



*"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb."*

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

**DIOCESE OF BROWNSVILLE: BISHOP DANIEL E. FLORES
BISHOP MARIO ALBERTO AVILÉS, CO**

Rev. Jean Olivier M. Sambu, Pastor

Corina Lozoya, Secretary

Amanda Leal, Bookkeeper

Emma Soto, CCE-Sacramental Records Clerk

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Wednesday 8:00 am–12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm


Website: www.olmmercedes.org

322 S. Vermont (P.O. Box 805)

Mercedes, Texas 78570

(956) 565-1141 and 514-5566

Fax: 565-1640 **Email:** olm@cdob.org

 Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church-Mercedes, Texas

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024**

BACKGROUND OF THE LITURGY

GENERAL THEME:

"In today's Gospel, Elizabeth says to Mary, "Who am I that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" She tells how the babe (John the Baptist) leaped in her womb as she became filled with the Holy Spirit. Finally Mary remains three months with her kinswoman before returning to her home. This Sunday, so close to Christmas, the Church invites us to focus our attention on Mary, round-wombed because of the God-child. As we say in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin: "Ark of the Covenant, pray for us."

FIRST READING: Micah 5: 1-4a

The prophet Micah, mentioning Bethlehem, also writes of the two attributes of the Messiah: an origin form of old, and the extension of his peaceful rule to the ends of the earth. The most inaccessible places on earth may well be hearts which resist his gift.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

The letter to the Hebrews declares that, in accord with Psalm 40, the one who is to come carries out the divine will. We can reflect upon the entire mystery of Jesus and see that the divine will is complex yet responsive to each of us.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 1: 39-45

We should remember that, following this Gospel of the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, Mary's song, the Magnificat, appears. She sings of the overturning of what could be called " the established order." What established orders have yet to be overturned?

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:00 PM	English
Sunday	7:00 AM	Spanish
	9:00 AM	English
	11:00 AM	English
	1:00 PM	Spanish

DAILY MASS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
and 1st Friday's of the Month 7:00 AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS

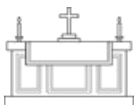
Every Wednesday beginning at 4:30 PM

Sacrament of Penance 4:45 PM to 6:00 PM

Or by Appointment

Vespers & Benediction 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Mass at 6:30 PM



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, December 21

4:00 pm (E): Birthday of Adan Jose Adame
 †Maria Clotilde Blanco
 †Amador Tomas Fernandez
 †Rudy Elizondo
 †Robert J. Garza
 †Mike Garza
 †Israel Garza
 †Jason Edward Gonzalez
 †Sara Gutierrez
 †Janie Reyes
 †Eugene Saenz Jr.
 †Baby Lucia Vasquez
 †Sofia Vasquez

Sunday, December 22

7:00 am (S): Birthday of Don Ramiro Aldape
 Birthday of Irene Aldape
 †Teresa Sanchez
 †Simona Vega
 †Yolanda Zarate

9:00 am (E) †Mary Elizabeth de la Rosa
 †Eva Herrera
 †Severa Herrera
 †Dr. Concesa Milan-Baduel
 †Ben & †Rose Soto
 †Mauro Vasquez Jr.

11:00 am (E) †Carlos Castillo Jr.
 †Angelita de la Cerda
 †Armando Lopez
 †Guadalupe & †Sara Longoria
 †Carmen Alicia Martinez
 †Armando B. & †Graciela Martinez
 †Mariano & †Ana Ruiz

1:00 pm (S): Pro Populo

Monday, December 23

7:00 am

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

7:00 pm †Rosa G. Cantu
 12:00 am †Mike Jr. & †Miguel Gomez
 †James Closner
 †Zachary Closner

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas)

9:00 pm (E) 95 Birthday of Nati Gonzalez
 11:00am (S) †Simona Vega
 †Robert J. Garza
 †Maria R. Martinez

Thursday, December 26

No Mass

Friday, December 27

No Mass

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday, December 23, 2024:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday, December 24, 2024:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday, December 25, 2024:

Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 Jn 1:1-18

Thursday, December 26, 2024:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Mt 10:17-22

Friday, December 27, 2024:

1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday, December 28, 2024:

1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18

Sunday, December 29, 2024: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Upcoming Events



Christmas Eve Mass

Tuesday, Dec. 24th
 6:30 PM — Children's Carols
 7:00 PM — Children's Mass (E)
 11:00 PM — Adult Christmas Carols
 12:00 PM — Misa de Gallo (E)

Christmas Day Mass

(No Adoration, No Confessions)

Wednesday, Dec. 25th
 9:00 AM — Mass (E)
 11:00 AM — Mass (S)

New Year's Mass

(No Adoration, No Confessions)

Wednesday, Jan 1, 2025

Posada Schedule

Posadas will be held from **December 16th-23rd** at 6:00 PM at a parishioner's home or the Parish Hall. Bring a flashlight!

Saturday, December 21 **Martinez Family**

782 E. 17h St. Mercedes, TX/Pete & Sandra Martinez

Sunday, December 22 **Altar Servers**

Parish Hall

Monday, December 23: **Sanchez Family**

7909 Conner Lane Mercedes, TX/ Efren & Lupita Sanchez

Raffle Winners!

Thank you to all those who helped contribute by selling, buying and donating in our Annual Raffle. Congratulations to this year's winners!

Place	Name	Prize	City
1st	Erica Treviño	\$2,000 + 2 Disney Tickets	Mercedes
2nd	Melissa Adame	\$1,000	Mercedes
3rd	Daisy Zuniga	\$1,000	Mercedes
4th	Brandon Acosta	\$500.00	Mercedes
5th	Yolanda Gonzalez	\$500.00	Mercedes
6th	Veronica Stark	\$400.00	Weslaco
7th	Nick Cadena	\$400.00	
8th	Mario Cavazos	\$300.00	Donna
9th	Esteban Resendez	\$300.00	McAllen
10th	Ariana Urbina	\$200.00	Mercedes
11th	Ester Peña	\$200.00	Mercedes
12th	Theo	\$100.00	
13th	Salina Villanueva	\$100.00	Mercedes
14th	Marcos Dominguez	\$100.00	
15th	Elena Rodriguez	\$100.00	Mercedes

Office Will Be Closed

The parish office will be closed **Tuesday, Dec. 24th - Thursday, Dec. 26th** in observance of the Christmas Festivities. Please be sure to stop by the office for any pending inquiries. If you have any questions, please contact the office in a timely manner. Thank you!
 Merry Christmas!

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

December 21-22 2024

In Loving Memory of
 †Dr. Concesa Milan-Baduel

