** Hear with favor our prayers, O Lord, for the salvation of the soul of Fr. Botello, your faithful servant and Priest. May the perpetual light shine upon him.

### PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our Priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our Priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel, Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Our Religious Education program has commenced its registration. Please be advised that this year, all children are welcome to attend the program free of charge, and note that breakfast will be provided as well as transportation. I invite everyone to join me in spreading the great news in the neighborhood and apartment complexes. It takes a village to raise a child. September 11th, will be the official day for the beginning of the CCD/Faith formation.

Our mini bus is available to the elderly or persons with either a disability or in need of transportation for the purpose or in need of transportation for the purpose of attending Saturday or Sunday masses. Please contact the office at (210) 434-3247 for more information.

I invite you to support our Raffle Ticket project scheduled for Christmas Day after the 11:00 am Mass. This will be the only monetary fundraiser this year and our goal has been set at \$35,000. Each adult or family is requested to pick up 100 tickets at the price of \$2.00 per ticket. Please make a special effort to pick up your tickets after Mass or in the office, and sell as many tickets possible for the benefit of our parish community.

As of September 1, 2022, 155 desks have been sponsored for the children at Mumiaminyi, Disangayi and Muoyo Mupeluke elementary schools situated in the city of Kananga, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. My gratitude goes to all of you who have been very supportive of Dikete Education Opportunity Foundation. Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you always.

Let us continue to ask for peace and the end of war in Ukraine. We pray for all parties involved to put their ego aside and focus on the good of the dignity of every human being. Prayer is a powerful tool that allows us to cultivate our relationship with God and to listen to what God wants for us.

This Labor Day let us be thankful for our employment that sustains our household and brings us pride in being a productive citizen in our great country. Let us pray for persons that are presently seeking employment that they soon find a job for the betterment of their families.

May God bless each of you,

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

# Announcements

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**5 REASONS WHY EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD EXERCISE**  
CatholicLink

- Your body is a temple**  
We should take care of God's gift without being obsessive or vain.
- Everyone will benefit if you feel good**  
Exercising keeps you active and in a good mood.
- The ones you love will appreciate it**  
It helps you live a longer and healthier life.
- You set a good example**  
It is a good lesson for those around you, especially if you have children.
- Exercise is a good analogy for life**  
Overcoming your weaknesses is a good analogy for Christian life.

Based on the article by Churchpop.com "6 Reasons Every Christian Should Exercise Regularly" <https://churchpop.com/2015/01/15/6-reasons-every-christian-exercise-regularly/>



*Holy Eucharistic Adoration*

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
THURSDAY'S ONLY (CHAPEL)  
9:00 AM -12 Noon & 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.**



**What's Happening This Week**

**Sunday, September 4**  
9:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass - Church  
11:00 a.m. Mass - Church

**Monday, September 5 - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**Tuesday, September 6**  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel  
6:30 p.m. Guadalupe Meeting - Formation

**Wednesday, September 7**  
8:15 a.m. School Mass - Church  
2:00 p.m. Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

**Thursday, September 8**  
9:00am-12 Noon &  
2:00pm - 5:00pm Adoration - Chapel  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

**Friday, September 9**  
12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

**Saturday, September 10**  
5:00 p.m. Mass - Church



**HAPPY LABOR DAY**


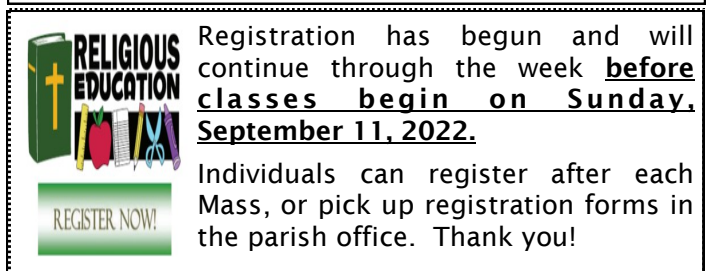
**CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY.**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11  
Tue: 1 Cor 6:1-11; Ps 149:1b-6,9; Lk 6:12-19  
Wed: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26  
Thu: Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23  
Fri: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27; Ps 84:3-12; Lk 6:39-42  
Sat: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18;  
Lk 6:43-49  
Sun: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-19; 1 Tm 1:12-17;  
Lk 15:1-32

We welcome anyone to help us clean our beautiful church. We meet every **Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.**

**Ministry Scheduled  
Saturday, September 10, 2022  
ACTS/JOY**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**


Registration has begun and will continue through the week **before classes begin on Sunday, September 11, 2022.**

Individuals can register after each Mass, or pick up registration forms in the parish office. Thank you!

**REGISTER NOW!**

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE  
IN MEMORY OF**

**Rudy A. Moreno  
Leaders of our Country  
Community of Uvalde**



**Announcements!** **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.

**WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH** **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.

**AUTHENTIC DISCIPLESHIP**

***“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”*** (Luke 14:27)

On this 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus tells the crowds traveling with him the disposition of discipleship. He outlines the necessity to carry our cross by willingly letting go of the esteem of friends, neighbors, and even family for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. This approach to living allows us to free our energy and resources to better discern the will of God in our lives. What gifts has God entrusted to me that I can offer generously to help people encounter God’s love?

In his Apostolic Exhortation, Pope Francis states, “Discernment is not about discovering what more we can get out of this life, but about recognizing how we can better accomplish the mission entrusted to us at baptism. This entails a readiness to make sacrifices, even to sacrificing everything. For happiness is a paradox.”

May we find moments to listen to God’s invitation to carry our cross and be the hands, feet, eyes, and voice of Christ. Let us pray for the desire to follow the will of God as this is where genuine happiness and flourishing will take root.

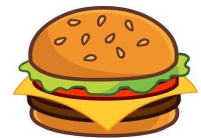
**ST. JOHN BERCHMANS CATHOLIC SCHOOL****HAMBURGER FUNDRAISER**

**Date:** Sunday, September 11, 2022

**Time:** 11 AM - 2:30 PM

**Cost:** \$10 (Includes Burger, Chips, Drink & Dessert)

**Where:** SJB Parking Lot



We are asking for help from our parish community for our **Fundraiser scheduled on Sunday, September 11, 2022** to purchase **burgers and books**. There will be surprise bags for \$5.00 or you can come and make your own book choices, and most will be .50 each. Remember that all the money raised by the book sales will be split, with half going to the teachers and half for new library books. The burger sale is to help the faculty and staff attend the NCEA conference in Dallas, Texas. **Please come support this important fundraiser.**

**LECTURAS DE HOY**

**Primera lectura** — ¿Quién puede saber los caminos de Dios a menos que Dios le dé sabiduría y le envíe el Espíritu Santo de lo alto? (Sabiduría 9:13-18b)

**Salmo** — Señor, tú has sido nuestro refugio de generación en generación (Salmo 90).

**Segunda lectura** — Pablo pide a Filemón que acepte a su esclavo Onésimo como hermano (Filemón 9-10, 12-17).

**Evangelio** — Para ser discípulo de Jesús uno debe cargar con su cruz (Lucas 14:25-33).

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**LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA**

Lunes: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Sal 5:5-7, 12; Lc 6:6-11,

Martes: 1 Cor 6:1-11; Sal 149:1-6, 9; Lc 6:12-19

Miércoles: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Sal 45:11-12, 14-17; Lc 6:20-26

Jueves: Rom 8:28-30; Sal 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

Viernes: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27; Sal 84:3-12; Lc 6:39-42

Sábado: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Sal 116:12-13, 17-18; Lc 6:43-49

Domingo: Ex 32:7-14; Sal 51:3-4, 12-19; 1 Tim 1:12-17; Lc 15:1-32

**LOS LÍMITES**

Las lecturas de hoy continúan con el tema de la humildad que se exploró el domingo pasado. Las tres lecturas de hoy nos animan a admitir que tenemos límites, y que Dios no tiene ninguno. La conmovedora poesía del libro de la Sabiduría resuena en todos los que alguna vez luchamos por la paz en situaciones que no podemos controlar: “porque un cuerpo corruptible hace pesada el alma y el barro de que estamos hechos entorpece el entendimiento”. San Pablo reconoce sus propias limitaciones, tanto física (está en prisión) y espiritualmente: él no puede obligar a su amigo a obedecer sus deseos; él solamente puede proponer su petición y respetar el libre albedrío de Filemón. En el Evangelio, Jesús nos recuerda que sólo Dios puede completar el bien que deseamos hacer en el mundo. Mientras agradecemos a Dios por los dones que recibimos, y las familias que amamos, reconozcamos que son temporales y que humildemente nos mantengamos cerca de Dios. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA**

¿Cuán fuerte es mi compromiso de discípulo? ¿Qué estoy dispuesto a abandonar y qué estoy dispuesto a aceptar?