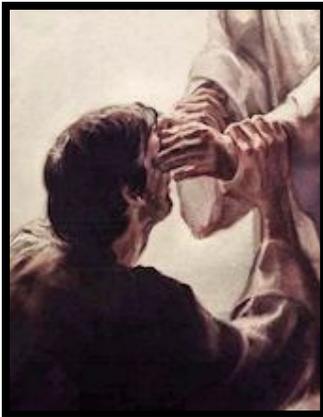


“I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.”



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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 15, 2026**

BACKGROUND OF THE LITURGY

GENERAL THEME:

The elect continue to prepare for baptism at Easter. God's word, for them and us, is that coming into God's presence is entering into light when we had been in darkness. We are grateful for the gift of enlightenment.

Very often, we feel as if we have seen the truth of some situation. We may, however, fail to be aware of factors which would cause us to “see” differently. We pray that we will not be quick to rush to judgement.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Samuel, the transitional figure between the judges and the kingship, thought he had found a new king. He was mistaken, however. His inquiry finally led him to anoint David, Jesse's youngest son.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

We know what a great difference there is between light and darkness. Our eyes cannot function without light. God reveals himself to us, and his revelation is light by which we can find our way.

GOSPEL READING: John 9:1-41

What if something very good happened, and many people responded by being suspicious of the happening? We find such a case in this incident of Jesus' giving sight to a man born blind.

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

Every Wednesday beginning at 4:30 PM

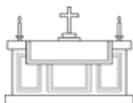
NEW CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE!

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 14

5:00 pm (E):
 Birthday of Jimmy Ambi
 †Pedro Cantu Chacon
 †Timothy Carpenter
 †Maria Elvira Champion Wallace
 †Rudy Elizondo
 †Mike Garza
 †Robert J. Garza
 †Israel Garza
 †Mike & †Frances Gomez
 †Vangie L. Martinez
 †Juanita Reyes
 †Ninfa Salinas
 †Sofia Vasquez
 †Baby Lucia Vasquez
 †John Craig Wallace Jr.

Sunday, March 15

7:00 am (S)
 Birthday of Jose Salazar
 Health of Aracelia Torres
 †Maria Rosa Gonzalez
 †Carmen Hernandez
 †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)
 Birthday of Teo Dominguez
 †Carlos Castillo Jr.
 †Nick Gracia
 †Elvira Gracia
 †Delia Hinojosa
 †Guadalupe & †Sara Longoria
 †Manuel & †Martina Loya
 †Armando B. & †Graciela Martinez
 †Carmen Alicia Martinez
 †Mariano & †Ana Ruiz
 †Susie Ruiz

1:00 pm (S): Pro Populo

Monday, March 16

Communion Service

7:00 am Birthday of Fernando Cosme Jr.

Tuesday, March 17

7:00 am †Juan Carlos Soto Jr.

Wednesday, March 18

6:30 pm

Thursday, March 19

7:00 am
 Birthday Jeremy Abrego
 Birthday of Joseph Baduel
 †Josefina Solis

Friday, March 20

No Mass

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday, March 16, 2026:

Isaiah 65:17-21 Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b John 4:43-54

Tuesday, March 17, 2026:

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 John 5:1-16

Wednesday, March 18, 2026:

Isaiah 49:8-15 Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 John 5:17-30

Thursday, March 19, 2026: Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29

Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Friday, March 20, 2026:

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22 Psalm 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, March 21, 2026:

Jeremiah 11:18-20 Psalm 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 John 7:40-53

Sunday, March 22, 2025: Fifth Sunday of Lent



Religious Education

CCE Announcements

- **No Classes** this week: **March 16-18**
- **Classes resume:** **March 23-25**
- **Confirmation Students:** Confessions before Confirmation-**March 23 @ 6:00pm**
Confessions & Rehearsal-**March 24**

@5:30pm

(Rehearsal after confessions. At least one sponsor is required to attend the rehearsal.)

Please follow Dress Code.

If you have any questions, please call the office.

Stations of the Cross Schedule

Fridays in Lent starting at 6:30pm

March 20 —KC/Bible Study

March 27 —Men's & Women's

ACTS

April 3—Passion Play @ 3:00pm

Mass Intentions Book Open

Mass Book for April, May and June is now open. Call or come by the office to schedule your Mass Intentions on time.



ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

March 14-15, 2026

*No Altar Flowers
During Lenten Season*



Love Builds Hope

News & Updates



The Love Builds Hope Update: Commitment Weekend is around the corner!

Next weekend we will host Commitment Weekend, where we will ask all families attending Mass to participate by filling out an in-pew pledge card. If you haven't pledged, this will be a great opportunity to make your commitment. A major fundraising effort like this must be shouldered by all Catholics in our diocese. Join us and help drive our *Love Builds Hope* campaign to success!

You can learn more about the campaign or pledge online at: www.lovebuildshope.org/campaign

La campaña *El Amor Crea Esperanza*: ¡El próximo fin de semana concluimos la campaña!

Invitaremos a todas las familias que asisten a Misa a participar llenando una tarjeta de promesa que estará disponible en las bancas. Si aún no ha hecho su promesa, esta será una excelente oportunidad. Una campaña de recaudación de fondos tan importante como esta necesita el apoyo de todos los católicos de nuestra diócesis. ¡Únase a nosotros y ayude a que nuestra campaña *El Amor Crea Esperanza* sea un éxito!

Para más información sobre la campaña o para hacer su promesa en línea, visite:

www.lovebuildshope.org/campaign.

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.

SPEAKERS



TAMMI MCCARTHY
WHISPERS OF LOVE
AND FAITH
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



ELISE ARELLANO
INSPIRATIONAL
SPEAKER

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.

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

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

322 S. Vermont Ave. (P.O. Box 805) Mercedes, TX 78570 | (956) 565-1141

olm@cdob.org | www.olmmercedes.org



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.



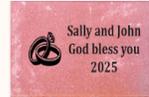
A 2nd order of personalized commemorative bricks is open.
Turn in filled forms and payments to the parish office.

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

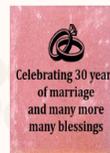
Brick Size 8" x 8" \$250

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