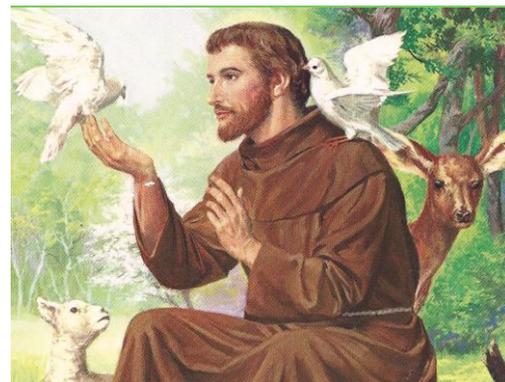


St. John Berchmans Catholic School

Father Fidèle Dikete, Pastor
Nora García, Principal



St. Francis is "among the most loved Saints, remembered on 4 October. For over 800 years Saint

Francis of Assisi has been a beacon for the Church through his witness to the Gospel earning him the name "alter Christus", a living icon of Christ, his choice to live in poverty in order to encounter the Lord."

[Saint of the Day - Calendar of Saints of 10/04 - Vatican News](#)

Upcoming events:

Blessing of the Animals: Monday, October 4, 2021

Solidarity Day: Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Early Dismissal: Friday, October 8, 2021

School Clean-up: Saturday, October 9, 2021

School Mass: Sunday, October 10, 2021

After-school Care

When picking up your child(ren) from after-school care, please remember that you must sign out your child(ren). Starting Monday, students will not be dismissed without the signature of a parent, guardian, or adult from the student's approved pick-up list. Thank you.

Car Signs

Please continue to use your car signs during afternoon pick-up. It is very beneficial in keeping the lines moving in the dismissal car line.

Extra-curricular Pick-up

When picking up your child(ren) after club meetings, tutoring, etc, please do not block the fire zone (red curbs.) We ask that you please park in designated parking spaces until you see your child(ren) exiting the building and then drive around for pick-up once the students are ready. Thank you.

Solidarity Day

On Tuesday, October 5th, we will unite in faith, hope and love against bullying. To celebrate the 5th Annual Solidarity Day, we will all wear orange as a sign of our commitment to taking a stand against bullying. Shirts should be plain orange and must not have Halloween pictures or school logos. Students may wear jeans, but they must not be ripped, torn, or holey. Leggings are also not allowed.

Blessing of the Animals

In the email with this newsletter, you will find an attachment with a map for Monday's Blessing of the Animals. We will start lining up the students (the way they are usually lined up for dismissal) at 2:45 PM. If you are bringing your pet(s) to be blessed, please go through the car line as usual to pick up your student, then park in the sections marked on the map as being designated for Blessing of the Animals. Father will begin prayer after the students with pets present have been picked up, beginning with the students lined up in the dismissal area and will then walk over to the parked vehicles to bless the animals in the cars. After the blessing, you may leave the designated parking section and head home. If you are not bringing your animals to be blessed, the children may bring in stuffed animals or pictures of their pets to be blessed and they will be ready for pick up in the car line beginning at 3:10 PM.

Volunteers Needed

As you know, our accreditation visit is rapidly approaching and our school is in need of a few touch-ups. If you are able to volunteer on Saturday, October 9th, we are looking for help with cleaning up the school, touching up paint, replacing ceiling tiles, securing/pulling out playground equipment, setting up computers in the lab, and other minor repairs. Paint will be provided, but bringing your own paintbrushes would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help or have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Garcia. Thank you for your assistance!

Picture Day

School picture day will be on Wednesday, October 13th. Students should wear their Mass uniforms.

Uniforms

Thank you for sending your children to school in full and complete uniform. At Mass this week, we noticed that about 90% of students were wearing correct uniforms, including ties and belt. Please keep up the good work! If you are still waiting on P.E. uniforms, please call Flynn-O'Hara, as we will be entering our eight week of school and everyone should be in uniform.

Cross Country Meet

The SJB Cross Country team will be participating at a meet on Monday, October 4th at Woodlawn Lake Park (1103 Cincinnati Ave, San Antonio, TX 78201.) All runners participating should be at Woodlawn Park by 3:15 PM for check in and to walk the course that they will be running.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

Students in odd-numbered grade levels will have vision and hearing screenings completed on Tuesday, October 5th.

Run with a Mission 5K

Don't forget to sign up for the 15th Annual Run with a Mission 5K. St. John Berchmans has fallen to 6th place on the Archdiocesan leadership board. We would really like to continue the tradition of having the most registrants for the 5th year in a row and need your support to achieve this goal. Every dollar of your registration fee will be given to St. John Berchmans. Money raised through the 5K will be used for playground repairs and improvement. The virtual run/walk will run from October 10-24, culminating with the in-person event on Sunday, October 24th. Registration is open! Please visit [Run With a Mission 2021 | Archdiocese of San Antonio \(archsa.org\)](#) and choose St. John Berchmans Catholic School.

5K Incentives

- *Families who register 30+ people will have their name put on a plaque to be displayed in the new playground area that they helped to fund and will be entered into a drawing to win one month's tuition. (December or May)
- *The first homeroom to have 100% registration (students and teacher) will have a sundae party.
- *School-wide pizza party if SJB wins the most registrants.
- *Service hours: 3 hours per parent who registers for the 5K and 2 hours for attending the event.

Please email your child(ren)'s homeroom teacher with screenshots of registration confirmations and be sure to keep a list of people who have registered on behalf of your child(ren) to turn in once you hit the 30 registrant mark. But feel free to keep registering people even after reaching 30! Every registrant helps!

CYO Basketball Registration

Registration is open for students in grades Pre-K4-sixth grade who are interested in CYO basketball. Go to [St. John Berchmans Catholic School - San Antonio, TX \(sjbschool-sa.com\)](#), and under "Academics and Clubs", choose "CYO." Please register as soon as possible so that teams may be formed. Once teams are formed and filled, parents will be notified after October 4th. Registration is \$70 plus a fundraiser. Northside Gym will be used.

Prayer Corner

- *Let us pray for the soul of SJB alumnus Jay Pena. May he rest in peace.
- *Please pray for the health and safety of our St. John Berchmans community.
- *Let us pray for all those who are battling COVID and those who have lost loved ones to COVID.
- *Please pray for the continued distribution of the vaccine and an end to this pandemic.
- *Please pray for those in the SJB community dealing with health issues, both spoken and unspoken.
- *Let us pray for an end to prejudice and injustice.
- *Let us pray for peace throughout the world.

Prayer requests and student submissions may be emailed to newsletter@sjbsa.com for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter.