

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 22, 2023

www.stjohnberchmans.com

CALLED TO COMMUNITY

Today's Gospel from Matthew sketches the initial movements of Jesus' public ministry. The arrest of John the Baptist signals that Jesus' time has come. His first actions include the call of his first disciples, and proclaiming the reign, or kingdom, of heaven. Jesus first gathers a community, which he can gradually form to become living evidence of this coming reign. His preaching, which begins just a few verses later in the Sermon on the Mount, is not just essential guidance for each individual life, but for life within a community of his followers.

It can be very challenging for most of us, who live in a highly individualized society, to hear this story of being summoned into community, committed to learning together and from each other. Our parishes and Christian communities need to be safe places so that we can open our hearts to each other, learning the Way of Jesus, and sharing this Way with others.

UNITED IN CHRIST

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul addresses many pastoral issues, and begins with questions of division over leadership. We hear of rival camps of loyalty for various leaders and preachers: Paul himself, Apollo, or Cephas. Paul fears that the community has lost the center of the faith, that is, Christ himself. The community is to be united in mind and purpose under Christ.

Many today experience in a very similar division. Some Christians will in effect say: "I belong to . . . (fill in the name of your favorite preacher, theologian, or leader), and those who don't are not to be trusted." Diversity of thought and background are essential to the vitality of Christian community, but here Paul describes a division that hides the message of Christ. It hides Christ's call to charity and forbearance toward all. This division hides the truth that we are all at the foot of the cross, a cross that reveals our own brokenness and our need for mercy.

TODAY'S READINGS: Is 8:23 - 9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

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LLAMADO A LA COMUNIDAD

El Evangelio de hoy de Mateo esboza los movimientos iniciales del ministerio público de Jesús. La detención de Juan el Bautista indica que ha llegado la hora de Jesús. Sus primeras acciones incluyen la llamada de sus primeros discípulos y la proclamación del reino de los cielos. Jesús reúne primero una comunidad, a la que puede formar gradualmente para que se convierta en una prueba viviente de este reino venidero. Su predicación, que comienza unos versículos más tarde en el Sermón de la Montaña, no es sólo una guía esencial para la vida de cada individuo, sino para la vida dentro de una comunidad de sus seguidores.

Para la mayoría de nosotros, que vivimos en una sociedad altamente individualizada, puede resultar muy desafiante escuchar esta historia de ser convocados en comunidad, comprometidos a aprender juntos y unos de otros. Nuestras parroquias y comunidades cristianas tienen que ser lugares seguros para que podamos abrir nuestros corazones a los demás, aprendiendo el Camino de Jesús, y compartiendo este Camino con los demás.

UNIDOS EN CRISTO

En su carta a los Corintios, Pablo aborda muchos temas pastorales, y comienza con cuestiones de división sobre el liderazgo. Oímos hablar de campos rivales de lealtad para varios líderes y predicadores: Pablo mismo, Apolo o Cefas. Pablo teme que la comunidad haya perdido el centro de la fe, es decir, el propio Cristo. La comunidad debe estar unida en mente y propósito bajo Cristo.

Muchos experimentan hoy en día una división muy similar. Algunos cristianos dicen en efecto: "Yo pertenezco a... (ponga el nombre de su predicador, teólogo o líder favorito), y los que no lo hacen no son de fiar". La diversidad de pensamiento y antecedentes es esencial para la vitalidad de la comunidad cristiana, pero aquí Pablo describe una división que oculta el mensaje de Cristo. Oculta la llamada de Cristo a la caridad y a la tolerancia hacia todos. Esta división oculta la verdad de que todos estamos al pie de la cruz, una cruz que revela nuestro propio quebranto y nuestra necesidad de misericordia.

LECTURAS DE HOY: Is 8:23 - 9:3; Sal 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Suzanne Gutierrez
Syl Vasquez, Jr.
Sarah Contreras
Marty Carrera Tobias
Frances Lozano
Irma Urias
Mary S. Martinez
Galilea Romero
Flora Torres
Iris Luna Sullivan
Sandy Guerra
Abraham Guerra
Emma O. Velasquez
Leticia Lopez Barrera
Leticia Martinez
Kenny De La Rosa
Raymond Sarabia
Frank Rodriguez
Julissa Rodriguez

Miliana Bullock
Hope Esquivel
Lydia Soriano
Celia Garcia
Bobby Rollins
Darlene Lopez
George Garnica
Adam Alonzo, Jr.
Raymond Serna
Mary Martinez
Mark Martinez
Cecilia Rodriguez
Albert Rodriguez
Albert Casillas
Robert Sanchez
Santos Tello
Fred Guerra
Vanessa Quintero
Mary Alice Vasquez

Heath Herring
Joe Cevallos
Oscar Arcos
Jennifer Olivarez
Juanita Martinez
Maria Rios
Virginia R. Lucio
Teresa Moreno
Guadalupe Rodriguez
Gayle Beaver
Lori Bañuelos
Jesus Lopez
Joe Villanueva
Edith Flores
Isaiah Vasquez

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 THE WEEK

ENDING JANUARY 15, 2023

5 PM Mass -\$ 635.00
9 AM Mass -\$ 961.00
11 AM Mass -\$ 1,733.00
Altar Flowers -\$ 507.00 2nd Collection
Drop Off -\$ 718.00
Gift of Giving -\$ 286.05
TOTAL \$ 4,840.05



SECOND COLLECTION

January 22, 2023 - Religious Education

2023 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions ending Jan. 15, 2023 \$ 286.05
TOTAL \$ 5,387.30

Announcements



Saturday, January 21

5:00 p.m. † George Hernandez - Wife & Family
 † Johnny Arocha - Wife & Family
 Gift of Life Libby Sanchez - Socorro & Raquel
 Gift of Life Irma Sweet - Sweet Family
 Gift of Life Greg Dominick - Sweet Family
 Gift of Life Marilyn Nolte - Sweet Family

Sunday, January 22

9:00 a.m. † Maria J. Terrazas - Angelita Canales
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
 For Health Joe Villanueva - Family
 11:00 a.m. † Paul Salinas - Family
 † Gloria Lloyd - Children

Monday, January 23

Tuesday, January 24 - ST. FRANCES DE SALES

12:00 p.m. † Jose Z. Castillo - Family
 For Health Hope Esquivel

Wednesday, January 25

8:15 a.m. † Consuelo R. Saucedo - Family
 For Health Teresa Moreno - Sisters in Christ

Thursday, January 26 - STS. TIMOTHY AND TITUS

12:00 p.m. † Henry Vidal - Family
 For Health Richard E. Castillo - Socorro & Raquel

Friday, January 27 - ST. ANGELA MERICI

12:00 p.m. † Hilda Valdez - Friends
 † Gina Gonzales - SJB Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023

Day of Prayer
 for the Legal Protection of
 Unborn Children

God our Creator, we give thanks to you, who alone have the power to impart the breath of life as you form each of us in our mother's womb; grant, we pray, that we, whom you have made stewards of creation, may remain faithful to this sacred trust and constant in safeguarding the dignity of every human life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

We would like to invite all married couples to a special Valentine's ceremony to take place on Saturday, February 11, 2023. During the Mass we will have a special blessing for all married couples and also renew their vows. After Mass we will host a small reception in the school cafeteria.

We ask that you kindly sign up with one of our parish volunteers after Mass (in the church lobby) or in the parish office to let us know of your attendance. This will be a special celebration!

Resolutions for 2023!

We will focus in caring for our body as the temple of Christ in 2023.

I am suggesting five resolutions for you:

- All parishioners are called to participate in a weight loss contest for the entire year of 2023.

There are three categories:

- Participants that lose 10 pounds will be awarded a \$50 VISA gift card.
- Participants that lose 20 pounds will be awarded a \$100 VISA gift card.
- Participants that lose 30 pounds will be awarded a \$150 VISA gift card.

Please make sure you register at the front office for the purpose of weighing in with our Secretary, Stella Rico. All information is strictly confidential and names of the winners will be displayed on our marquee for the entire month of January, 2024.

- You are invited to join me on Saturday, May 13th at Woodlawn Lake Park to commemorate all mothers on Mother's Day and to raise money for our school.

The event will be scheduled as follows:

- 8:00 am: All 5K runners will start running approximately 35 minutes.
- 9:00 am: Students from our SJB school will run one lap, 1.3 miles
- 9:30 am: All mothers will walk for one lap, 1.3 miles
- 10:00 am: We will end with Mariachi music

Each participant is requested to sponsor my 5K run by donating \$50. All donations and proceeds will help pay for school utilities, property insurance and grant scholarships to each student participating in the run.

- I will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from June 12th thru 22nd, 2023. Included in the total cost of \$3,199 per person (double occupancy) are: all airfare, hotels (double occupancy), food, tour guides, private bus. Please call the office (210.434-3247) for more information or request a brochure or application.

(PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Announcements

PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED...

- Our Annual Fall Festival will resume and take place on Saturday, September 30th, 2023 from 12:00 noon until midnight in the church parking lot. We will have bands, music, food, children's games, rides, etc. More information forthcoming.
- Children and adult contests:
 - A. An adult who attends daily mass for the entire year 2023 will receive a \$100 VISA gift card.
 - B. A child able to recite all the mysteries of the rosary: Joyful, Luminous, Glorious and Sorrowful will receive a \$50 VISA gift card.
 - C. A child who will be able to correctly memorize the 10 Commandments and recite them at the Christmas concert will receive a \$50 VISA gift card.
 - D. Any adult parishioner participating in the cleaning of the church every Saturday in 2023 will receive a \$150 VISA gift card.

I challenge you to take on these resolutions and put them into practice. Invite family and friends to participate and join you. Let us make New Year 2023 the best ever!



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

THIS WEEK!
Here's What's On The Calendar!

ShareFaith

Sunday, January 22

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

Monday, January 23

Tuesday, January 24

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Wednesday, January 25

8:15 a.m. Mass - Church
10:00 a.m. Faith Enrichment Session - Formation
2:00 p.m. Coffee with Fr. Fidèle
7:00 p.m. Faith Enrichment Session - Formation

Thursday, January 26

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Friday, January 27

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel

Saturday, January 28

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church



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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30
Tue: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35
Wed: Acts 22:3-16; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Thu: Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 4:21-35
Fri: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34
Sat: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41
Sun: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-3; Mt 5:1-12



CCD LOTERIA BINGO FUNDRAISER

Date: Sunday, February 19, 2023
Time: 12:30pm - 4:00 pm
Location: SJB Cafeteria
To Benefit Religious Education

The Sanctuary Candle burns for:

† Merced Cruz
† Clara Perez
Jesus Lopez
Edith Flores



IN MEMORIAM

The community and staff of St. John Berchmans parish extends their heartfelt condolences to the family of:

† Clara Perez

May she rest in God's eternal peace.

We welcome anyone to assist us with cleaning our beautiful church every

Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Ministry Scheduled for
January 28, 2023
Guadalupanas




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.

Blessed are...  What are you most proud of? What do you like to boast about? Were you top of your class in college? Do you work harder than anyone in your office? Or are you the best at appearing to work hard, but hardly working? Everyone likes to have something they are the best at, or at least very good. But it really is kind of silly to base your own worth on what you accomplish. What truly makes us important is that we are loved by God. Our second reading tells how God uses the foolish, weak, or poorest people to shame those who are wise, strong, and wealthy. Why? Because God loves the poor, the weak, the disabled, the homeless just as much as God loves the important people.

And it's not just the external qualities that are important. Some wealthy people have great love for the poor. Some of the best teachers only work with disabled children. Our Gospel on the Beatitudes today makes that clear if you listen carefully. Blessed are not just the poor, but the poor in spirit; not only the hungry, but those who hunger for righteousness. That's what Saint Paul means when he says, **"Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord"** (1 Corinthians 1:31).

So how do we get to be "important" to God? Instead of asking God to make my projects a success, I can ask what God wants me to do. And for all the good that you do, remember to thank the Lord.

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SJB SCHOOL HOSTING A BAR-B-QUE PLATE SCHOOL FUNDRAISER



Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023
Time: 11 am - 3 pm **Location: SJB School Cafeteria**
Cost: \$10.00 per plate
Plate: Chicken, Sausage, Rice, Beans
Drink and Sweets will be available for purchase



Caritas
 Legal Services

ASK-A-LAWYER IS BACK!!!

Caritas Legal Services located at 110 Bandera Road, San Antonio, Tx 78228 offers **FREE** legal consultation on Immigration, Wills, Deeds, and Guardianship.

We will be offering services on the following dates and locations from 9am - 12pm.

- Saturday, January 28, 2023 at St. Andrew Catholic Church, Pleasanton, TX**
- Saturday, February 25, 2023 at St. Paul Catholic Church, San Antonio, TX**
- Saturday, March 25, 2023 at St. Pius X Catholic Church, San Antonio, TX.**

Visit us online ccaosa.org, or call (210) 433-3256.
 Additional dates will be offered in the future.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Sal 98:1-6; Mc 3:22-30
- Martes: Heb 10:1-10; Sal 40:2, 4, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mc 3:31-35
- Miércoles: Hch 22:3-16; Sal 117:1bc, 2; Mc 16:15-18
- Jueves: Tit 1:1-5; Sal 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mc 4:21-35
- Viernes: Heb 10:32-39; Sal 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mc 4:26-34
- Sábado: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lc 1:69-75; Mc 4:35-41
- Domingo: Sof 2:3; 3:12-13; Sal 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12

EL CUIDADO AMOROSO DE DIOS

Dos lecturas de hoy se refieren a la región noreste del antiguo Israel: "la tierra de Zabulón y la tierra de Neftalí". Al escuchar estos nombres, algunos de nosotros podríamos consultar mapas y determinar exactamente dónde se encuentran estas regiones. Otros pueden dejar que los nombres desconocidos pasen desapercibidos. Si no tenemos mapas a mano, pero no queremos ignorar las referencias por completo, consideremos esto: puede que no conozcamos la latitud y la longitud de Zabulón y Neftalí, pero Dios sí. Alabamos a Dios por vigilar cada centímetro de tierra y mar, cuidando perfectamente de cada criatura del planeta. Aunque Isaías celebra la profundidad del cuidado de Dios con "abundante alegría y gran regocijo", san Pablo nos ruega que recordemos cómo muestra el Señor este cuidado amoroso: a través de la cruz. En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús llama a Pedro, Santiago y Juan para que le sigan. Nosotros también le seguimos, seguros de que Dios nos acompaña, estemos donde estemos.

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PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA

¿Podiera hacer yo el compromiso de estudiar la Sagrada Escritura diariamente en el 2023 y hacerla fundamental en mi vida?