



# MERCY ALIVE

DECEMBER 24, 2023  
THE NATIVITY  
OF THE LORD  
VOL. 46 NO. 52



Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will  
save us,  
and in the morning you will see his glory.

- ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

# THIS WEEK

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 23

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
4:00 pm ....Vigil Mass

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

7:00 am.....Mass  
9:00 am.....Mass  
4:00 pm.....Christmas Vigil-*Church & PAC*  
6:00 pm.....Christmas Vigil  
8:00 pm.....Christmas Vigil

## MONDAY DECEMBER 25

12:00 am ....Christmas Midnight Mass  
7:00 am ....Christmas Mass  
10:30 am ....Christmas Mass  
12:00 pm ....Christmas Mass

## TUESDAY DECEMBER 26

8:30 am ....Rosary Makers-*Coffee Shop*  
12:00 pm.....Daily Mass  
6:00 pm.....Daily Mass  
7:00 pm ....Charismatic Prayer-*St. Gabriel*

## WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 27

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
12:00 pm ....Daily Mass  
7:00 pm.....Choir Practice

## THURSDAY DECEMBER 28

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
12:00 pm ....Daily Mass  
6:30 pm ....High School Bible Study - *JPII House*

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 29

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
9:30 am ....Moms and Tots  
12:00 pm ....Daily Mass

## Sunday Nursery

The Sunday Nursery will be closed on December 24th & 31st.

## Prayer LINE

For Prayer Line requests, contact:  
Ms. Genie Ogden: (225) 293-2367 or  
Ms. Carroll Benedetto at [wlb14@aol.com](mailto:wlb14@aol.com)

## On the Cover

*The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. - Luke 2.10*

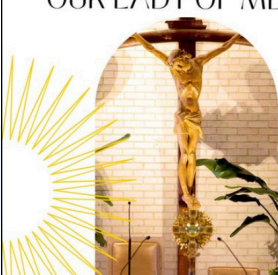
## Chancel Choir Christmas Concert

Come join the Our Lady of Mercy Chancel Choir for a Christmas concert prior to midnight Mass. Featuring a magnificent brass quartet, wonderful solos, and of course, our beautiful choir, help us ring in the Christmas season! The concert begins in the church at 11:15 pm on December 24. We hope to see many of you there!"

## Campus Safety

Please do not leave your purse or any valuables visible on the seats or floor of your car. Place all of your valuables in the trunk of your vehicle in order to avoid anyone who might be tempted to do something the Lord would not want them to do. It is recommended that you do not give cash to anyone soliciting money. This only encourages repeat behavior and is somewhat fearful to those in the Adoration Chapel and the elderly. If you want to support the needy, then give to the St. Vincent de Paul Society where your generosity will surely help the poor and hungry.

OUR LADY OF MERCY



FAMILY  
HOLY HOUR

A time of prayer, praise and worship music, and Eucharistic Adoration for the whole family.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS 6-7PM IN THE CHURCH

# CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

*“For behold, the virgin shall be  
with child, and bear a son,  
and shall name him  
Emmanuel.”*

*-Isaiah 7.14*

## **CHRISTMAS EVE**

Sunday, December 24th

4:00 pm (Church & PAC)

6:00 pm

8:00 pm

Chancel Choir Concert -11:15 pm

12:00 Midnight

## **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Monday, December 25th

7:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 Noon

**There is not a more beautiful place to be  
than at Our Lady of Mercy at Christmas!**



## PARISH LIFE

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERCY BEARS ON WINNING THE FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!

CHS SENIORS (MERCY CLASS OF 2022): BROOKS WRIGHT, DANIEL BEALE, BRADLEY WRIGHT, IAN MARCIN, BROOKS ALLEN AND AIDEN ACOSTA.



## Catholics in Recovery

Starting January 8th

When: Each Monday  
at 12 noon

Where: St. Gabriel  
Room at the Parish  
Activity Center

Who: Men who are  
seeking a Catholic  
approach for dealing  
with real-life struggles.

For more information visit  
[www.olomchurch.com](http://www.olomchurch.com)  
or call 225-926-1883



# THE SEASON OF GIVING



In this Holy Season of the Savior's birth, I cannot think of a more beautiful and holy place to worship our Lord Jesus Christ than here at Our Lady of Mercy. Our parish provides tremendous opportunities to celebrate the Sacraments of Holy Mass and Confession.

Our strong witness to the power of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel, and our commitment to St. Vincent de Paul and our outreach to the poor and needy, truly are a bright light in a world that can seem very dark.

Our Lady of Mercy functions not only as a vibrant and active church family but also as a shrine for the City of Baton Rouge and our Diocese.

The doors of Mercy are open to everyone. That is why one of the best charities that you can support during the Christmas Season with your end of the year financial giving, is our own parish. So many people are affected in a good and positive way when you support your church family. If you love the legacy of Mercy and want to continue the light of Christ shining so brightly, I encourage your continued faithful giving in this season of offering our generous heart to God.

God Bless Mercy's faithful families and may the Light of Christ shine more brightly through us.

Happy Advent!

Fr. Cleo

## PARISH LIFE

# CATECHISM CORNER



## CHURCH TEACHING REGARDING SUNDAY OBLIGATION AND CHRISTMAS EVE

*Please note that Christmas Eve, December 24th, is a Sunday this year. The Catholic Church reminds you that the Sunday Mass Obligation remains in effect. You can fulfill your Sunday obligation at these Masses:*

**Saturday, December 23rd at 4pm**  
**Sunday, December 24th at 7am**  
**and 9am**

You can fulfill your Christmas obligation at these masses:

**Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th at 4pm, 6pm, and 8pm**  
**Christmas Day Monday, December 25th at 12 Midnight Mass, 7am, 10:30am, and 12 noon**

# SAVE THE DATE FOR MERCY MARRIAGE DAY

**FEBRUARY 4TH!  
WORLD  
MARRIAGE DAY,  
CELEBRATING  
MILESTONES IN  
MARRIAGES.  
IF YOU ARE  
CELEBRATING  
ANNIVERSARIES 25,  
30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55,  
60 OR MORE YEARS IN  
2024,  
MORE  
INFORMATION TO  
COME!**



# NEW YEARS WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,  
& Joseph**

Saturday, December 30th

4:00 pm - Vigil

Sunday, December 31st

7:00 am

9:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 noon pm

6:00 pm

## **NEW YEARS DAY**

Monday, January 1st

**Feast of Mary Mother of God**

8:00 am

12:00 Noon

**Because New Years falls on  
a Monday it is not a Holy Day  
of Obligation.**



# DIOCESE OF BATON ROUGE



## 2024 REGISTRATION FORM:

### 2024 – Wedding Anniversaries Celebration Celebrating the 25<sup>TH</sup>, 50<sup>TH</sup>, & 65<sup>th</sup>, & those over 65 years

Sunday, March 3, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

at Most Blessed Sacrament, 15615 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70817

Bishop Michael Duca, Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge will celebrate a liturgy honoring couples on their 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 65<sup>th</sup> or greater, wedding anniversary. Families of the honored couples are also invited to attend the liturgy & reception. (The reception will be in the New Parish Hall). **Parishes: Please gather and send completed forms to us as you collect them.** Sending once a week is helpful. Please do not wait until the Deadline February 1<sup>st</sup> to send all at once. This step is necessary to have certificates printed and ready on time for attending celebrating couples. You may Reproduce as needed. And please ONLY use THIS form to collect information from couples who plan to attend the celebration! Then scan & e-mail completed forms to our office. **Please Use one full sheet for each couple registering; and please do not shrink copies or cut in half!**

#### **Email or Mail in Completed form(s) to:**

- Via E-mail:** Send to [mgernon@diobr.org](mailto:mgernon@diobr.org) Subject: 2024 Wedding Anniversary  
If you are sending multiple registrations within one file in the same e-mail, please list the Couples' names in the body of your e-mail! Call Mila at 225-242-0323 or 242-0133, if you have any questions. Thank you!
- By US mail:** Please address envelope to:  
2024 Wedding Anniversary Celebration, Attention: Mila Gernon  
Diocese of Baton Rouge / Office of Marriage & Family Life  
P.O. Box 2028, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

For questions, contact Mila Gernon at 225-242-0323/225-242-0133 or email [mgernon@diobr.org](mailto:mgernon@diobr.org)  
(Couples should bring a camera (or cellphone) if they wish a picture taken with the Bishop at the Reception).

**Due to limited resources, we will be creating certificates for only those who will be celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, or 65<sup>ph</sup>. & those over 65 yrs. Anniversaries during 2024, & who plan to attend the Anniversary Mass.** (If there is a couple celebrating one of these years & is unable to attend due to health reasons, we will honor that couple with a certificate & send via US mail). Please note this request on the form of that couple, or in your e-mail. Thank you!

<b>Cpl. PLANS TO ATTEND</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Plz. Check</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**\*PLEASE FILL IN ALL BLANKS\***

<b># of Family members attending</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Important: PLEASE PRINT or WRITE LEGIBLY!**

**\*\*\*Use one of the formats listed below, for how NAMES ARE TO APPEAR ON CERTIFICATE \*\*\***

*Examples: Mary & John Jones; or Mary Brown and John Jones; or Mr. and Mrs. John Jones or Mr. and Mrs. John (Mary) Jones*

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**(NO. OF YRS MARRIED TO BE FILLED IN BY COUPLE OR PARISH) CIRCLE ONE: 25 50 65 (if Over 65 # \_\_\_\_\_ yrs).**

**Current Church Parish & Ph.#** \_\_\_\_\_

12/4/2023



**PARISH LIFE**

 **OUR LADY of MERCY** **Married Couples Retreat**

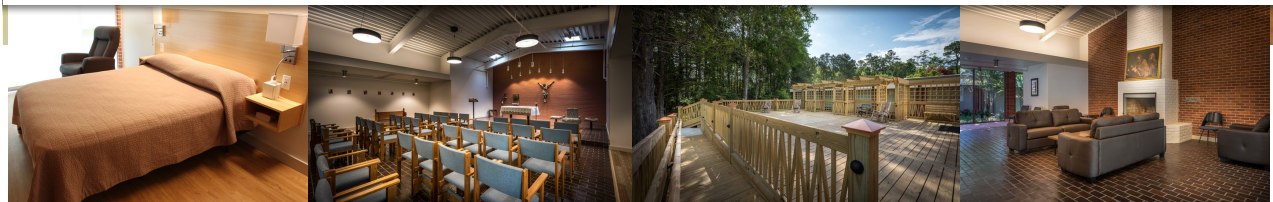
*March 9-10*

**Attention Couples:**

Would you like to spend quality time enriching your marriage?

Join us on our Parish married couples retreat at the beautiful St Joseph Abbey in Covington!

*Growing Together in Faith & Love*



Register at [FaithandMarriage.org](http://FaithandMarriage.org)

## IN REMEMBRANCE

### Mass Intentions

#### DECEMBER 30, SATURDAY

8:00 am ..... James Chenevert  
4:00 pm ..... John Milton Fruge, Todd Fruge and Moreau Family / Ellie Sances / Aimee Planchard / Clyde and Violet David / Francis Xavier Le / Brenda Fremin / Bill Auten / Nancy Valluzzo / The Patriarco Family / Mary Nunez / Peggy Werner / Raoul Robert / Ann Thibodeaux / Bennett Long / Richard Walsh / Debby Wilde / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** Charlie Valluzzo / The Patriarco Family / All Priests

#### DECEMBER 31, SUNDAY

7:00 am..... Kyle Cassano / Fr. Mark Beard / Adrienne Pierce  
9:00 am..... Paul Catalanatto / John McKay / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** The LaHaye and Pfefferle Families  
10:30 am... Charles Bourgeois / Jill Barfield Hamilton, Tommy Barfield and Family / Vito Impastato / John Romero / Barbara Rigby and Monette Dobard / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** Joann Impastato / Kirsten Clebert  
12:00 pm... Mollie Barbara Helm / Reynolds Bromley / Raoul William Robert  
6:00 pm ..... Ron Truxillo

#### JANUARY 1, MONDAY

8:00 am ..... Shirley & Joseph Zito / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** The Steele and Billeaud Families  
12:00 pm... Mollie Helm / Tommy Barfield

#### JANUARY 2, TUESDAY

12:00 pm... Benny Wood / Jean Beth Lockett Lasserre  
6:00 pm ..... Francis Xavier Le / The Ballard, Chambers and McCay families / Elaine and Robert "Bob" Thomas / Aimee Planchard and Peggy Rylee / Mary Rose Planchard / Irwin P. Wilbert / Bernice Healy / Fred Gowdy / Vito Impastato / Mollie Helm / Nicholas Cascio / Shelly Maggio / Jim Hebert / Sylvia Shore / Barbara Vignes / Mary Ngo / Mary Nguyen / Mary Pham / The poor souls in purgatory / **SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** Pietra Brocato & Family / JoAnn Impastato / Paula Cascio / Natia and Joseph Trapani / Joseph Nguyen / Julie Family / Christopher Nguyen / Cuong Nguyen / Warren Grand

#### JANUARY 3, WEDNESDAY

8:00 am ..... Audrey & Joe LeBlanc / Sandy Roppolo  
12:00 pm... Myrle Hebert Ostergren / Special intentions: DeLage and LeJeune Families

#### JANUARY 4, THURSDAY

8:00 am ..... Peter Perniciaro / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** Sheila and Sonny Gomez  
12:00 pm... Grey Hammett / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** Giocomo Billeaud

#### JANUARY 5, FRIDAY

8:00 am ..... Calvin, Georgia and Curran Oubre, Wynona & Joe Lindsly, Hiram and Ellen May / Francis Xavier Le  
12:00 pm... Mollie Poirson / Shirley & Joseph Zito / Brown, Eiswirth, Schmitt, and Clark Families / Hilario Patolilic / J. Louis & Virginia Tonore, Sr. / Bert & Marie Carbo, Sr. / Anthony J. Zito / George Mervin Simon, Rosa Simon & Danny Simon / Selden and Grace Tibbetts / Charles and Bernice Healy / Reynolds Bromley / Hallie Pfefferle / John McKay / Nhan Ngo Bonano East / Percival and Dan LeBlanc / Libby and Bill Doran / Edwin A. Graves / Emery Bares / Nancy Lato / Lato & Rispone Families / Fr. Mark Beard / Shelly Maggio / Mary Ngo / Mary Nguyen / Mary Pham / The poor souls in purgatory / **SPECIAL INTENTION:** Jane Arason / Pietra Brocato & Family / Loucille Lato / Leonard & Dianne Pizzalato / Charlie & Gerri Penn / Lato & Rispone Families / Fr. Cleo Milano / The Children of Shelly Maggio

### Sanctuary Light Memorials

The sanctuary light in the church  
burns this week in loving memory of  
**Will Steele**

The sanctuary light in the Adoration Chapel  
burns this week in loving memory of  
**Alex Spano**

### In Sympathy to the Families of:

- **Dr. Lida Kiamco Mendoza**
- **Jim Hebert**
- **Darryl Cazes**
- **Mary Ann Fasullo**
- **Joseph Patrick Terrell**
- **Michael Daigle**
- **Shelly Maggio**
- **Palmira Autrey**

## PARISH LIFE



### THE ART OF CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE: BUILDING A HOLY HOME

**Join us for this free half-day workshop as we enter into the mystery of Nazareth. Encounter practical ways to transform your house into a holy home, sacred ground, a place to profoundly encounter God, a place of joyful service and loving sacrifice, a refuge and respite in the chaos of the world.**

St. John Paul II saw that living a moral Christian family life in the current culture would take a heroic effort. He wrote, "The future of the world, and the Church, pass by way of the family." At Paradisus Dei, we have come to see that he did not just mean families in general, but **your** family, **my** family.

The Holy Father called Christian families to model their life on that of the Holy Family at Nazareth. Now more than ever, we need to learn the wisdom and art of authentic Catholic family life to navigate the challenges of the culture. Join us!

**Couples of All Ages:**

**REGISTER FOR FREE TODAY!**

<https://paradisusdei.ticketleap.com/br/>



**MASS WILL BE  
CELEBRATED AT  
8:00 AM**

**Our Lady of Mercy  
445 Marquette Avenue,  
Baton Rouge, LA, 70806**

**Saturday  
Date January 27  
7:30 AM - 12:45 pm  
Parish Activity Center**

**Childcare Available**

**MISSIONARIES  
TO THE FAMILY**

AN INITIATIVE TO REVITALIZE THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

[paradisusdei.org](http://paradisusdei.org)

Called to Worship

# MASS SCHEDULE & TIMES

## WEEKDAYS

MASS TIMES:

M, W, Th, & F: 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Tues: 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

RECONCILIATION:

M - F: 45 minutes prior to Mass

## SATURDAY

MASS TIME: 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION: 3:00 - 3:45 pm

VIGIL: 4:00 pm

## SUNDAY

MASS TIMES: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,  
12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

NURSERY: 9:00 am & 10:30 am (PAC)

PRE-SCHOOL

BIBLE CLASS: 9:00 am & 10:30 am (PAC)

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY RADIO

1380 AM - WPYR

Listen daily at noon and  
10:30 am on Sunday for  
Mercy's Mass live broadcast

### Weekend of December 30th & December 31st

4:00 pm*	7:00 am*	9:00 am	10:30 am	12:00 pm	6:00 pm
Fr. Milano	Fr. Charbel	Fr. Milano	Fr. Milano	Fr. Charbel	Fr. Charbel
Extraordinary Ministers					
J Stalls M Downing L Dawkins D Pirello A August B Rigby	A Wilson P Samrow S Armond E White	D Deshotels D Maggio S Maggio P Tullier Deacon Duplantis M Vincent	F Titus J Smith F Borghardt J Harrison M Taylor Deacon Duplantis Deacon Grant	Deacon Grant B Bargas M Kimble K Kimble	L Hopkins C Steele K Walker E Pavlovich
Lectors					
B Clay N Krzystowczyk	S Darenbourg B Babin J Gardemal	S Hingle H Landry	T Grant T Heitman	A Bargas K Kimble	E Pavlovich S Cunningham
Altar Servers					
J Millet (C) B Bruton M Clay	G Samrow (C)	P Tullier (C) C Raemsch P Trahan	F Titus (C) K Allen H Arabia	M Kimble (C) L Christofferson G Dillon	K Walker (C) B Bailey R Guillot

The complete Ministry Schedule is published on our website at [www.olomchurch.com](http://www.olomchurch.com).

Called to serve? Contact Deacon Grant to volunteer for liturgical ministry.

\*These liturgies are celebrated without incense.

The Sunday 10:30 am Holy Mass can be found on WBRZ+; [olomchurch.com](http://olomchurch.com); and [youtube.com/olombr](http://youtube.com/olombr).

# WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

## Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

445 Marquette Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Phone: (225) 926-1883  
Fax: (225) 923-0448  
contact@olomchurch.com  
olomchurch.com

PASTOR.....Father Cleo Milano  
VICAR.....Father Charbel Jamhoury  
PERMANENT DEACON.....Deacon Kirk Duplantis  
PERMANENT DEACON.....Deacon Richard Grant  
ADMINISTRATION.....Mr. Frank Ardoin  
PRINCIPAL.....Ms. Allyson LaBorde

### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY.....8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
FRIDAY.....8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Priests gladly see people by appointment.

## Parish Activity Center

444 Marquette Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 928-6216

## Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School

400 Marquette Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Phone: (225) 924-1054  
Fax: (225) 923-2201  
olomschool.org

## Communications

Ms. Madison Graham  
madison.graham@olomchurch.com



## Glorify the Lord by your life

MEMBERSHIP.....Ms. Lori Mouton  
BAPTISM.....Deacon Richard Grant  
FIRST COMMUNION/PSR.....Ms. Tori LaBelle  
RCIA.....Deacon Kirk Duplantis  
CONFIRMATION.....Ms. Michaelyn McGinnis  
WEDDING.....Ms. Alison Nodier  
FUNERAL.....Ms. Michelle Schroeder  
FACILITIES.....Ms. Michelle Schroeder  
FINANCE & GIFTS.....Ms. Lauren Ritchey

*To view complete staff list, visit [olomchurch.com](http://olomchurch.com).*

## The Envelope Please...

Just a small reminder that if you are watching Holy Mass online or WBRZ+ your Church family still very much needs your support envelope. Please check out our online giving on the church website: [olomchurch.com](http://olomchurch.com) or call the Church Office.

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church and School in your last will and testament.