

Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

PARISH OFFICES

9323 Highway 165 South
P. O. Box 408,
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485
Phone - (318) 487-9894 - Website: mmjchurch.org



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family and marital situation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc., you are invited, welcomed, loved, and respected here.

Rev. Paul M. LaPalme, KHS

Pastor

2120 Coulee Crossing Road, Woodworth, LA 71485
(318) 487-9894 - fatherpaul@mmjchurch.org

Ms Cindy Campbell

Secretary/Bookkeeper ~ Safe Environment

(318) 487-9894 - secretary@mmjchurch.org

Dr. Mary DeVille, PhD

Organist/Director of Music

Adult Faith Formation ~ Lectors

(318) 487-9894 - devillem@nsula.edu

Mrs. Katie Upton

Director, Religious Ed and Youth Ministries

(318) 308-9991 - ccd@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Stacy Wheat

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 306-0238 - Stacylwheat@gmail.com

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

(318) 446-1153 - bgadel@prodigy.net

M/M Keith and Beth Chapman

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 623-8016 - bethchapman@bellsouth.net

M/M Jody and Jackie Byrd

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 451-5596 - jodybyrd@hotmail.com

LIVE STREAMING

For the benefit of our homebound parishioners, we livestream the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass weekly. To watch it on You Tube, search for MMJ Woodworth.

OUR MISSION Statement

To live, love, forgive, and serve the needs of others in the example of Jesus Christ.

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Reconciliation/Confession

30 minutes before every weekend Mass.

Baptism

Celebrated during any weekend Mass or other convenient time. Contact the church office.

Holy Matrimony

Contact the pastor at least six months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick and Communion Calls

Please call the office when a parishioner is confined at home, is in the hospital, or placed in a nursing home or hospice. Holy Communion is brought weekly to all shut-ins.

Mass of Christian Burial

All arrangements should be made directly with the funeral home who will then contact the church.

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:00PM - Neil Kavanagh, David Foshee, Sr.

Lector: G. Patty

Server: A. Byrd

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00AM - Betty Jones

Lector: R. Normand

Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback

Lector: J. Antee

Server: V. Montalvo, J. Malone

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: H. Reynolds, J. Moreau

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00AM - Gene Tucker

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00AM - Betty Jones

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00AM - Betty Mathews 90th birthday remembrance

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

WEEK OF DECEMBER 23, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:00PM - Jack Ellington, Jackie Kroll Reine

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00AM - Mary Lee and Gerald Robichaux, Sr.

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Lisa Ann Wilkerson Williams

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: C. Mathews

4:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

6:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: A. Schexnyder

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30AM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: TBA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:00AM - Betty Jones

If you are a victim or survivor of sexual abuse by members of the Catholic clergy or representatives of the Catholic Church and you want to make a formal complaint of abuse to the diocese, arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative, and/or to obtain support for the needs of the individual and families, call Dr. Lee Kneipp, Victim Assistance Coordinator (318) 542-9805 or the LA Child Abuse **HOTLINE** (855) 452-5451. Diocesan Protecting our Children - Understanding, Reporting, and Preventing Child Abuse” brochures are available in the narthex bookcase. Both the Diocesan Policy for the Protection of Minors, and the Diocesan Code of Pastoral Conduct are in the safe environment section at www.diocesealex.org

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF STEPHEN RODEBACK
BY HIS WIFE, JUNE**

If you would like to have a loved one or special intention remembered by providing for the sanctuary candle, please contact the parish office. The cost is \$7.00 per candle.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Sara Richard and Cody Fitzgerald
November 16, 2024

OUR FIRST PENANCE CANDIDATES

Emma Brundrett, Jude Flook, Eric Lohman, Landry Mitten, Stevie Patin, Reed Ponthier, Miles Schexndyer, Collin Stewart, Lillie Stewart, Abigail Upton, Isabella Winegeart, Wyatt Winegeart

OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Izzie Antee, Hannah Daigrepoint, Donald Ducote, Jadyn Foote, Cayden Mathews, Vivian Montalvo, Alexander Rubio

OUR OCIA CANDIDATES

Garrett Francis, Madeline Francis, Sarah Francis

OUR SICK, RECOVERING, CONVALESCING

After two weeks names are removed unless notification to retain someone is received in the collection, at secretary@mmjchurch.org, calling 487-9894x1200 or by mail. Exceptions can be made, of course.

Brian Dobard, Daniel Jones, Linda Kelly, Lloyd Killen, Debbie Duck Lyles, Jacques Matt, Jo Tassin, John Upton, Jennifer Weatherford, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Janet Lamkin, Cecile Liotta, Janet Normand, Jane Richey, Mike Stevens, Joe & Irene Thompson

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Patricia "Patty" Mahone, Adrienne Stevens, Donna White

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Kory Butler, Brandon Coreil, David J. Francis, Dustin Guillory, Michael Hawthorne, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Robin Perry, Michael Smilie, Chuck Williams

Please inform us if you know of anyone who should be included or removed. You may also use a pew envelope for this purpose.

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY GIFTS - 12/10/2023

Regular Collection	\$ 4,465.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,260.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
Overage	\$ 195.00
Goal for December (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for December	\$ <u>13,467.00</u>
Still needed for December	\$ 19,183.00
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 335.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 435.00
Retired Religious	\$ 75.00
Christmas	\$ 200.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MERCI BEAUCOUP!!

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2023	\$ 21,256.00
Pledged (52 families)	\$ <u>34,870.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 11,185.00

ELECTRONIC GIVING

This is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow. It allows you to create or alter your contribution schedule at any time and see reports of your contribution history that you can use for your records. When you can't attend Mass, your electronic contributions will arrive without delay. Visit our website: www.mmjchurch.org

REGISTRATION/CENSUS

Do you consider Mary, Mother of Jesus Church "home"? Do you worship with us regularly? If you have not done so already, we ask that you please register in our parish. Forms for this purpose are available in the church or online at www.mmjchurch.org. Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

FAITH FORMATION**GRADES PREK - 5**

Wednesday, January 10
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

GRADES 6 - 12

Wednesday, January 10
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS

Wednesday, January 10
6:00 p.m. - Church

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION CLASS

Tuesday, March 19
5:30p.m. - Church Hall

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Every Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Mass
During the Liturgy of the Word
Ages 4 - 7 - Youth Center

OCIA

If you are not Catholic and have been thinking about initiation in the Catholic Church, or if you are a Baptized Catholic who has not celebrated all three of the Sacraments of Initiation, consider joining the **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults**. **OCIA** is the process by which people celebrate their Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, in the Catholic Church.

Who is OCIA for?

- ⇒ **Unbaptized...** Persons (7 years and older) who want to follow in Jesus' footsteps and become members of the Catholic Church;
- ⇒ **Baptized in Another Christian Church...** Those members from a different Christian community other than Catholic who are seeking full initiation in the Catholic Church;
- ⇒ **Baptized but no previous Religious Education...** persons who were baptized as babies in the Catholic Church but have not had any Religious Education within the Catholic Tradition. Have you celebrated all of your sacraments of Communion and Confirmation?

Please contact either Beth and Keith Chapman or Jody and Jackie Byrd. Their contact information is on the front page of the bulletin.

Monday, December 18 - 5:30 p.m.
Church Hall

CHURCH NEWS**BREAKFAST & PICTURES WITH ST. NICHOLAS**

Thank you to the Men of MMJ for a delicious breakfast, to our always faithful photographer, Mr. Derwood Delaney, and of course St. Nicholas!!

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Please return the unwrapped gifts, with the tag affixed, to the church this weekend.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND

This fund enables us to decorate the Church during the Christmas season. The donors and those remembered will be listed in the bulletin the weekend of January 13-14, 2024. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is in the pews and your monthly packet. You may use one of your own envelopes. Remember to include on the envelope the name(s) of those to be remembered/honored.

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 24
4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25
9:30 a.m.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Monday, January 1, 2024
8:00 a.m.

Since the holy day falls on Monday this year, attendance at mass is not obligatory.

EPIPHANY POT LUCK SUPPER

Saturday, January 6 - Serving starts at 5:30 p.m.

The Church is providing the pork loin, chili dogs, and drinks. Please bring your favorite side-dishes to share.

LADIES' ROSARY MINISTRY

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church.

ROMEOS

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

QUILTING MINISTRY

Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 17

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11
 Luke 1:46-50,53-54
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8,19-28

Monday, December 18

Jeremiah 23:5-8
 Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19
 Matthew 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a
 Ps 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17
 Luke 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20

Isaiah 7:10-14
 Ps 24:1-4b,5-6
 Luke 1:26-38

Thursday, December 21

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a
 Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21
 Luke 1:39-45

Friday, December 22

1 Samuel 1:24-28
 1 Samuel 2:1,4-8d
 Luke 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24
 Ps 25:4-5b,8-10,14
 Luke 1:57-66

John the Baptist came to "testify to the light." What does this mean?

We know that Jesus is the Light of Truth shining in the darkness to draw us to eternal life. And we know that his Spirit enlightens us in the truth so that we can be saved from the destructive forces of our sins and follow our Savior to heaven. But what was the testimony of John? How did he testify to the light? And how does this affect our lives today?

John's testimony was: "I am not the Christ. I am a voice. A voice in the desert." His testimony brings us to the Light of Christ by challenging us with: "Where is your life arid and dry? Listen! Christ is coming to meet you there! Stop wandering around! Repent, change, do whatever is necessary to look for Jesus so that you can find him. He is coming to you!"

We've all experienced times when Jesus seems unavailable when we need him. What has opened your

eyes to his presence? Whose voice has turned you back to God? It's time to do the same for others, to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to those who are held captive in their sins, and to announce how to be blessed by a close friendship with the Lord.

We all have the same testimony and the same calling as John had: We are all supposed to be voices crying out loud enough to be heard above the din of the world. Many souls are lost in the wilderness of confusion, hopelessness, pain,

heartache, and despair, not to mention sin.

What kind of a voice do you have? Because we have Christ within us, our very lives are the voice.

Even if our vocal chords do not utter a single word, the way we live in the light is how we speak the truth of the light. The better we live the truth, the louder and clearer is our message.

What people choose to do with our message is up to them, but it's up to us to speak it so that they're given that choice.



Reflect & Discuss:

- † How has your life been changed by your faith in Jesus? What evil has been conquered, what darkness has been overcome?
- † How has the Spirit of the Lord anointed you?
- † What gifts do you have that enable you to give to the poor (the financially poor or the emotionally starving or the spiritually hungry) or to heal broken hearts?
- † How has God used you to provide liberty to captives and release to prisoners?
- † How are these a testimony that teach others about Jesus?

Mary, Mother of Jesus Catholic Church

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Church Operating Fund

For the 3 Months Ended September 30, 2023

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

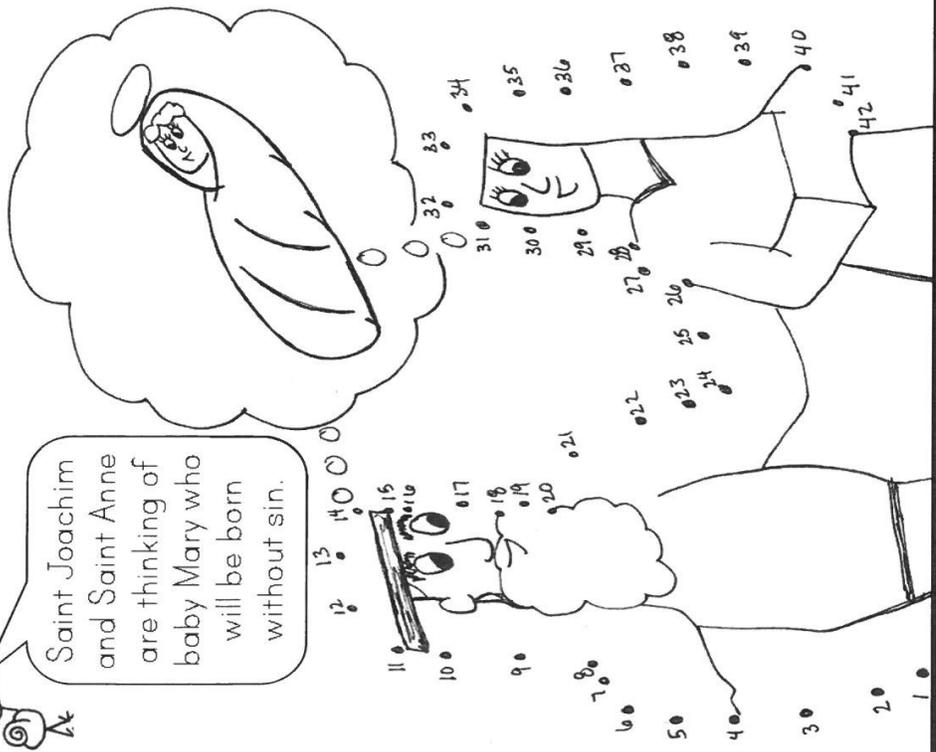
	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	VARIANCE
CHURCH RECEIPTS			
Regular Collections and Contributions	\$ 78,390.00	\$ 80,921.00	\$ (2,531.00)
Repairs & Maintenance Collections	\$ 960.00	\$ 707.00	\$ 253.00
Building Fund Collections	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 1,960.00	\$ (745.00)
Special Parish Purpose Collections	\$ 100.00	\$ 777.00	\$ (677.00)
Fundraising Adult, Youth, Other Income	\$ 7,229.09	\$ 4,089.00	\$ 3,140.09
Parish Suppers	\$ -	\$ 649.00	\$ (649.00)
Church Hall Rental Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Regular Non-Collection Receipts	\$ 1,096.00	\$ 797.11	\$ 298.89
Total Receipts	\$ 88,990.09	\$ 89,900.11	\$ (910.02)
CHURCH EXPENSES			
Clergy Earnings	\$ 9,038.26	\$ 9,521.77	\$ (483.51)
Lay Employee Salary & Benefits	\$ 20,764.83	\$ 24,966.84	\$ (4,202.01)
Diocesan Support Assessment	\$ 14,860.00	\$ 14,280.00	\$ 580.00
Charitable Donations	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,255.39	\$ 344.61
Mass & Liturgical Supplies	\$ 5,620.02	\$ 5,433.95	\$ 186.07
Insurance	\$ 5,108.41	\$ 4,511.26	\$ 597.15
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 725.42	\$ 822.83	\$ (97.41)
Parish Offices & Rectory	\$ 8,435.74	\$ 6,838.68	\$ 1,597.06
Religious Education, Programs & Services	\$ 7,954.08	\$ 3,090.37	\$ 4,863.71
Youth, Programs & Services	\$ 80.20	\$ -	\$ 80.20
Parish Supper Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,521.91	\$ (1,521.91)
Maintenance & Improvements	\$ 7,033.25	\$ 3,801.45	\$ 3,231.80
Buildings, Furnishings, & Remodeling	\$ 2,352.41	\$ 10,894.45	\$ (8,542.04)
Utilities & Telephone	\$ 8,141.71	\$ 9,952.74	\$ (1,811.03)
All Other Expenses	\$ 309.51	\$ 147.21	\$ 162.30
Total Expenses	\$ 92,023.84	\$ 97,038.85	\$ (5,015.01)
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES	\$ (3,033.75)	\$ (7,138.74)	

Immaculate Conception

December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We believe that all of us are born with the sin of Adam and Eve, but Mary didn't have that sin. She was totally pure so she could be Jesus' Mom.



Saint Joachim and Saint Anne are thinking of baby Mary who will be born without sin.



Immaculate Conception

Catholic Kids Bulletin

December 8, 2023
Immaculate Conception
Color: White



PW SING TO THE LORD WA

BKENEW PSONGLFOR

Sing to the Lord
a new song,
for He has done
marvelous
deeds.

BKED EEDSOWKEICO

HEPHASODONEOMARVELOUSOEW



Today we celebrate that
Mary was born
without sin.

Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the **FREE** mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and follow the prompts under “Sign In” to “Create a login now.” Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for “**Instant Church Directory**” to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

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