

PRAYER CORNER

Father, We humbly come before You, interceding for our sick family and friends. We implore the power of the Holy Spirit to bring forth healing and restoration in their bodies. We ask through Jesus Christ Amen

Michael Rosales

Angie Reyes

Karen Darden Carter

Benny & Dorothy Mitchell

Craig Franklin

Japheth Pace

Willie Dedmon

Darryl Wilkerson

Johnny Govea

Monica Martinez

Filemon Gutierrez

Adam Gasca

Mary Maldonado

Amanda Ford

Sylvia Sykes

Fernando Ochoa

Isabel Mesker

Mary O'Rourke

Solomon McCarter

Christian Montalvo

Tommie Moore

Dexter Patterson

Terry McCravey

Veronica Garcia

Juanita & Kevin Thornton

Albert Johnson Jr.

Ysleta Franklin

Floyd & Evadell Ware

Iris Reedom

Darlene Parker

Malinda Walker

Alberee Haynes

Amiel Shelton

Jaylan Escobedo

Mary Bearden

Kurt Williams

George Waddell

Chris & Arriel Marshall

Adrian Salas

Wesley Matthews

May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace

Herman Peters

John Edd Walker

Helen Dorsey

Helen Randle

Our Mother of Mercy	
Stewardship Weekly Offering: 12/7/2025	
Regular Collection	\$ 3472.83
Weekday Mass	\$ 300.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 5.00
Parish Maintenance	\$ 353.00
St. Anne's Candles	\$ 89.50
St. Anne's Religious Articles	\$ 10.00
Bulletin Ads	\$ 15.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 80.00
Retired Religious-Diocesan	\$ 60.00
Christmas	\$ 95.00
Christmas List Donations	\$ 200.00
Spaghetti Dinner	\$100.00
Total Collection	\$ 4780.33
Total Weekend Attendance	180

ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN APPEAL

CATHOLIC stewardship IN ACTION

Give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal at:  
<https://bit.ly/DiocesanAppealfwdioc.org>

The KNIGHTS of PETER CLAVER  
and LADIES AUXILIARY

Council and  
Court #89

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JACK PAIS

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Mary Pichon Battle

Travel Agent/Owner

985-774-3141

Bonvoytrav@gmail.com

In Loving Memory of  
Larry & Olga Martinez,  
One Day at a Time.

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Space Available

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www.nolancatholic.org

OUR MOTHER OF MERCY

Historically African-American Catholic Church—all are welcome!

December 14, 2025

Bulletin printed in-house at:  
**Our Mother of Mercy  
Catholic Church**  
**1001 E. Terrell Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76104**  
**(817) 335-1695**  
**ourmother@omomftworth.org**

Pastoral Staff

**Fr. Peter Wiafe Akenteng, Pastor**  
Tom Giovannitti, Deacon  
Lydia Salas, Sec/Safe& Sacred Coord.  
Jennifer Rattliff, Bookkeeper  
Michael Ussin, Maintenance/Custodial  
Charlotte Mitchell, Bulletin  
Donna R. Patrick, Director, Gospel Choir  
Bernadine Silva, Music, Saturday Mass  
Emma Uwaniyigena, Rwanda/Burudi  
Catholic Community Choir

Religious Education:

Laura Moreno, Director

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul Help Line:**  
817-768-1950/svdpomm@gmail.com

**St. Anne's Society: Marie Guidry**  
marieguidry@sbcglobal.net

**Knights St. Peter Claver , Council #89**  
Michael Barks /817-845-1125

**St. Veronica Ladies Auxiliary Court 89**  
Carolyn Yusuf/817-726-6726  
carolynyusuf@sbcglobal.net

**Lector Coordinator:**  
Lanette Martinez Vidaurri  
817-228-3338/lanettemartinez@ymail.com

**Pastoral Council:**  
LaWonda Peoples, Chairperson

**Financial Council:**  
Fred Bob, Chairperson

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Office Hours

Wednesday and Thursday:  
11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Mass Times

Sunday: 10:00 am

Vigil Mass Sat: 5:00 pm

Mon thru Fri—7:00 am

Saturday: 8:00 am

Adoration Times

Wednesday: 5pm-7pm

Thursday: 7:30am-3:00pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm

Friday: 7:30am-noon

Saturday: 4pm-4:50pm

Rosary

Sunday 9:00 am

(1st Sunday Live-streamed)

Monday-Friday 6:20 am

Confession

Mon-Fri: 6am—6:50 am

7:30am-7:55am

Saturday 4pm-4:50pm

By appointment during office hours

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Dec. 14

Monday Dec. 15

Tuesday Dec. 16

Wednesday Dec. 17

Thursday Dec. 18

Friday Dec. 19

Saturday Dec. 20

8am Mass—

5pm Mass— Willars & Stepp families

Third Sunday  
of Advent

The 3rd Sunday of Advent Year A is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means “rejoice.” This Sunday reminds us that even while we wait, we can be joyful. Advent is a time of hope and preparation. But this week, we pause to smile, sing, and take heart.

On this 3rd Sunday of Advent Year A – Gaudete Sunday, we are reminded that patience is part of our journey of faith. Like John and the farmers in James’ letter, we are called to trust in God’s timing. This patience does not mean we sit idle; instead, we remain hopeful and active in our faith, knowing that God is at work even when we cannot see it. As we wait for the coming of Christ, we do so with joyful anticipation, trusting that the Lord will fulfill His promises.

Prayer

Lord, help us to see the signs of Your presence in our lives. Give us patience as we wait for You and fill our hearts with joy as we trust in Your promises. May we find hope in Your works and remain faithful in our journey toward Christmas. Amen.

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DONATE TO:

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church

Our Mother of Mercy Parish

Fort Worth, Texas

- GIVING -

SCAN this QR code using your mobile device and enter the amount and payment information

ONLINE DONATION CARD

Thank you for your contributions of financial support to the parish.



**December Live Stream Schedule**  
12/14—Isabel Garza  
12/21—Jennifer Rattliff  
12/28—Howard Rattliff  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**November Lector Schedule**  
12/13—Natasha Cha  
12/14—Amanda Flood Carolyn Yusuf  
12/20—Lanette Martinez-Vidaurre  
12/21—LaWonda Peoples  
Stephanie Rodriguez  
12/27—Lanette Martinez—Vidaurre  
12/28—Lydia Salas  
Zayn Willars  
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**December Special Collections**  
12/14—St. Vincent De Paul  
12/21—National Collection for Retired Religious  
12/25—Christmas

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church  
**RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
AND  
*ADVENT Retreat*  
  
**05:00 - 07:00 PM | WEDNESDAY: DEC. 17, 2025**  
1001 E. TERRELL AVE. FORT WORTH, TX  
  
**WITH FATHER :**  
*PETER WAFF AKENTENG*  
  
WWW.OMOMFTWORTH.ORG. 817.335.1695



**Daily Readings for the Week**  
Dec. 14—Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11  
Dec. 15—Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21: 23-27  
Dec. 16—Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21: 28-32  
Dec. 17—Gn 49: 2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17  
Dec. 18—Jer 23: 5-8; Mt 1: 18-25  
Dec. 19—Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25  
Dec. 20—Is 7: 10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**3rd Sunday of Advent Reflection**  
  
John the Baptist was no reed swaying in the wind. A reed swaying in the wind is a symbol of those who are easily influenced, who go along with whatever is popular, and who have no convictions of their own. But the humble reed can teach us something. The fact that it is light mean that it is at the mercy of every wind that blows. But it has great strength too. The greatest storm cannot uproot it. Even when giant oaks come crashing down, the slender reed still stands secure. Lord, teach us that there is strength in weakness and suppleness, and give us the wisdom to know when to bend and when to stand firm.

**Vocation Seeds**  
  
*“Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” (Matthew 11:2-3)*  
  
John’s question invites us to seek Christ’s presence in our lives. If you feel a spark of joy in serving others, God might be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life, sharing His healing love as a shepherd. Listen closely to His voice. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (817) 945-9321 or via email: vocations@fwdioc.org

Below is an excerpt from the **Diocese of Fort Worth** from Bishop Michael F. Olson, regarding the Founding of the New Carmelite Monastery in the Diocese of Fort Worth

*“ With profound joy and gratitude to God, I am pleased to announce that the Holy See—through the **Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life**—has granted permission for the establishment of a **Discalced Carmelite Monastery** in Northern Cooke County, Texas, in the Diocese of Fort Worth. This decision, confirmed by the favorable vote of the Dicastery and the permission of the President of the “Christ the King” Association of Discalced Carmelite Monasteries in the U.S.A., marks a moment of extraordinary grace for our local Church. In their cloistered life, the nuns gather continually before the Lord to offer reparation for sins, to pray for the sanctification of the People of God, and for the salvation of souls. As St. Paul assures us, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). With faith, we confidently entrust this new Carmel to the loving providence he of God and the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.*

To read this statement in it’s entirety, go to the Catholic Diocese of Ft. Worth website at [fwdioc.org/ebulletin-12-4-2025](http://fwdioc.org/ebulletin-12-4-2025)

**Missionary Childhood Association National Christmas Artwork Contest 2025-2026**  
Announcing the 2025-2026 Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) National Christmas Artwork Contest! Entries are received until January 31, 2026. For Contest guidelines and the entry form, please visit:  
EN: <https://fwdioc.org/mca-national-christmas-artwork-contest>  
ES: <https://fwdioc.org/concurso-nacional-de-arte-navideno-de-mca>  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**Texas Education Freedom Act**  
Oscar Ortiz, Executive Director of Strategic Outreach & Educational Access of the FW Diocese will be at OMM on **December 14**. to give a presentation on the Texas Education Freedom Act.  
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If you have received a email or text message from Fr. Peter, or any priest asking for money or gift cards, this is a SCAM. **Don’t respond.** Fr. Peter will not solicit donations this way. **Don’t respond, delete**  
\*\*\*\*\*



Regular Morning Mass—**Dec. 24**  
7:00 am  
Christmas Eve Mass—**Dec. 24**  
10:00 pm  
No Adoration  
Christmas Day Mass—**Dec. 25**  
10:00 am  
No 7:00 am mass  
No Adoration  
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Please plan on helping decorate the church for Christmas on December 23 after 7:00 am mass. Thank you.  
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Please consider donating to OMM wish list. The items are:

- Case of 8 1/2 x 11 copy paper
- Case of 11 x 17 copy paper
- 3 sets of child sized Altar Server robes.
- Rolls of US Postal Stamps

Your donations really helps support OMM parish. Thank you.  
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**Parishioners**  
**Do We Have Your**  
**Current Contact Info?**

Please put your corrected information on an index card and drop in the collection basket.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Mass**


The 40th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, **January 24, 2026**, at St. Patrick Cathedral in Fort Worth at 5:30 p.m. The main celebrant will be Most Rev. Michael F. Olson, STD, MA, Bishop of Fort Worth, and the homilist will be Most Rev. Joseph N. Perry, JCL, DD, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Chicago. All are encouraged to attend.  
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**Safe Environment Certification**

To volunteer in any capacity for the Parish you will need to complete a Safe Environment class. The initial class is **Protecting God’s Children** and is good for 2 years. The renewal class is **A Plan to Protect**. Renewals must be completed every 2 years. To renew/or start log in to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org): For assistance, call Lydia Salas/church office.



“Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.” This Advent, make the decision to grow in your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is Feb. 6-8, 2026. To apply go to [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org). Para mas informacion de Encuentro Matrimonial en Espanol, escriba a [mdgallegos06@gmail.com](mailto:mdgallegos06@gmail.com) 214-497-0188.  
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**Join the Youth Group**  
Parents, we are starting a Teen Youth Group here at OMM for teens ages 13-18. Zayn Willars will be available after mass, Sunday, December 14 to answer questions.

This youth group will focus on growing together in faith, community, service and there are great activities planned. All youth and parents are invited to attend.  
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OMM Gospel Choir cordially invites everyone to come hear and sing some of your favorite Christmas  
\* Carols of the Season  
9:30pm  
Christmas Eve, 12/24/2025  
\* followed by mass at 10:00pm  