



“Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Rev. Jean Olivier M. Sambu, Pastor

Emma Soto, Secretary

Amanda Leal, Bookkeeper

Mary Ann Raymond, 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

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Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church-Mercedes, Texas

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
March 23, 2025**

BACKGROUND OF THE LITURGY

GENERAL THEME:

Lent calls us to recognize the divine presence in simple signs, such as fire and water. We continue a personal retreat as we call the people whose lives were forever changed as they came to know the Lord.

This season calls us to repentance. The word means “re-thinking.” If we are dissatisfied with ourselves, we have the opportunity to re-think many things. And our God wishes to help us on this path.

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

We identify with the awkwardness which Moses feels as the Lord, I Am Who I Am, introduces himself and entrusts Moses with a tremendous work of liberation. God moves us, too, out of awkwardness into liberation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

These words of St. Paul help us to connect the journey of the Israelites with our own journey. We may often feel unsettled and insecure. It is precisely in such precarious situations that we learn the stretching of the gift of faith.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:1-9

We can receive news practically every minute, if we so expose ourselves to media. The eighteen people killed by a falling tower make us wonder how news traveled in Jesus’ time. We keep before us the urgent news of repentance.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 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

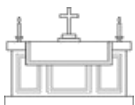
Every Wednesday beginning at 4:30 PM

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, March 22

5:00 pm (E): Birthday of Jeremy Abrego
 †Rosa G. Cantu
 †Rudy Elizondo
 †Mike Garza
 †Robert J. Garza
 †Oralia & †Olivia Gomez
 †Vangie L. Martinez
 †Josefina Solis
 †Sofia Vasquez
 †Baby Lucia Vasquez

Sunday, March 23

7:00 am (S) Pro Populo

9:00 am (E) In Thanksgiving of our Lord Jesus Christ
 Safekeeping of Caleen Gomez
 Health of Engr. Danilo Balcos
 †Mary Elizabeth de la Rosa
 †Manuel B. Gomez
 †Ben & †Rose Soto
 †Mauro Vasquez Jr.
 †Narciso "Robert" Vela

11:00 am (E) In Honor of our Blessed Mother
 Health of Susie Ruiz
 †Guadalupe & †Sara Longoria
 †Armando B. & †Graciela Martinez
 †Carmen Alicia Martinez
 †Mariano & †Ana Ruiz

1:00 pm (S): Birthday of Stacy Esparza
 †Manuel Guerra

Monday, March 24

7:00 am †Sister Joan Elise Rodriguez

Tuesday, March 25

7:00 am †Mary Ann Del Toro
 †Horacio Pequeño
 †Simona Vega

Wednesday, March 26

6:30 pm

Thursday, March 27

7:00 am †Jason Edward Gonzales

Friday, March 28

No Mass

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday, March 24, 2025:

2 Kings 5:1-15ab Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday, March 25, 2025: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10 Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11

Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday, March 26, 2025:

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9 Psalm 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, March 27, 2025:

Jeremiah 7:23-28 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Luke 11:14-23

Friday, March 28, 2025:

Hosea 14:2-10 Psalm 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 Mark 12:28-34

Saturday, March 29, 2025:

Hosea 6:1-6 Psalm 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, March 30, 2025: Fourth Sunday of Lent

CCE Reminders!

- ◆ Baptism and Confirmation Students: Sponsor Forms are due by **Wed. April 2nd**
- ◆ Confirmation Class: Retreat Fee of \$150 is due by **Fri. April 25th**

No Confessions

There will be No Confessions this week.

There will be Exposition, Adoration, Vespers & Benediction as normal, followed by a Communion Service.



BBQ Chicken Plate Fundraiser

Our BBQ Chicken Plate Fundraiser is happening:

Sunday, April 6, 2025

From 11:00am-2:30pm

In the Parish Hall

Tickets are at **\$12 each**

Help us sell the tickets you have signed out.

Please turn in ticket money for a final count by,

Friday, March 28th.

If you would like to help contribute, we are still in need of monetary donations. You may sign up on the donations list. For any question please call the Parish Office.

Upcoming Lenten Events

Community Stations of the Cross Schedule

Every **Friday** of Lent, Starting at **6:30 PM**

March 28 — Pre-Confirmation Class

April 4 — CCE Middle School (Tuesday Classes)

April 11 — Catholic Daughters

April 18 — Good Friday/Passion Play by: Confirmation
 ~ ~ ~ Class

Wednesday, April 9th — Community Confessions
6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

2025 Mid-Valley Lenten Confessions Schedule

- ✘ Wednesday, March 26th - 6:30pm @ St. Therese - Edcouch
- ✘ Wednesday, April 2nd - 6:30pm @ Sacred Heart - Elsa
- ✘ Wednesday, April 9th - 6:30pm @ O.L. of Mercy - Mercedes
- ✘ Thursday, April 10th - 6:30pm @ St. Joan of Arc - Weslaco

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

March 22-23, 2025

*No Altar Flowers
 During Lenten Season*

