



Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception

701 Church St., Brenham, TX 77833

www.brenhamcatholic.org

(979) 836-4441

MASS TIMES

Monday	5:30pm
Tuesday	12:15 pm
Wednesday	12:15 pm
Thursday	12:15 pm
Friday	5:30 pm
Sunday Mass	
Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm
	7:00pm (Español)
Sunday	8:00 am
	10:30 am
	12:30 pm (Español)

Extraordinary Form Latin

4:00 pm

At Pax Christi Retreat Center - 9300 Hwy
105, Brenham, TX 77833

CONFESSIONS

Weekdays, 30 minutes before Mass.
Saturdays: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

CLERGY

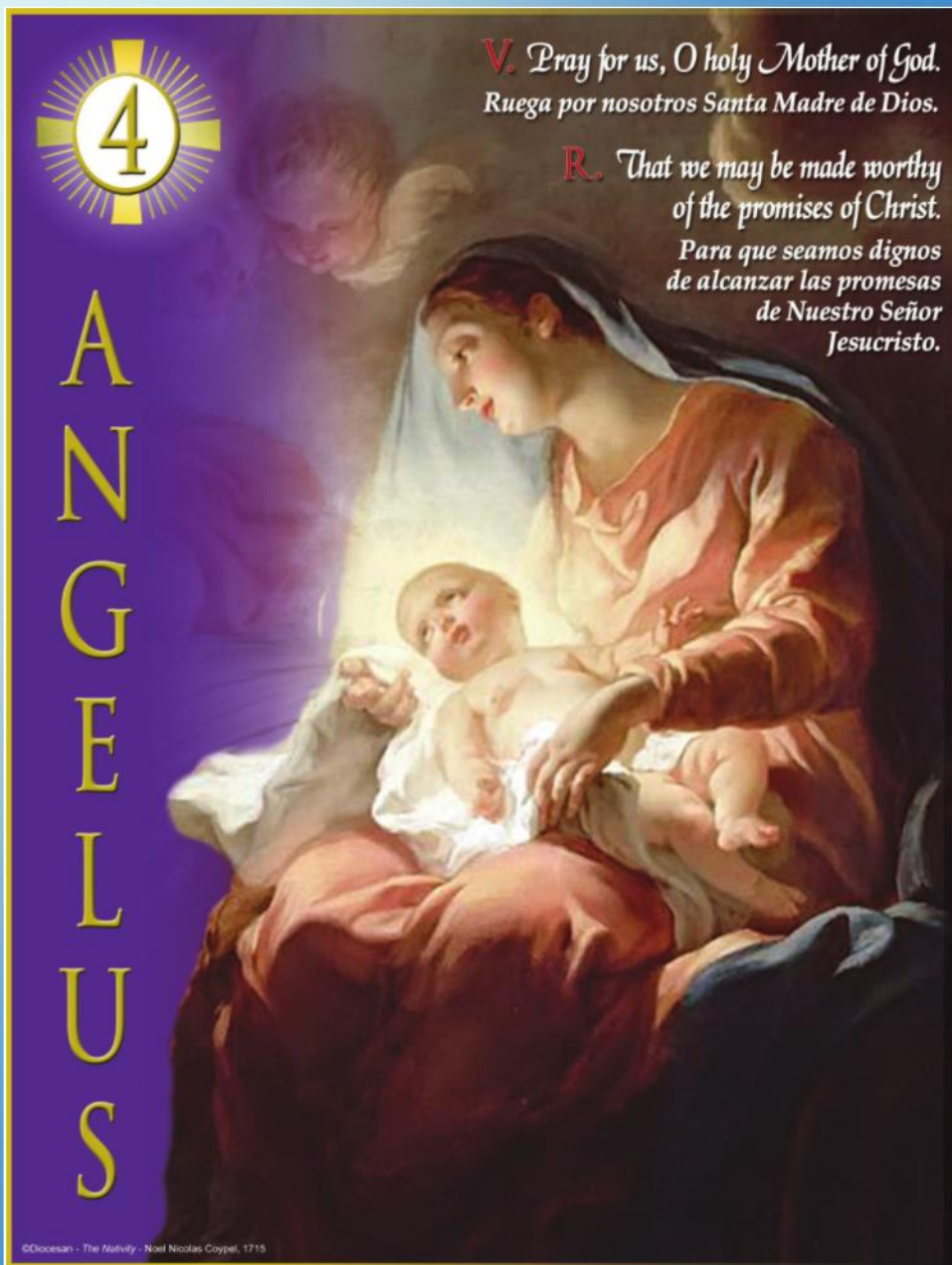
Fr. Everardo Cazares - Pastor
Fr. Juan Jose Diaz, DJ—Parochial Vicar
Deacon Steve Medina
Deacon Allen Prescott
Deacon John Pelletier
Deacon Matthew Jewell

OFFICE HOURS

Monday CLOSED
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am—5:00 pm

**Emergencies after office hours phone
number:**

(979) 451-9824



V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
Ruega por nosotros Santa Madre de Dios.

R. That we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.
*Para que seamos dignos
de alcanzar las promesas
de Nuestro Señor
Jesucristo.*

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. Psalm 89

Cantaré eternamente tus misericordias, Señor. Salmo 89

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

HORARIO DE MISAS E INTENCIONES

December 25 – December 31, 2023

Monday/lunes—December 25, 10:30 pm

† Bill & Lucille Hindman

12:30 pm En Español / In Spanish

† Sr. Nathaniel Eisel

Tuesday/martes—December 26, 12:15pm

† Ora Nell Murski

† Brad Russell (sent off)

Wednesday/miercoles—December 27, 12:15 pm

† Betty & Herb Holland

† Johnnie & Angie Kluck (sent off)

Thursday/jueves - December 28, 12:15 pm

† Gale Kwiatkowski

Friday/Viernes - December 29, 5:30pm

† Kristee Krotofil

† Gregory Zuniga, Jr. (sent off)

Saturday/sábado—December 30, 5:00 pm

† Leonard & Pauline Krotofil

7:00 pm—En Español / In Spanish

Pro Life

Sunday/Domingo – December 31, 8:00 am.

All of St. Mary's Parishioners \

† Cathleen Pryzbarski (sent off)

10:30 a.m.

Well-being of Rev. Everardo Cazares

12:30 p.m. - En Español/In Spanish

Well-being of the Pax Christi Sisters

4:00 p.m. - Latin @ Pax Christi Retreat Center

† Sam Atar

COLLECTION/COLECTA

Electronic giving - if you prefer to give electronically, there is a link at www.brenhamcatholic.org

Donación electronica—para hacer su contribución automáticamente visitar www.brenhamcatholic.org

December 16-17

Weekly budgeted expenses.....\$18,475.00

Weekend collection\$21,339.52

Thank you for your generosity! This is how we are doing:

Collection Report

July - September

	1st Quarter	October	November		To Date
Offertory	\$228,496	\$77,612	\$77,965	\$	\$384,073
Expenses	\$343,858	\$92,027	\$91,491	\$	\$527,376
	-\$115,362	-\$14,415	-\$13,526	\$	-\$143,303

Offertory is Sunday and Holy Day collection, does not include fundraising, gifts, bequest, Encountering Christ Campaign, or contributions from our ministries.



St. Teresa of Calcutta Society

helps those in need.

For assistance phone

979-525-0090.

Calls remain confidential.

La Sociedad de Santa Teresa De Calcutta

ayuda a esos en necesidad.

Para recibir ayuda llame al **979-525-0090.**

Las llamadas se mantienen confidenciales.

"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." - St. Teresa of Calcutta

"No siempre podemos hacer grandescosas, pero sí podemos hacer cosas"



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Calendar, January



Blood Drive



PCCW Women's
Retreat

February



Spanish Couples
Dinner



English Date Night
Out

January 7, 2024

Blood Drive

January 27, 2024

PCCW Women's Retreat

February 3

Spanish Couples Dinner

February 10

English Date Night Out

February 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2024

CRHP Retreat

February 26-28, 2024

Lenten Mission

This week on St. Mary's campus. December 25 thru December 31, 2023

12/25 Monday

10:30 am English Christmas Day Mass, Church
12:30pm Spanish Christmas Day Mass, Church
4:00 pm Christmas Day Latin Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center

12/26 Tuesday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
11:00am Bible study, PAC Small Meeting Room
11:45 am Confessions, Church
12:15pm Mass, Church
6:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting, KofC Hall
6:00pm Jesus, Maria y Jose Community, Cornertones Room 203
6:30pm Choir Practice, Church
7:00pm Seguidores De Jesus Community Meeting, RE Room 106

12/27 Wednesday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
10:30am Staff Meeting, Office Choir/Meeting Room
11:45 am Confessions, Church
12:15 pm Mass, Church
5:30pm Choir Practice, Church
6:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting, KofC Hall
7:00pm Spanish Choir Practice, Church

12/28 Thursday

8:00am Wellness Ministry Walk in the Gym
11:45 am Confessions, Church
12:15 pm Mass, Church
5:30 pm Spanish Altar Server Training, Church
6:00pm Spanish Baptismal Class, RE Room 106

12/29 Friday

12:10pm Rosary, Church
5:00pm Confessions, Church
5:30pm Mass, Church
7:00pm Guiados por el Espiritu community meeting, RE Room 106
Audio/visual

12/30 Saturday

6:00am Men's Spanish group, Church
7:00am TMIY Men's Group, PAC Small meeting room
1:30pm Wedding Anniversary Mass, Church
3:30pm Confessions, Church
5:00pm English Mass, Church
5:00pm CRHP Meeting, PAC Large Meeting Room
7:00pm Spanish Mass, Church

12/31 Sunday

8:00am English Mass, Church
10:30am English Mass, Church
10:30am RCIA Prep, RE Room
10612:30pm Spanish Mass, Church
4:00pm Latin Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center



About fair and unfair things...

Many years ago, when I was still a teenager, I looked at the manger that we had set up in my house, and I was sitting on the floor in front of it, not only could I concentrate on it, but I could also see the image of a hanging crucifix that was a short distance away, on the wall.

When younger, I used to spend time creating different events with my thoughts. I liked to contemplate the manger especially, it has always produced feelings of tenderness in me - seeing a family that has been married for less than a year, who has just had a newborn child, where the stars illuminate the manger and the animals surround it, it is undoubtedly an image full of tenderness.

But suddenly, my gaze wandered to the crucifix, I already understood that the purpose of Christmas was for Jesus to save us on the cross, but the conflicting feelings I had was very dramatic, and then I had a bad thought... - "If Jesus was going to die on the cross... why he was not provided with all the comforts and needs in this life? Why did he have to suffer from his birth? He should have been born in a comfortable home, with financial security...etc. (remember, I was just a teenager)" - and although I felt a little emotionally upset, I continued sitting, now looking at the cross and then at the manger.

Suddenly a feeling of peace came over me... and I understood that God the Father provided everything necessary to his son, so that his son not only lived well on earth, but also that he was able to fulfill the **greatest mission in history: our salvation**. The most important thing, the most valuable thing, the most indispensable thing to remember. . . . Jesus had the love of a wonderful family. The rest is also nice to obtain, but it seems that in many cases these other things are a reason for distraction from what is really the most important thing, **love**.

During this year, I invite you to discover what is the most important thing in your life, because I am sure that God continues to provide the most important thing for each of his children, not only so that we live well, but so that we can fulfill our mission.

Fr. Everardo Cázares



Sobre cosas justas e injustas...

Hace muchos años, cuando yo todavía era un adolescente, me quede mirando el pesebre que habíamos puestos en mi casa, y yo sentado en el suelo frente a él, no solo podía contemplarlo sino también podía a poca distancia ver la imagen de un crucifijo colgado en la pared.

En aquel tiempo solía pasar tiempo jugando con mis pensamientos... me gustaba contemplar el nacimiento, siempre me ha suscitado sentimientos de ternura, ver a una familia de menos de un año de casados, que acaban de tener un niño recién nacido, donde las estrellas iluminan el pesebre y los animales lo contemplan, es sin duda una imagen llena de ternura.

Pero de repente, mi mirada se desvió al crucifijo, yo ya entendía que el propósito de la navidad era que Jesús nos salvara en la cruz, pero el contraste de sentimientos que tuve fue muy dramático y entonces tuve un mal pensamiento... - " Si Jesús iba a morir en la cruz... ¿porque no se le proveyó de todas las comodidades y necesidades en esta vida? ¿Por qué desde su nacimiento tuvo que sufrir? Debería haber nacido en una casa cómoda, con seguridades económicas... etc. (recuerda, que yo era solo un adolescente)" - y aunque me sentía un poco violento emocionalmente, seguí sentando, ahora mirando la cruz y el pesebre... de pronto me sobrevino un sentimiento de paz... y entendí que Dios Padre proveyó de todo lo necesario para que su hijo no solo viviera bien en la tierra, sino para que fuera capaz de cumplir la misión más grande de la historia, nuestra salvación.

Lo más importante, lo más valioso, lo más indispensable, Jesús lo tuvo, el amor de una familia. Lo demás, no solo es añadidura, sino parece que en muchos casos son motivo de distracción de lo que es realmente lo más importante, el amor.

En este año, te invito a que descubras que es lo más importante en tu vida, porque estoy seguro que Dios, sigue proveyendo de lo más importante para cada uno de sus hijos, no solo para que vivamos bien, sino para que podamos cumplir nuestra misión.

Fr. Everardo Cázares



Almost 2000 years ago, in a town that suffered a lack of love, a lack of hope ... the strength to fight was last and faith seemed to have no more meaning in a life full of tears. It was only in the midst of. Poverty and a cold night that a light shone that would never go out. A child was born in a manger that would unite heaven and earth, making everything promised from ancient times come true. Today, it is not only a memory that makes us yearn to improve and fight, but the reality of God's love expressed in the person of Jesus, who by becoming a man came to fill us with his love, his spirit, his strength. Let the message of the angels resonate in our hearts and fill us with the light that no one can extinguish.

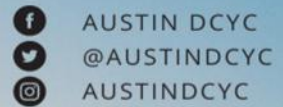
"Do not fear, for I announce a great joy to you, which will be so for all the people: today, in the city of David, a savior has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord; and this will serve as a sign: you will find a child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." Lk 2: 10-12

Be assured that you, as parishioners of Saint Mary Immaculate Conception, are always present in my prayer.

Fr. Everardo Cázares



COMMUNITY, MUSIC,
ENGAGING KEYNOTES,
PRAYER, AND FUN



GLORIA

ATX DCYC 2024

WACO CONVENTION CENTER
FEBRUARY 2-4, 2024

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

Who can Attend: Teens 9th-12th grade

Cost to Attend: \$70 (includes meals)

Deadline to Register: January 2nd

**Contact for more info: Jena
Brown (979) 574-4388 or
Michelle Panko (979)
966-8306**

**Marriage Recognition Certificates Sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women
and signed by Bishop Vásquez**

Marriage recognition certificates are available for couples celebrating wedding anniversaries between February 14, 2023 and February 14, 2024. If you have been married 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 years or more, please call the Church office and give us your names, the date of your marriage, and your phone number and email. The deadline to turn this is January 29th, 2023.



**Certificados de Reconocimiento para Matrimonios Patrocinados por el Consejo
de Damas Católicas y firmados por el Obispo Joe Vásquez**

Los certificados de reconocimiento de matrimonio están disponibles para las parejas que celebran aniversarios de bodas entre el 14 de febrero de 2023 y el 14 de febrero de 2024. Si ha estado casado 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 años o más, por favor llame a la oficina de la Iglesia y dénos sus nombres, la fecha de su matrimonio y su número de Teléfono y correo electrónico. La fecha límite para llamar es el 29 de Enero del 2023.

Pastoral Council

If you have any comments, questions or concerns that you would like the Pastoral Council to go over during our monthly meetings, please send them to our email pastoralcouncil@brenhamcatholic.org
We will be monitoring the email constantly!

Consejo Pastoral

Si tiene alguna pregunta, comentario o preocupación que le gustaría que se comentara en nuestras reuniones mensuales del consejo pastoral por favor mandelas a nuestro correo electrónico

Pastoralcouncil@brenhamcatholic.org

Estaremos checando el correo constantemente!



St. Mary's Prayer Line

If you or a loved one needs prayers, call, text, or email:

Shirley Rowan at 979-421-3332 or

Shirley.rowan@att.net

If you would like to become a Prayer Warrior please contact Shirley Rowan.

Linea de Oración de St. Mary's

Si usted o un ser querido necesita oraciones, llame, mande un mensaje de texto o correo electrónico:

Shirley Rowan al 979-421-3332 ó

Shirley.rowan@att.net

Si usted gusta ser un Guerrero de oración porfavor contacte a Shirley Rowan.



An invitation to join other Catholic men that desire to be better husbands, fathers, friends, and authentic men of God.

Join us in the PAC on Saturday from 7:00—8:30 am for free breakfast! Click on the QR code to register.

Contact Yassen Owen at 832-686-5984 for information.



**Bella Brigata - Winter
Scripture~Inspiration~Support
(S.I.S.)**

Wednesdays, starting Jan. 10,
9:30-11:30, KC Hall

St. Ignatius Study Bible, New Testament, RSVCE
Topics: Behold His Glory (Jan.), Christ in Me (Feb.),
Spiritual Gifts (March)

(No prep necessary. Please order from your favorite
publisher or Amazon)

Saint inspirations and confidential prayer intentions

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the
truth for a sincere love of the brethren, love one
another earnestly from the heart." 1 Peter 1:22

(rsvp: Kathy 713.501.0663)



BLOOD DRIVE

St. Mary's Catholic Church of Brenham

Sunday, January 7
8:00 am - 12:30 pm
Parish Activity Center

Contact Larry Alexander (281) 948-9117
(l.alexander1955@gmail.com)

Promotion:
Commit For Life HOODIES!!

CLAIM YOURS HERE:



Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome.



Diego, blood recipient

Fourth Sunday

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.”

Matthew 1:23



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

*Save lives on
the go with*



Complete your Health History Interview before you come in for your donation.

Go to <https://cflxpress.giveblood.org/> and complete the same day as your appointment.

Altar Flowers

Beginning December 17th a sign-up sheet will be posted in the back of the Church for those wishing to donate the weekly altar flowers.

A partir del 17 de diciembre

La hoja de inscripción se publicará en la parte trasera de la Iglesia para aquellos que deseen donar las flores del altar semanal.

DEACON'S CORNER



This weekend we celebrate both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas. Sometimes people ask if going to a Sunday afternoon mass fulfills the obligation both the Advent and Christmas masses? No it does not! We cannot get two for one! We attend both an Advent and a Christmas mass!

The Advent Gospel from St. Luke is the same one we heard at the feast of the Immaculate Conception; the archangel Gabriel announces to Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of the messiah. Bishop Sheen says all of creation anticipated hearing Mary's answer: *"I am the handmaid of the Lord let it be done to me according to your word."*

Mary gave her yes to God's plan for her life even to the foot of the cross. How do we respond to God's plan for our lives? What does the Lord ask of us today? He has a plan for our lives. Do we know that plan? Are we responsive to it as Mary was?

Our joyous Christmas celebration begins with midnight mass (11:45 PM) on Sunday night and continues through the day on Monday. A celebration so wonderful that between midnight mass and the last mass on Monday there are twenty different readings in the lectionary!

Matthew describes Jesus' Jewish lineage; Jesus' Jewish credentials if you will. A lineage that terminates in St. Joseph showing that Jesus is of the house of David as predicted by the Jewish scriptures.

Luke tells us how Mary becomes pregnant during her betrothal to Joseph but before their marriage. While betrothed the couple were legally married but not living together. Thus her pregnancy is a problem. She could be stoned to death if she was found guilty of adultery. Joseph decides to quietly put her away. But an angel tells him to not be afraid to take Mary into his home. He does so and thus fulfills God's plan for his life. He becomes Mary's husband and the foster father to the messiah Jesus Christ. He respects Mary's perpetual virginity. Mary and Joseph fulfilled God's will. They did not have an easy life. What is God's will for us today?

Merry Christmas!

Deacon John



RINCÓN DEL DIÁCONO

Este fin de semana celebramos tanto el Cuarto Domingo de Adviento como la Navidad. A veces la gente pregunta si ir a la Misa del domingo por la tarde cumple con la obligación tanto de la misa de Adviento como de la de Navidad? ¡No, no lo hace! No podemos obtener dos por uno! ¡Tenemos que asistir tanto a una misa de Adviento como de Navidad!

El Evangelio de Adviento de San Lucas es el mismo que escuchamos en la fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción; el arcángel Gabriel le anuncia a María que Dios la había elegido para ser la madre del mesías. El obispo Sheen dice que toda la creación anticipó escuchar la respuesta de María: "Yo soy la esclava del Señor, hágase en mí según tu palabra".

María dio su sí al plan de Dios para su vida incluso hasta el pie de la cruz. ¿Cómo respondemos al plan de Dios para nuestra vidas? ¿Qué nos pide el Señor hoy? Él tiene un plan para nuestras vidas. ¿Conocemos ese plan? ¿Somos receptivos a ello como María lo era?

Nuestra alegre celebración navideña comienza con la misa de medianoche (11:45 p. m.) el domingo por la noche y continúa durante todo el día lunes. Una celebración tan maravillosa que entre la misa de medianoche y la última misa del lunes hay veinte diferentes lecturas en el leccionario!

Mateo describe el linaje judío de Jesús; Las credenciales judías de Jesús, por así decirlo. Un linaje que termina en San José mostrando que Jesús es de la casa de David como lo predicen las escrituras judías.

Lucas nos cuenta cómo María queda embarazada durante su compromiso con José, pero antes de su matrimonio. Mientras estaba comprometida la pareja estaba legalmente casada pero no vivían juntos. Por tanto, su embarazo es un problema. Podría ser apedreada hasta morir si fuera declarada culpable de adulterio. José decide dejarla en secreto. Pero un ángel le dice que no tenga miedo de llevar a María a su casa. Lo hace y así cumple el plan de Dios para su vida. Se convierte en marido de María y padre adoptivo del mesías Jesucristo. Respeta la virginidad perpetua de María. María y José cumplieron la voluntad de Dios. Ellos no tuvieron una vida fácil. ¿Cuál es la voluntad de Dios para nosotros hoy?

¡Feliz Navidad!

Diacono John



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