



# MERCY ALIVE

DECEMBER 22, 2024  
IV SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
VOL. 47 NO. 51



Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a savior.

- ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

## THIS WEEK

### SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

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

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 22

7:00 am.....Mass  
9:00 am.....Mass  
10:30 am.....Mass  
12:00 pm.....Mass  
6:00 pm.....Mass  
7:00 pm.....High School Youth Group

### MONDAY DECEMBER 23

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
12:00 pm ....Daily Mass  
12:00 pm.....Catholic in Recovery -*St. Gabriel*  
6:00 pm ....KC Business Meeting- *St. Joseph*  
7:00 pm ....SVDP Meeting- *St. Jerome*

### TUESDAY DECEMBER 24

4:00 pm.....Christmas Vigil -*Church & PAC*  
6:00 pm.....Christmas Vigil  
8:00 pm ....Christmas Vigil

### WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 25

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

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 26

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

### FRIDAY DECEMBER 27

8:00 am ....Daily Mass  
12:00 pm ....Daily Mass

## Sunday Nursery

The Sunday Nursery will be closed on December 29th.

## 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

OLOM School 3rd grader, Patrick Clay pictured with his grandmother Lisa Catalanatto and St. Nicholas at the annual 3rd grade Grandparents Day on the Feast of St. Nicholas.

## 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 of you there!"

## 2025 Calendars

The 2025 Calendars are now available at the doors of the church.

## 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.

# 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**

Tuesday, December 24th

4:00 pm (Church & PAC)

6:00 pm (Children's Pageant)

8:00 pm

12:00 Midnight - Chancel Choir  
prelude will begin at 11:15 pm

## **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Wednesday, 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!



## FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

# DAILY PRAYER THIS WEEK

This may be one of the most difficult weeks to be reflective throughout each day. This weekend may be quite full for many of us. Others of us may be alone, apart from the faith community we will join on Sunday and Tuesday, perhaps daily this week. While some of us have had guests staying with us and a house to clean, others of us will be reviewing memories and struggling, even a little, with being alone.

Whether this week is full or slow, it is a treasure-filled opportunity for reflection. Using the same means we've been using, we can let the richness of this week's readings and feasts fill the background of each day. Even on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day we can wake up, surrendering anxiety by letting the anxiety of these days take us to the scene of our Lord's birth. We can imagine the anxiety that filled the experience of Mary and Joseph. We can keep in our consciousness their trust in God. The Christmas music on the radio or at our church services and liturgies can bring the faith of these hymns and songs into our hearts. And, once it is there, these songs of faith will remain in the background all day long. When we are tempted to worry or complain, to be hurt or angry, to be frustrated or exhausted, the hymns will draw our hearts to rejoicing and gratitude.

Thinking about Stephen the Martyr or John, the apostle of love or the martyrdom of the innocents, with a little desire and focus, can guide our hearts to reflect on the meaning of Christmas - the gift of self-giving love. We can ask ourselves, what generosity can come from the gratitude I have in my heart after celebrating the gift of redemption? Who in my world needs more love? What happens in me when I think about the people in the world who need my support? Who is being martyred today? Who is witnessing our world's rejection?

All of us can imagine Jesus, Mary and Joseph going home. We can imagine their daily life. We can ask for the grace to live in God's presence, just as they must have done, and for the grace to be sensitive to each other and care for each other as they must have. We can ask that we might imitate their busy lives, trusting and dependent on God. Looking on their hidden life together, we can grow in a desire to be more humble, in a peace with greater simplicity, in a courage to let God take care of us. Whether we experience the poverty of that holy stable or the ordinary simplicity of daily routine, we can enjoy this week as a special opportunity to be drawn to a greater closeness with Jesus.

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries website: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html> Used with permission.

**PARISH LIFE**

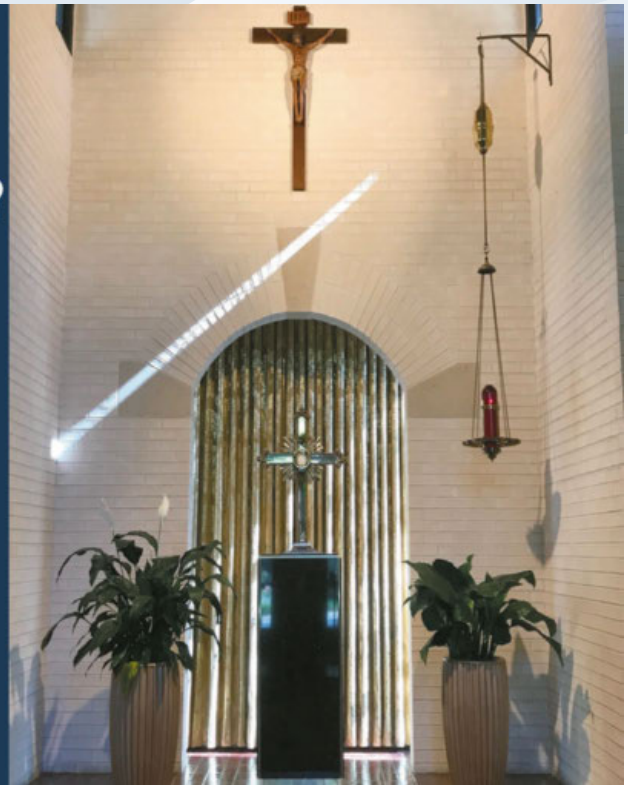
# Adoration Chapel

Can you spend an hour with Jesus?

Urgent Need:

**Saturday at 1:00 AM**

Please Contact Michelle Schroeder  
225-926-1883 or sign up at  
<https://adorationpro.org/olomchurch>



# Catholic in Recovery

During this holiday season

**Monday at 12 noon - Men Only**

**Wednesday at 6:30 pm - Men and Women**

**St. Gabriel Room at the  
Parish Activity Center.**

**For those 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



# NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

*"Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth  
to the King who rules heaven and  
earth for ever."*

*-Entrance Antiphon*

## **Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**NEW YEARS EVE**  
Tuesday, December 31st

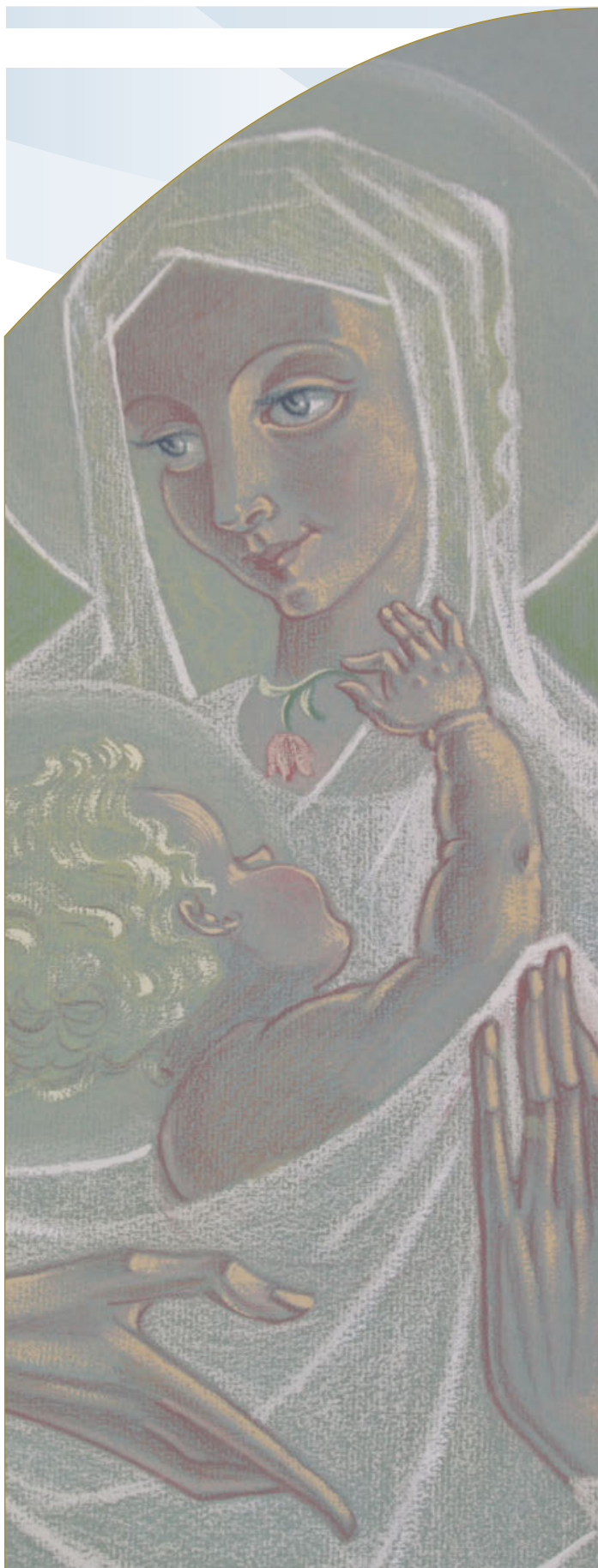
4:00 pm

6:00 pm

**NEW YEARS DAY**  
Wednesday, January 1st

8:00 am

12:00 Noon



## ADORATION CHAPEL SECURITY

Dear Committed Adorers,

In response to the concerns of safety issues for adorers in the Adoration Chapel, particularly during the nighttime hours, the following safety procedures have been put into place.

Soon you will receive in the mail your access card to the Adoration Chapel. This card is to be used during the times when the adoration door will lock automatically, particularly between the times of 6:00 pm and 6:00 am.

This measure has been adopted for the safety and protection of adorers to keep from being inadvertently walked in upon by strangers and/or suspect individuals.

This card will enable us to recognize the last person who had access to the Chapel. You are reminded that in the event of an emergency, please call the Police immediately and/or use the blue Police box in the chapel.

This procedure is in conjunction with additional security cameras, lighting, and Police presence. Any substitute or drop-in adorer who has not received a card is asked to call or come by the office to obtain a card. They may call in their request to have a card mailed.

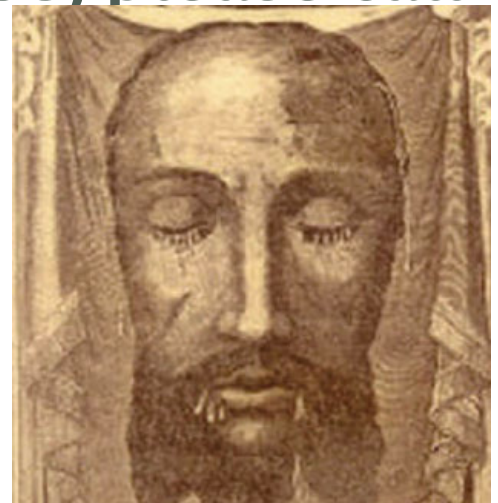
No card will be necessary during the daylight hours of 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Thank you for your patience and your many suggestions to make our chapel safe.

Rev. Cleo J. Milano



## **Attention Adoration Chapel Drop Ins**

We will soon be enacting our new security system for entry into the Adoration Chapel. From 6pm - 6am, entry will be restricted to those who have an access card. This is in order to address the safety and protection of adorers to keep from being inadvertently walked in upon by strangers and/or suspect individuals. All committed adorers and subs should receive instructions in the mail. If you drop in from time to time, but are not a committed adorer or sub, please call the office to request an access card. If you are an individual who likes to drop in and visit with Jesus in the middle of the night please call the church office and obtain your card for entry.



I wait for you



# 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

## IN REMEMBRANCE

### Mass Intentions

#### DECEMBER 28, SATURDAY

8:00 am ..... SPECIAL INTENTION: The Schiro Family  
4:00 pm ..... Francis Xavier Le / Martin S. Rinaudo, Jr. / Clyde and Violet David / Bernice & Charles Healy / Myles and Adele Morrison / The poor souls in purgatory / Anna Casso / Peggy Werner / Nancy Valluzzo / Bill Auten / Judy Pellerin / Howard Kidder, Jr. / Fay Walker / Olga Lee Gebert Milano / Mr. and Mrs. Myles Morrison / Dr. and Mrs. Dan Lehon / Mr. and Mrs. James Adams / Mr. and Mrs. Alex Reddeck / Adams and Morrison Family / SPECIAL INTENTION: Helen Soley / All Priests, Deacons, Seminarians and Religious Vocations

#### DECEMBER 29, SUNDAY

7:00 am..... Kyle Cassano / Ellie Sances / Anna Darensbourg  
9:00 am..... Guadalupe Gomez deOvalle / Nell Cedotal Fernandez  
10:30 am... Gary Alford / Alex Spano / K.J. Thomas / Brenda Fremin, The Fremin Family, Charles and Rosa Drago / Michael S. DiVincenti III  
12:00 pm... Anna Casso / Johnson Kadair / Mike Lloyd Rinehart / Eddie and Sena Mansur, Freida Mansur Sutton, & Paula Mansur Roblin / Father Mario Termini and Maxine Termini  
6:00 pm ..... Mearlee Chaney, Carl DeCloutte, Jessica Hamilton, Mamie Lee Wilson and Christopher Lands

#### DECEMBER 30, MONDAY

8:00 am ..... Mary Nunez / Carol Patriarco  
12:00 pm... Mary Patriarco

#### DECEMBER 31, TUESDAY

4:00 pm ..... Rudy Naquin / Rita Farris/ Nellrie Fernandez / Olga Milano / Andrea Kerr / David Mayeux / Judy Parro  
6:00 pm ..... Francis Xavier Le / The Ballard, Chambers and McCay families / Joseph Leonard "Tim" Lamonica / Janet Moret /April Schaff

#### JANUARY 1, WEDNESDAY

8:00 am ..... Elaine Breaux / April Schaff / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Steele & Billeaud Families  
12:00 pm... Tommy Barfield / The Ballard, Chambers, and McCay Families / April Schaff

#### JANUARY 2, THURSDAY

8:00 am ..... Vanessa Prejean / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Karen Darnall  
12:00 pm... Francis Xavier Le / Ann Nguyen

#### DECEMBER 27, FRIDAY

8:00 am ..... Calvin, Georginia & Curran Oubre / Wynona & Joseph Lindsly, Hiram & Ellen May  
12:00 pm... Mollie Poirson / Mervin Simon, Rose Simon, Danny Simon, Layla Simon and Tyler Clay Die / Audrey & Joe LeBlanc / Shirley & Joseph Zito / Anthony J. Zito / Sandy Roppolo / J. Louis and Virginia Tonore, Sr., BeA and Marie Carbo, Sr. / Gregory E. Tonore, Jr., Julie Zambie Williams / Gregory L. Kadair, Sr., Dorothy A. Harding, Jerry Crifasi, George A. Kadair, Sr. / Alice Lowery / Lillah James / John Lambert Pearce / Francis Xavier Le / Billy Ray Tam / Mary McCowan / Carl Dalbor, Jr. / Donna Parker / John Huddleston / Lance Walker / Elaine & Robert "Bob" Thomas / Nick Rispone / Mother Ange, Sister Evelyn, Sister Therese De La Passion, Sister Paul Xavier / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Gavin & Amber Pennington / Delage, Lejuene, & Chevalier Families / Fr. Cleo Milano & vocations to the priesthood / Priests, Seminarians, & Deacons / The President of the United States, his team and the American people / Ann Hood / Private special Intention

### Sanctuary Light Memorials

The sanctuary light in the church burns this week in memory of

## Will Steele

The sanctuary light in the Adoration Chapel burns this week in memory of

## Dr. Lawrence Duvieilh

In Sympathy to the Family of:

- **JoAnn Looper**
- **Bill Lanier**
- **Daniel Rester**
- **Dennis "Speedy" Allen**
- **Nancy Angerson Taylor**
- **Judge Carl Guidry**
- **Bob Ourso**
- **Les Grice**

## COLUMBARIUM GARDEN OF PEACE

# FINAL RESTING PLACE IN SACREDNESS, DIGNITY, AND RESPECT

The Garden of Peace and Memorial Columbarium provides a sacred and beautiful place for the inurnment of cremains in accordance with the Church's instructions.

As cremation continues to increase in popularity, the need to bury the ashes of cremated individuals is also increasing. The Garden of Peace is a peaceful and prayerful site on the campus of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church serving as an eternal resting place for our beloved deceased.



As you plan for your family's future needs, consider the option of cremation and burial at the Garden of Peace Memorial Columbarium. The Mercy Columbarium Garden of Peace is open to all parishioners and non-parishioners, Catholic and non-Catholic.

Columbarium niches are available in two sizes - each cremain niche holds a space for two persons. They are \$5800 for a small niche and \$8500 for larger niches.

Call the Church Office to make your appointment: (225) 926-1883

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

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 28th & December 29th

4:00 pm*	7:00 am*	9:00 am	10:30 am	12:00 pm	6:00 pm
Fr. Milano	Fr. Miles	Fr. Antony	Fr. Milano	Fr. Milano	Fr. Antony
Extraordinary Ministers					
M Downing C Formeller J Stalls L McCann N Krzystowczyk A August	A Haywood T Penouilh G Samrow P Samrow	D Deshotels R Beyer A Altazan B Bordelon Deacon Grant P Prosser	F Borghardt M Vincent M Taylor N Graham J Angers Deacon Duplantis Deacon Grant J Harrison	Deacon Duplantis S Gray M Kimble K Kimble	C Schutte G Gilbert K Walker L Hopkins
Lectors					
K Steintrager R Arabie	A Wilson S Darensbourg J Pastorek	P Tullier S Hingle	C Kline E Kline	E Joffrion S Love	D Dantin C Steele
Altar Servers					
J Millet (C) L Broussard C Campbell	G Samrow (C)	D Deshotels (C) M Medine A Raemsch	F Borghardt (C) P Clark A Nguyen	M Kimble (C) E Gray R Gray	K Walker (C) A DiVincenti M DiVincenti

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).



2025 REGISTRATION FORM:

2025 – Wedding Anniversaries Celebration
Celebrating the 25TH, 50TH, 65th / and those over 65 years

Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church., 9150 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810

Bishop Michael Duca, Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge will celebrate a liturgy honoring couples on their 25th, 50th, and 65th or greater, wedding anniversary. Families of the honored couples are also invited to attend the liturgy & reception. (The reception will be in the Gym). Please gather and send completed forms to us as you collect them. Sending them once a week is helpful. But please do not wait until the Deadline January 15, 2025, to send all at once. This step is necessary to have certificates printed and ready on time for attending celebrating couples. You may Reproduce form as needed.

Use this form ONLY to collect information from couples who plan to attend the celebration! Then scan & e-mail completed forms to our office or send in by US Mail (See box below). (ONE COUPLE PER FORM, please) and PLEASE DO NOT SHRINK COPIES OR CUT IN HALF!!!

Email or Mail in Completed form(s) to:

- 1. Via E-mail: Send to mgernon@diobr.org. Subject: 2025 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!
2. By US mail: Please address envelope to: 2025 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 (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 25th, 50th, or 65th & those over 65 yrs. Anniversaries during 2025, & 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!

Cpl. PLANS TO ATTEND [checkbox] Plz. Check

# of Family members attending [checkbox]

\*PLEASE FILL IN ALL BLANKS\*

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 # of yrs \_\_\_\_\_).

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

12/1/2024

**Accepting New Patients**

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 Christopher M. Funes, MD  
 Jamel Martin, MD  
 Murli C. Rao, MD  
 Kelli Bovard, NP



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