



“Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.”

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Rev. Jean Olivier M. Sambu, Pastor

Rev. Deacon Gilberto Guardiola Jr.

Emma Soto, Secretary

Amanda Leal, Bookkeeper

Mary Ann Raymond, 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT March 8, 2026

BACKGROUND OF THE LITURGY

GENERAL THEME:

This Sunday, along with the next two Sundays of Lent, make up a pivotal time for those seeking Christian initiation at Easter. We pray for these people, and we recognize our own need to renounce sin and accept the salvation we have received through the waters of baptism.

The Samaritan woman of the fourth chapter of John's Gospel obviously had a confused, unsettled life. We know that, so many, many times, we are bringing to our God our own confusion. We trust in divine healing.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:3-7

If we lack a reliable supply of water, we are without a resource which is absolutely essential for life. The Israelites were deeply angry with Moses. The Lord empowered Moses to find water.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” This fundamental teaching of Saint Paul gives us great comfort. We can lay to rest our anxieties about whether we are “good enough” for God. Jesus has taken the initiative toward us.

GOSPEL READING: John 4:5-42

Jesus, talking with the woman at Jacob's well, speaks of himself as living water: pure, flowing water to quench our every thirst. The daily trip to the well, and the hauling of water, can be abandoned if the water of life springs up from within us.

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

Every Wednesday beginning at 4:30 PM

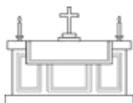
NEW CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE!

Every other Wednesday at 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, February 7

4:00 pm (E): †Timothy Carpenter
 †Maria Elvira Champion Wallace
 †Rudy Elizondo
 †Mike Garza
 †Robert J. Garza
 †Israel Garza
 †Frances Gomez
 †Olivia Gomez
 †Diego & †Simona Guerrero
 †Vangie L. Martinez
 †Juanita Reyes
 †Rigoberto Salinas
 †Robert & †Juanita Wisner

Sunday, March 8

7:00 am (S) Health of Roberto Cantu
 Health of Jose Angel Galindo
 Health of Aracelia Torres
 †Leonel Garcia
 †Antonio & †Carmen Longoria
 †George Longoria
 †Victor Murillo

9:00 am (E) †Mary Elizabeth de la Rosa
 †Elva Martinez
 †Ben & †Rose Soto
 †Maria de Jesus Torres
 †Mauro Vasquez Jr.

11:00 am (E) Pro Populo

1:00 pm (S): Birthday of Anita Castañeda
 Birthday of Yolanda Garcia
 Birthday of Amanda Leal
 Birthday of Adriana Leal
 †Alberto Cano Jr.
 †Juan Rodolfo Leal

Monday, March 9

7:00 am **Communion Service**
 Birthday of Jeralynn Rachelle Cantu
 †Maria de Jesus Torres

Tuesday, March 10 **Communion Service**

7:00 am

Wednesday, March 11 **Communion Service/No Confessions**

6:30 pm †Robert J. Garza
 †Israel Garza
 †Juanita Reyes
 †Gloria Ramirez McVey

Thursday, March 12

7:00 am **Communion Service**

†Ruben de la Rosa

Friday, March 13

No Mass

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday, March 9, 2026:

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

Tuesday, March 10, 2026:

Daniel 3:25, 34-43 Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 11, 2026:

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

Thursday, March 12, 2026:

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

Friday, March 13, 2026:

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

Saturday, March 14, 2026:

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

Sunday, March 15, 2025: **Fourth Sunday of Lent**



Religious Education

CCE Announcements

- **For students that are Catechumens:** Parent meeting on **Thursday, March 12th at 6:30pm in the School Building.**
- **No Classes** the week of: **March 16-18**
- **Confirmation Students:** Confessions before Confirmation-**March 23 @ 6:00pm**
 Confessions & Rehearsal-**March 24 @5:30pm** (Rehearsal after confessions)

Daylight Savings Time Change

Starting Saturday, March 14th

Saturday Mass
 Schedule changes to

5:00 PM



SPRING FORWARD

Stations of the Cross Schedule

Fridays in Lent starting at 6:30pm

March 13 —CDA/JCDA

March 20 —KC/Bible Study

March 27 —Men's & Women's ACTS

**No Confessions,
 until further notice.**



ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

March 7-8, 2026

*No Altar Flowers
 During Lenten Season*



NOW ENROLLING
PRE-K3 TO GRADE 5
2026 - 2027



We Proudly Accept

EducationFreedom.Texas.Gov

MORE INFO

Why San Martin de Porres?

- **Small Class Sizes:** 16:1 Student-Teacher Ratio.
- **Holistic Growth:** Focused on faith, service, and academic excellence.
- **Nurturing Environment:** Developing talents in the love and service of God.



Register Now

 (956) 973-8642
 ortega@cdoobs.org

Little Lions Learning Center

Celebrating 10 Years of Faith, Family, and Excellence in Early Education

2016 - 2026

Our Mission: We provide a values-driven education steeped in Christian principles. We foster a family-oriented atmosphere that promotes respect and dignity for every child in our care.

18 MONTHS ~ 3 year old

The Little Lions Difference

- ✓ Christ-Centered Learning: Daily activities that emphasize Christian values and character building.
- ✓ Parent Partnership: Stay connected with daily updates and an open-door, family-oriented feel.
- ✓ Secure & Nurturing Environment: A safe space designed for the unique needs of 18-month to 3-year-olds.
- ✓ Texas Rising Star Quality: Certified excellence in curriculum and teacher-child interactions.

Investment & Excellence

- ✓ Affordable Tuition
- ✓ Private Pay
- ✓ Texas Workforce Commission CCS Vendor
- ✓ Texas Rising Star Certified

Limited Seats Available

REGISTER NOW!
956-973-8642

San Martin de Porres Church & School
 905 N. Texas Blvd Weslaco, TX 78596

Operational Hours (Mon - Fri)
 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

CATHOLIC YOUTH ON A MISSION

Faith. Friends. Purpose.

Join us the 2nd & 4th TUESDAY @ 6:45 PM
 Our Lady of Mercy
 322 S. Vermont, Mercedes, TX | At Chapel

Come grow in your faith, build lasting friendships, and discover your mission in Christ!

"TO ALWAYS BE CLOSE TO JESUS, THAT'S MY LIFE PLAN."
 SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Ashley Gonzalez (956) 376-9554 | Oscar Cantu (956) 246-1592

SPONSORED BY THE SISTERS OF JOY

5TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S RENEW CONFERENCE
 APRIL 10 & APRIL 11

COME, HOLY SPIRIT, LET THE FIRE FALL

There is a moment in every woman's life when she senses a holy stirring — a whisper that there is more, a nudge that God is calling her deeper, higher, and closer. This is that moment. This is that invitation.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
 Before March 20

\$60 Per Person
 \$50 High School Student
 \$540 Group Rate for 10

CONFERENCE FEE
 After March 20

\$70 Per Person
 \$60 High School Student
 NO GROUP RATE

Registration fee includes dinner, breakfast and lunch.

SPEAKERS

TAMMI MCCARTHY
 WHISPERS OF LOVE AND FAITH
 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ELISE ARELLANO
 INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

TRADUCCION EN ESPANOL DISPONIBLE PARA ALGUNAS SESIONES.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

STARTS APRIL 10 WITH 6 PM MASS

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
 216 W FIRST ST., SAN JUAN, TX 78589

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
 womensrenewconference.org

CONTACT US
 956-586-0318

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MARRIAGES AT OLM



Marriage Preparation

1. **The Couple** must notify the church of their plans to marry one year before the tentative wedding date.
2. The bride or the groom must be active members of Our Lady of Mercy or live within the boundaries.

Required Document: Certificate of Baptism

A recent (no more than six months old) baptismal certificate with proper notations from both the bride and the groom must be requested from the church where they were baptized. Original certificate or photocopies are not accepted. A wedding cannot take place until a recent copy of the baptism certificate has been provided.

Please call the office for an initial marriage-prep meeting with the Deacon.

Quinceañera Celebration Requirements at OLM

1. The **parents** must be registered parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy or live within the boundaries.
2. The candidate must be Baptized in the Catholic faith and have made her/his First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Communion before preparing for a quince años celebration.
3. The candidate must be enrolled in our Religious Education Program and be in preparation for Confirmation.
4. If requirements are fulfilled and in order to schedule a date for the celebration, please call the office with at least six months to one year in anticipation, and schedule an appointment with the Deacon, where one parent and the child should be present.



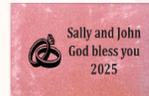
A 2nd order of personalized commemorative bricks is open.
Turn in filled forms and payments to the parish office.

Leave a lasting legacy and support our church's mission by engraving a brick. God bless you.

4" x 8" Charcoal Brick



4" x 8" Red Brick



Pricing

Brick Size 4" x 8" \$100

Brick Size 8" x 8" \$250

Wood Replica 4" x 4" \$12

8" x 8" Charcoal Brick



8" x 8" Red Brick



4" x 4" Wood Replica



Order forms can be picked up at the parish office or downloaded from parish website and payment is required at time of order form submission.

Stay connected and informed for announcements, special Mass times, and events happening in our parish.



Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church-
Mercedes, Texas