



# Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception

701 Church St., Brenham, TX 77833

[www.brenhamcatholic.org](http://www.brenhamcatholic.org)

(979) 836-4441

## MASS TIMES

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

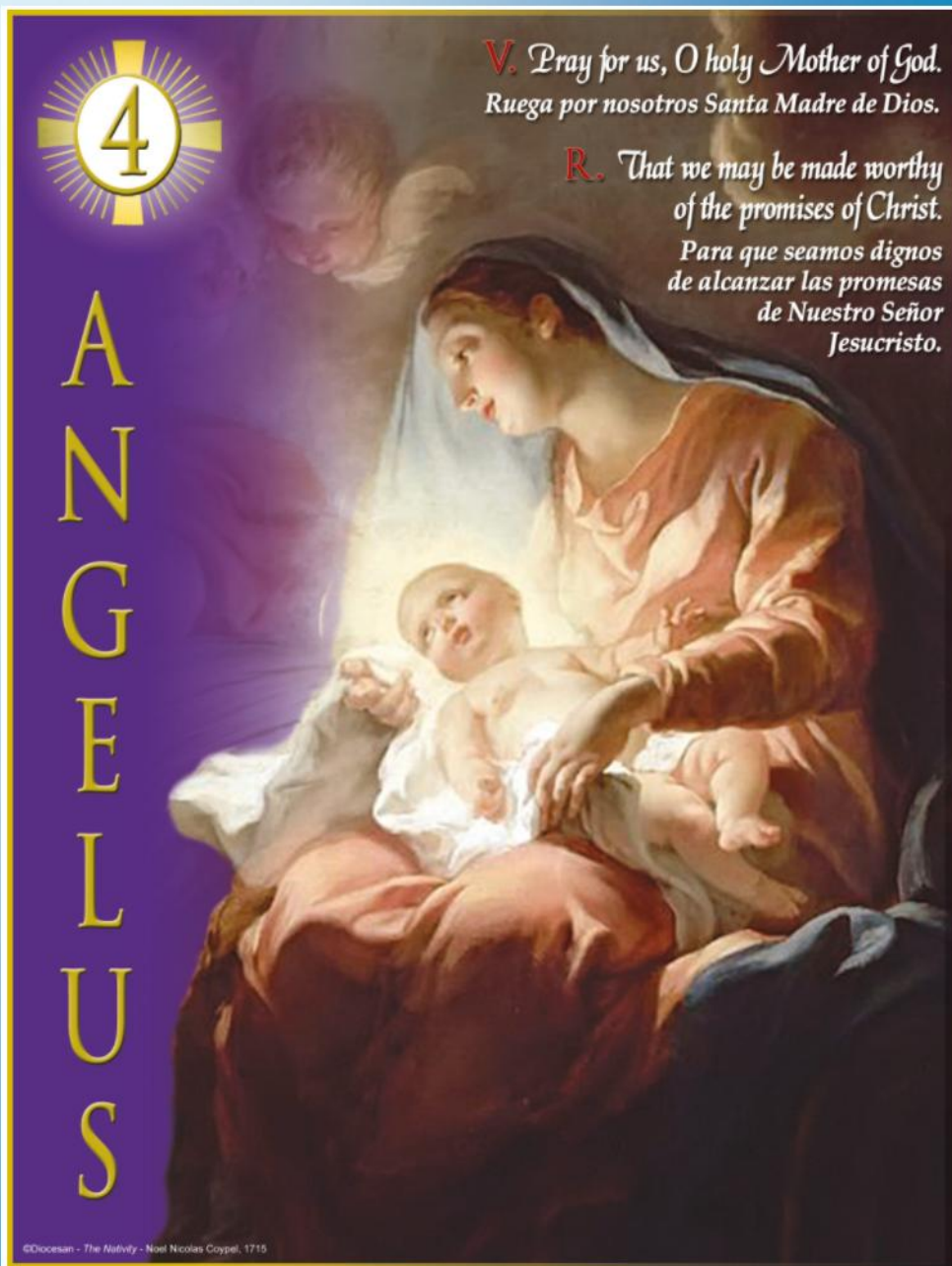
Fr. Everardo Cazares - Pastor  
 Fr. Edwin Kagoo—Parochial Vicar  
 Deacon Steve Medina  
 Deacon Allen Prescott  
 Deacon John Pelletier

## 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.

©Diocesan - The Nativity - Noel Nicolas Coypel, 1715

Lord, make us turn to you: let us see your face and we shall  
 be saved. Psalm 80

Oh Dios, restauranos, que brille tu rostro y nos salve. Salmo 80

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**

**HORARIO DE MISAS E INTENCIONES  
December 24—December 29, 2024**

**Tuesday/martes—December 24,  
Christmas Eve**

**4:00 pm—Kids English Mass**

† Blanca F. de Carvajal  
† Clara Wesneski (sent off)  
† Jesusa & Jose Esparza (sent off)

**6:00 pm—English Mass**

† Stanley & Nancy Rybarsk

**8:00 pm—Spanish Mass**

Irma Manzano on her birthday

**11:45pm—English Midnight Mass**

Pro Populo

**Wednesday/miercoles—December 25,  
Christmas Day**

**10:30 am—English Mass**

† Bill & Lucille Handman  
† Willie Kubeczka (sent off)

**12:30pm—Spanish Mass**

† Celia Camacena

**Thursday/jueves - December 26, 12:15pm**

† Ora Nell Murski  
† David Januszewski (sent off)  
† Ron Haren (sent off)  
† Steve Przyborski (sent off)

**Friday/Viernes - December 27, 5:30pm**

† Johnnie & Angie Kluck  
† Lebon & Patsy Parker (sent off)  
† Mr. & Mrs. O.W Hardin (sent off)

**Saturday/sábado—December 28, 5:00 pm**

† Kristee Krotofil  
STRIVE Mentors

**7:00 pm—En Español / In Spanish**

Pro Populo

**Sunday/Domingo – December 29, 8:00 am.**

† Bernanrd Berger  
† Louise Bolcerek (sent off)

**10:30 a.m.**

† Father Doan Dinh Bang  
† Ronald Haren (sent off)  
† Willie Kubeczka (sent off)

**12:30 p.m. - En Español/In Spanish**

Well-being of the Romero-Manzano Family

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

Pro Populo

**COLLECTION/COLECTA**

Electronic giving - if you prefer to give electronically, there is a link at [www.brenhamcatholic.org](http://www.brenhamcatholic.org)

*Donación electrónica—para hacer su contribución automáticamente visitar [www.brenhamcatholic.org](http://www.brenhamcatholic.org)*

**December 14-15**

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

**Weekend collection .....\$21,527.59**

**Immaculate Conception.....\$1,121.00**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe.....\$1,990.77**

***Mandatory Reporting of Abuse***

Texas State law **requires** any adult citizen to report suspicions of abuse and-or neglect to the police or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

If church personnel are involved, also notify the church and/or use the Notice of Concern so the appropriate steps can be taken to protect and to heal.

**Child Protective Services (CPS)** [txacusehotline.org](http://txacusehotline.org) or  
**1-800-252-5400**

**Diocese of Austin** [austindiocese.org/report-abuse](http://austindiocese.org/report-abuse) or  
**(512) 949-2447**

***Reporte Obligatorio de Abuso***

La ley del estado de Texas requiere que cualquier ciudadano adulto informe sobre sospechas de abuso y/o negligencia a la policía o al Departamento de Servicios Familiares y de protección de Texas.

Si el personal de la Iglesia esta involucrado, también notifique a la iglesia y/o use el Aviso de Preocupación para que se puedan tomar los pasos correspondientes para proteger y sanar.

**Servicios de Protección Infantil (CPS)** [txacusehotline.org](http://txacusehotline.org) or  
**1-800-252-5400**

**Diócesis de Austin** [austindiocese.org/report-abuse](http://austindiocese.org/report-abuse) or  
**(512) 949-2447**

Come pray the Rosary with us every Friday at 12:10 pm in the Church.

*Acompañenos a rezar el Rosario en inglés todos los viernes a las 12:10 pm en la Iglesia.*



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Calendar

### December



**Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses**



#### December 24-25, 2024

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses

#### January 2, 2025

Holy Hour for Vocations

#### January 11, 2025

Liturgical Ministries Retreat

### January 2025



**Holy Hour for Vocations**



**Liturgical Ministries Retreat**

## This week on St. Mary's campus. December 23 thru December 29, 2024

#### 12/23 Monday

8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym  
 1:00pm St. Paul's PE, Gym  
 6:00pm Jesus, Maria y Jose Community Meeting, Cornerstone RM 203  
 7:00pm Seguidoras de Jesus Community Meeting, RE Room 103  
 7:00 pm Unidos en Cristo Community Meeting, Providence Room 102  
 7:00pm Spanish Marriage Prep Classes, RE AV Room  
 7:00pm Amor Hacia Cristo Small Community Meeting, RE Room 202

#### 12/24 Tuesday

4:00 pm Kids Christmas Mass, Church  
 6:00pm English Christmas Mass, Church  
 8:00pm Spanish Christmas Mass, Church  
 11:45pm Midnight Christmas Mass, Church

#### 12/25 Wednesday

10:30 am English Christmas Mass, Church  
 12:30pm Spanish Christmas Mass, Church  
 4:00pm Latin Christmas Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center  
**12/26 Thursday**  
 8:00am Walk in the PAC, Gym  
 10:00am Staff Meeting, Office Meeting Room  
 11:45am Confessions, Church  
 12:15pm Mass, Church

#### 12/27 Friday

12:10pm Rosary, Church  
 5:00pm Confessions, Church  
 5:30pm Mass, Church

#### 12/28 Saturday

6:00 am Spanish Men's Prayer Group, Church  
 7:00am TMIY Men's Group, PAC Small Meeting Room  
 3:30pm Confessions, Church  
 5:00pm English Mass  
 5:00pm CRHP Meeting, Cornerstone RM 203  
 7:00pm Spanish Mass

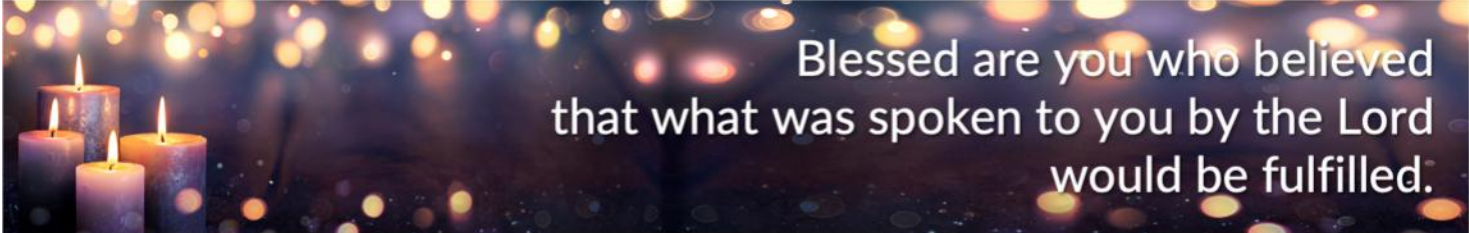
#### 12/29 Sunday

8:00am English Mass, Church  
 10:30am English Mass, Church  
 10:30am Spanish RCIA, RE Room 106  
 12:30pm Spanish Mass, Church  
 2:00pm Evangelization Retreat Follow up, RE Av Room  
 4:00pm Latin Mass, Pax Christi Retreat Center



The possible presiding priest for this Sunday's masses is:

Saturday Vigil	5:00pm Fr. Edwin
	7:00pm Fr. Everardo
Sunday	8:00am Fr. Everardo
	10:30am Fr. Edwin
	12:30pm Fr. Everardo
	4:00pm Fr. Everardo



Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.

#### **Mary's haste: A Distinct Approach to urgency**

The Gospel of Luke (Lk 1:39-45) narrates Mary's journey to visit her cousin Elizabeth. The scripture highlights that **"Mary set out and went with haste to a town in the hill country of Judea"**, underscoring the urgency of her journey. Unlike the anxiety-filled haste seen in modern life, Mary's urgency was driven by a sense of purpose, love, and service. While modern haste often leads to stress and accidents, Mary's haste reflected attentiveness and compassion. A similar contrast can be observed today between those who rush for selfish reasons and those like police officers, paramedics, and firefighters, who also move with urgency but with a focus on helping others. The key difference lies in the **intention and purpose** that drives one's haste.

#### **The Presence of Mary: A Conduit of God's Grace**

When Mary arrived and greeted Elizabeth, **"the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit"**. This encounter was no mere coincidence. Mary, who had been overshadowed by the Holy Spirit and was carrying the Son of God, was herself filled with divine grace. Her presence and greeting transmitted this grace to Elizabeth. It is noteworthy that previous greetings between the two women had never yielded such a profound impact. The difference lay in Mary's interior transformation after the Annunciation. This teaches us that, to share peace, love, and joy with others, we must first be filled with them ourselves. **No one can give what they do not possess**, and Mary's heart, full of God's grace, served as a channel to share that grace with Elizabeth.

#### **The inner emptiness and its consequences**

The reflection emphasizes the connection between inner emptiness and the haste with which people live their lives. Many rush from place to place, oblivious to their surroundings and to the needs of others. This self-centered haste leads not only to traffic accidents but also to **"accidents" in personal relationships**. People who are empty inside tend to act selfishly, leading to misunderstandings, conflicts, and emotional harm. The metaphor of Christmas ornaments illustrates this point: ornaments are often **"beautiful on the outside but hollow on the inside"**. Like fragile glass spheres, people with inner emptiness are easily shattered by minor inconveniences or critical remarks. To avoid this, we are invited to **fill our hearts with God's presence** so that we do not live as fragile, hollow ornaments, but as vessels of inner strength, patience, and compassion.

#### **The inner fullness of Mary: A role model**

Unlike those who move through life empty and distracted, Mary was filled with God's presence, which allowed her to **transmit joy, peace, and the Holy Spirit** to Elizabeth. This passage encourages us to reflect on what we carry in our hearts. When we greet others, do we bring peace and love, or do we transmit anger, sadness, or indifference? Mary teaches us that, to be agents of peace and joy, we must first be filled with them ourselves. Her greeting to Elizabeth demonstrates that **a heart filled with love and grace can transform the lives of others**. It also serves as a call to ensure that, during the Christmas season, our greetings of "Merry Christmas" are not merely formal words, but sincere expressions rooted in a heart filled with faith, hope, and love.

#### **Reflections on Time and the Perception of Its Speed**

As the year draws to a close, it is common to hear people lament how quickly time has passed. This sensation, however, is not necessarily due to the speed of time but to the **emptiness with which we live our lives**. When we are not fully present, when our hearts are empty, time seems to slip away unnoticed. This reflection challenges us to live with awareness and to value the present moment. Instead of rushing aimlessly, we are called to **slow down, reflect, and live with purpose**. By following Mary's example, we can fill our hearts with God's presence and appreciate the richness of each moment. Life will no longer feel fleeting, but meaningful and fulfilling.

#### **Preparing for Christmas with a Full Heart**

The central message of this reflection is a call to prepare for Christmas, not by focusing on outward decorations, gifts, or material displays, but by ensuring that our hearts are **full of God's peace, love, and joy**. It is a reminder that Christmas is not merely a festive season of external celebration, but a time for **deep inner transformation**. Just as Mary carried Christ within her and transmitted joy to Elizabeth, we are invited to carry the spirit of Christ within our hearts. Our Christmas greetings should reflect this inner joy, and our words should be expressions of genuine love and peace. As the reflection concludes, **"may we, like Mary, be capable of transmitting a true message of peace, because we carry peace within our hearts."**

*Fr. Everardo Cázares*

# Dichosa tú, que has creído, porque se cumplirá cuanto te fue anunciado de parte del Señor



## La Prisa de María: Un Modelo Diferente de Urgencia

El evangelio de Lucas (Lc 1, 39-45) nos presenta la visita de la Virgen María a su prima Isabel. La Escritura nos dice que **"María se encaminó presurosa a un pueblo de las montañas de Judea"**, lo que destaca la urgencia de su viaje. Sin embargo, esta prisa se diferencia de la que muchas personas experimentan hoy en día. Mientras que la prisa moderna suele estar cargada de estrés, egoísmo y accidentes, la prisa de María estaba llena de propósito, amor y servicio. A diferencia de quienes se enfocan solo en sus propios asuntos, la prisa de María la llevó a atender a Isabel. Este contraste se observa en la vida cotidiana: los paramédicos y policías también tienen prisa, pero su enfoque está en ayudar a los demás. La clave no está en la rapidez, sino en el **propósito del corazón**.

## La Presencia de María: Transmisora de la Gracia de Dios

El relato señala que, al llegar María y saludar a Isabel, **"la criatura saltó de gozo en su seno, e Isabel quedó llena del Espíritu Santo"**. Este encuentro no fue casual. María estaba llena de la presencia de Dios, ya que llevaba en su vientre al Hijo de Dios. La diferencia entre este saludo y los saludos anteriores entre María e Isabel radica en la transformación espiritual que había tenido María tras la Anunciación. Ella ya no era solo María, ahora era la **"Madre del Señor"**, y esa plenitud se transmitió a Isabel. Este pasaje nos enseña que, para llevar paz, amor y alegría a los demás, primero debemos estar llenos de Dios. **Nadie puede dar lo que no tiene**, y María tenía en su corazón la gracia de Dios, la cual compartió con Isabel.

## El Vacío Interior y sus Consecuencias

Se nos invita a reflexionar sobre la relación entre la prisa y el vacío interior. Muchas veces, la velocidad con la que vivimos provoca accidentes, no solo de tráfico, sino también de relaciones humanas. Se nos recuerda que, cuando una persona está vacía de amor, paz y sentido, su prisa la ciega a las necesidades de los demás, provocando conflictos. La metáfora de las esferas navideñas ilustra esta idea: **"muy bonitas por fuera, pero vacías por dentro"**. Cuando dos esferas vacías chocan, se rompen con facilidad. Lo mismo ocurre con las personas: si estamos vacíos, cualquier palabra, crítica o gesto nos hace "estallar" en enojo, tristeza o depresión. La clave es **llenar el corazón de Dios, paz y amor**, para no ser frágiles como las esferas de vidrio.

## La Plenitud Interior de María: Un Modelo a Seguir

María fue capaz de transmitir paz, gozo y Espíritu Santo con un simple saludo. Esto fue posible porque su corazón estaba lleno de amor, fe y la presencia de Dios. Esta plenitud interior se convierte en una enseñanza para todos. En lugar de enfocarnos solo en los adornos navideños, se nos invita a llenar nuestro corazón con la presencia de Dios. Así, los saludos navideños no serán simples palabras, sino portadores de paz y amor. María nos enseña que, si estamos llenos de Dios, cada gesto, palabra o saludo podrá llevar esperanza, alegría y salvación a quienes nos rodean.

## Reflexión sobre el Tiempo y la Velocidad del Año

Al llegar a fin de año, muchas personas sienten que el tiempo ha pasado muy rápido. Esta percepción de la rapidez no siempre está relacionada con la velocidad del tiempo, sino con la forma en que vivimos. **No es el tiempo el que va rápido, sino nosotros los que vamos vacíos**. Vivir apresuradamente sin prestar atención a los detalles de la vida nos hace sentir que el año ha pasado de forma fugaz. La invitación es a detenernos y contemplar, a no vivir con prisas egoístas, sino con una urgencia llena de propósito, al estilo de María. Solo llenando nuestro interior con la presencia de Dios podremos disfrutar plenamente cada momento de la vida.

## Prepararse para la Navidad con el Corazón Lleno de Paz

La enseñanza final de esta reflexión se resume en la invitación a prepararnos para la Navidad, no con prisas vacías ni adornos externos, sino con un corazón lleno de paz y amor. La Navidad no se trata solo de decorar la casa o comprar regalos, sino de tener una **experiencia interior de encuentro con Dios**. Se nos motiva a seguir el ejemplo de María, quien llevó la presencia de Dios a la casa de Isabel. De esta forma, el saludo de "Feliz Navidad" no serán simples palabras vacías, sino expresiones reales de amor. La paz, la serenidad y la plenitud interior que llevemos en nuestro corazón se reflejarán en cada gesto, cada palabra y cada acción durante esta Navidad. **"Que a ejemplo de María, seamos capaces de transmitir un verdadero mensaje de paz, porque llevamos la paz en nuestro corazón"**.

*Fr. Everardo Cázares*



# BLOOD DRIVE

## St. Mary's Catholic Church - Brenham

**Sunday, January 5  
8:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Parish Activity Center**

Contact Larry Alexander (281) 948-9117  
(l.alexander1955@gmail.com)  
sponsor code: 2592

**PROMOTION: HOODIES!!**

**CLAIM YOURS HERE:**



*Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome.*

*Mia, blood recipient*



**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.



### **Wellness Ministry Tip**

If you have trouble opening prescription bottles; talk to your pharmacy, some pharmacies may be able to provide EZ open caps for your medication

### ***Consejo del Ministerio de Bienestar***

*Si tiene problemas para abrir los frascos de medicamentos recetados, hable con su farmacia. Algunas farmacias pueden proporcionarle tapas fáciles de abrir para sus medicamentos.*

### **St. Mary's Wellness Ministry**

If you would like to join our ministry please call the Church Office.

*Si desea unirse a nuestro ministerio, llame a la Oficina de la Iglesia.*

### ***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, 2024 and February 14, 2025. 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 24th, 2024.

### ***Certificados de Reconocimiento para Matrimonios Patrocinados por el Consejo de Mujeres 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 2024 y el 14 de febrero de 2025. 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 24 de Enero del 2024.





**St. Teresa of Calcutta Society**

helps those in need.  
For assistance phone **979-525-0090**.  
Calls remain confidential.

**La Sociedad de Santa Teresa De Calcuta** 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 grandes cosas, pero sí podemos hacer cosas pequeñas con gran amor.”  
- Santa Teresa de Calcutta



Adult Formation. Starting Jan. 9.  
~ Scripture, Inspiration, Support ~

**AN INVITATION TO ACTS**

DVD by Dr. John Bergsma,  
St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

Join Bella Brigata, St. Catherine of Siena’s “beautiful brigade”

Thursdays, PAC, 10-11:30, for coffee & conversation

No cost. Questions: 713.501.0663 (Kathy)

**Perpetual Adoration**

Spend time with the Blessed Sacrament 24/7

“The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with him and make your soul everlasting more glorious and beautiful in Heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth.

“Blessed Teresa of Calcutta”

For more information or to sign up please contact the office at **979-836-4441**

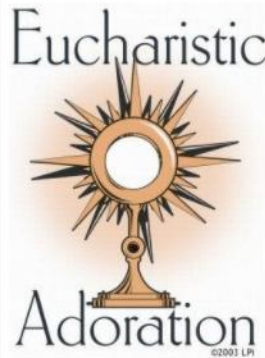
**Adoración Perpetua**

Pasa tiempo con el Santísimo Sacramento 24/7

El tiempo que pasas con Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento es el mejor tiempo que pasarás en la tierra. Cada momento que pases con Jesús profundizará tu unión con él y hará que tu alma sea eternamente más gloriosa y hermosa en el Cielo, y ayudará a lograr la paz eterna en la tierra.

“Santa Teresa de Calcutta”

Para mas información o para registrarse por favor comuníquese con la oficina al **979-836-4441**



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**



*Come Holy Spirit, breath and life of God and fill us this day with all that is holy. Give us the courage and strength that you gave Mary. During these days of our final preparations for Christmas, may we too hear your words ‘Do not be afraid, I am with you.’*

**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 Por favor contacte a Shirley Rowan.***



Religious Education Christmas Holiday has begun.

Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 8 and Sunday, January 12.

Have a safe and blessed Christmas!

*Las vacaciones de Navidad de han comenzado.*

*Las clases se reanudarán el miércoles 8 de enero y el domingo 12 de enero.*

*¡Que tengan una feliz y segura Navidad!*



*Preparación Pre-Matrimonial*

Las platicas requeridas para la preparación matrimonial comenzaran este Febrero.

Para mas información y para inscribirse a las platicas favor de comunicarse a la oficina parroquial para obtener los requisitos al 979-836-4441 de martes a viernes de 8am—5pm.



**NEXT AVAILABLE  
BAPTISMS/  
SIGUIENTES  
BAUTIZOS  
DISPONIBLES**

January 4 - English—10:00 a.m.

4 de Enero - Español—11:00 a.m.

**Next available class/  
Siguiente clase disponible**

Tuesday, January 21- English 6:30 p.m.

Jueves, 16 de Enero - Español 6:00 p.m.

For more information and requirements, please call the church office.

Para mas información y obtener los requisitos, por favor llame a la oficina parroquial

*Please call Church Office at (979) 836-4441 to register for classes and baptisms*







# Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

## Christmas Liturgies Christmas Eve, Tuesday December 24th

4:00 pm Kids English

6:00 pm English Mass

8:00 pm Spanish Mass

11:15 pm Christmas Concert

11:45 pm Midnight Mass

## Christmas Day Wednesday December 25th

10:30 am English

12:30 pm Spanish

4:00 pm Latin at Retreat Center

# Merry Christmas!

701 Church St.

979-836-4441

[www.brenhamcatholic.org](http://www.brenhamcatholic.org)



## DEACON'S CORNER

In today's Gospel Mary has just agreed to the angel Gabriel's proposal that she become the mother of the messiah becoming God bearer, Mother of God and Woman of Faith. She fulfills an Old Testament image. In the Old Testament God's presence dwelt among the people in the Ark of the Covenant; a wooden box covered in gold that traveled with the Jews in the desert. Later King David brought it to Jerusalem. The ark contained 3 things: The rod of Aaron the High Priest, some of the manna the bread from heaven, and God's Word the 10 commandments. This Old Testament Ark is a precursor of Mary the Ark of the New Testament Covenant. Why? Because in her body she bears Jesus the true High Priest, the true Bread of Life (John 6), and God's WORD, the New Law of the New Covenant. She is what the Old Testament Ark looked forward to. King David carried the OT Ark among the people. Mary the NT Ark carries God's presence among the people. Additionally, (noted by Scot Hahn). After the angel Gabriel departed, Mary the New Testament Ark "set out" for the hill country of Judah, something King David did many years before with the OT Ark. ( 2 Sm. 6:2). When Mary encounters Elizabeth, John the Baptist leaps in Elizabeth's womb. Similarly scripture tells us that King David danced before the OT Ark (2 Samuel 6:16). And finally the OT Ark stayed three months in "the house of Obed-edom." Mary the NT Ark stays three months in "the house of Zechariah" (Luke 1:40,56; 2 Samuel 6:11 Hahn). Mary said yes to God and God became

incarnate in the Ark of her womb. Jesus lived within her. Have we said yes to God? Does Jesus live in us? Do we bear God among the people?

**Deacon John**

### RINCON DEL DIACONO

*En el evangelio de hoy María acaba de acceder a la propuesta del ángel Gabriel de convertirse en madre del mesías convirtiéndose en portadora de Dios, Madre de Dios y Mujer de fe. Ella cumple una imagen del Antiguo Testamento. En el Antiguo Testamento la presencia de Dios habitaba entre el pueblo en el Arca del Pacto; una caja de madera recubierta de oro que viajó con los judíos por el desierto. Posteriormente el rey*



*David lo llevó a Jerusalén. El arca contenía 3*

*cosas: la vara de Aarón el Sumo Sacerdote, algo del maná, el pan del cielo, y la Palabra de Dios, los 10 mandamientos. Esta Arca del Antiguo Testamento es precursora de María, el Arca de la Alianza del Nuevo Testamento. ¿Por qué? Porque ella lleva en su cuerpo a Jesús, el verdadero Sumo Sacerdote, el verdadero Pan de Vida (Juan 6), y la PALABRA de Dios, la Nueva Ley del Nuevo Pacto. Ella es lo que esperaba el Arca del Antiguo Testamento. El rey David llevó el Arca del Antiguo Testamento entre el pueblo. María, el Arca del Nuevo Testamento, lleva la presencia de Dios entre el pueblo. Además (señalado por Scot Hahn). Después de la partida del ángel Gabriel, María, el Arca del Nuevo Testamento, "partió" hacia la región montañosa de Judá, algo que el rey David hizo muchos años antes con el Arca del Antiguo Testamento (2 Sam. 6:2). Cuando María se encuentra con Isabel, Juan Bautista salta en el vientre de Isabel. De manera similar, las Escrituras nos dicen que el rey David danzó ante el Arca del Antiguo Testamento (2 Samuel 6:16). Y finalmente el Arca del Antiguo Testamento permaneció tres meses en "la casa de Obed-edom". María, el Arca del Nuevo Testamento, permanece tres meses en "la casa de Zacarías" (Lucas 1:40,56; 2 Samuel 6:11 Hahn). María dijo sí a Dios y Dios se encarnó en el Arca de su vientre. Jesús vivió dentro de ella. ¿Le hemos dicho sí a Dios? ¿Vive Jesús en nosotros? ¿Llevamos a Dios entre el pueblo?*

**Diacono John**



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