

# 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](http://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](mailto:fatherpaul@mmjchurch.org)

### **Ms Cindy Campbell**

*Secretary/Bookkeeper ~ Safe Environment*

(318) 487-9894 - [secretary@mmjchurch.org](mailto:secretary@mmjchurch.org)

### **Dr. Mary DeVille, PhD**

*Organist/Director of Music*

*Adult Faith Formation ~ Lectors*

(318) 487-9894 - [devillem@nsula.edu](mailto:devillem@nsula.edu)

### **Mrs. Katie Upton**

*Director, Religious Ed and Youth Ministries*

(318) 308-9991 - [ccd@mmjchurch.org](mailto:ccd@mmjchurch.org)

### **Mrs. Stacy Wheat**

*First Penance/First Eucharist*

(318) 306-0238 - [Stacylwheat@gmail.com](mailto:Stacylwheat@gmail.com)

### **Mr. Brad Gadel**

*Confirmation Preparation*

(318) 446-1153 - [bgadel@prodigy.net](mailto:bgadel@prodigy.net)

### **M/M Keith and Beth Chapman**

*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)*

(318) 623-8016 - [bethachapman@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethachapman@bellsouth.net)

### **M/M Jody and Jackie Byrd**

*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)*

(318) 451-5596 - [jodybyrd@hotmail.com](mailto: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 FEBRUARY 10, 2024

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:00PM - Garland "Buddy: Williamson, Adrien,  
Larry, Marty, Lena, & Jim Doiron

*Lector: G. Patty*  
*Server: L. Brocato*

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

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

*Lector: R. Normand*  
*Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Eugene F. LaPalme 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Re-  
membrance, Dee Smart

*Lector: B. Lowe*  
*Server: A. Brundrett*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Reynolds*  
*Server: A. Byrd*

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7:00AM - Betty Jones

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

7:00AM - Shirley & Rickey Sayes

*Lector: M. Brundrett*  
*Server: A. Brundrett*

4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word

*Lector: M. Leleux*

5:30PM - Lloyd Killen

*Lector: J. Montalvo*  
*Server: V. Montalvo*

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

7:00AM - Betty Mathews 11<sup>th</sup> anniv.

### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK

IN LOVING MEMORY OF TANNER KELLY

BY MIKE & MARCIA LELEUX

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.

### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2024

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH  
2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION: BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

4:00PM - Irma "Tookie" Cospelich, Adrien,  
Larry, Marty, Lena, & Jim Doiron

*Lector: J. Louviere*  
*Server: L. Brocato*

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00AM - Todd Mizell

*Lector: G. Delaney*  
*Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback, Dee Smart

*Lector: M. Brundrett*  
*Server: C. Mathews*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Montalvo*  
*Server: H. Reynolds*

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

7:00AM - Shirley & Rickey Sayes

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:00AM - Richard Gadel

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

7:00AM - Mary Lee & Gerald Robichaux, Sr.

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](http://www.diocesealex.org)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER****OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

**THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY**Sara Richard and Cody Fitzgerald  
November 16, 2024**OUR FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES**

Saturday, May 4, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

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**

Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

Izzie Antee, Hannah Daigrepont, Donald Ducote, Jadyne 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.*

Jacob Antee, Maggie Avant, Gerri Craft, Brian Dobard, Thomas Hickman, Daniel Jones, Linda Kelly, Debbie Duck Lyles, Jacques Matt, Jo Tassin, John Upton, Heather Warren Stokes, Tonya Wood

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Janet Lamkin, Cecile Liotta, Janet Normand, Jane Richey, Joe &amp; 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 - 02/04/2024**

Regular Collection	\$ 5,529.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,405.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,530.00
<b>Overage</b>	<b>\$ 1,404.00</b>

Goal for February (4 Sundays)	\$ 26,120.00
Received for February	\$ 7,934.00
<b>Still needed for February</b>	<b>\$ 18,186.00</b>

Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 520.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 80.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$ 85.00
Church Today	\$ 50.00
Central & Eastern Europe Church	\$ 85.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**  
**MERCI BEAUCOUP!!****ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

Parish Goal 2023 \$ 21,256.00

As a Catholic community, we are called to be one body in Christ and to live as His disciples. The Annual Diocesan Appeal offers each of us the opportunity to become one in His body by supporting the ministries of the local Church and contributing to the ADA.

**"Remember that when you leave this earth, you take with you nothing that you have received only what you have been given: A full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage." (St. Francis of Assisi)****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](http://www.mmjchurch.org)

**FAITH FORMATION****GRADES PREK - 5**

Ash Wednesday Mass - 5:30 p.m.

**GRADES 6 - 12**

Ash Wednesday Mass - 5:30 p.m.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS**

Ash Wednesday Mass - 5:30 p.m.

**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, February 12 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**Church Hall**

**CHURCH NEWS****WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 p.m. Mass*World Marriage Sunday*

Papal blessings will be presented and vows reaffirmed for parishioners who previously notified us of their 2023 "milestone" anniversary: Keith & Beth Chapman (50), Angie & Colt James (40), Clif & Diane Fuqua (35), Jennifer & Claude Weatherford (25).

**PRO LIFE MINISTRIES**Monday, February 12  
5:00 p.m. - Church Hall**MUG AND MUFFIN**Thursday, February 15  
9:30 a.m. - Church Hall

Sunday, March 10  
2:00 a.m. - We Spring Ahead By One Hour

**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.

**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](http://www.mmjchurch.org). Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

**LENTEN NEWS****CHURCH OFFICES**

The offices will be closed on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Mardi Gras.

As is our Lenten tradition, there will be no music, bells, or the St. Michael the Archangel prayer at the end of weekend Masses. Also, the weekend homilies will be brief enough to allow time for meditation and reflection.

**FEBRUARY 14**

7:00 a.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes  
 4:00 p.m. - Prayer Service with imposition of ashes  
 5:30 p.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes

Fr. Paul will be visiting our shut-ins with holy communion and ashes.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat and we have only one full meal. The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics 14 years of age and older. The obligation to fast, limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of the day, binds Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. Those who are younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. But Lenten disciplines should never endanger your health. It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent.

**EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND**

This fund enables us to decorate the Church during the 50 days of the Easter season. The donors and those to be remembered will be listed in the May 25-26 bulletin. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is in the pews, your monthly packet, or one of your own. Don't forget to include on the envelope the name(s) of your loved one(s) to be remembered/honored.

**WAY OF THE CROSS**

Fridays - 6:00PM

**MEN OF MMJ - FRIDAY FISH FRY**

February 16, 23. March 1, 8, 15

Serving begins at 5:00 p.m.

\$9.00 per plate

Eat in or take out.

**COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE**

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

There will be 4 priests to celebrate individual Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession.

**MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Thursday, March 28, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 29, 2024**

The Lord's Passion - 3:00 p.m.

The Way of the Cross - 6:00 p.m.

**EASTER VIGIL - MARCH 30, 2024**

8:00 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY - MARCH 31, 2024**

8:00 a.m. - Mass

9:00 a.m. - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny



9:45 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 a.m. - Mass

**No 5:00 p.m. Mass Easter Sunday**



## Mary, Mother of Jesus Catholic Church

### Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

### Church Operating Fund

For the 3 Months Ended December 31, 2023

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

	Fiscal Year 2023-2024	Fiscal Year 2022-2023	VARIANCE
<b>CHURCH RECEIPTS</b>			
Regular Collections and Contributions	\$ 101,257.00	\$ 90,789.00	\$ 10,468.00
Repairs & Maintenance Collections	\$ 435.00	\$ 3,635.00	\$ (3,200.00)
Building Fund Collections	\$ 2,290.00	\$ 1,235.00	\$ 1,055.00
Special Parish Purpose Collections	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 9,200.00	\$ (8,150.00)
Fundraising Adult, Youth, Other Income	\$ 2,245.00	\$ 4,998.00	\$ (2,753.00)
Parish Suppers	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Church Hall Rental Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Proceeds		\$ 4,737.52	\$ (4,737.52)
Regular Non-Collection Receipts	\$ 6,980.07	\$ 4,740.73	\$ 2,239.34
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>\$ 114,557.07</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 119,435.25</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (4,878.18)</u></b>
<b>CHURCH EXPENSES</b>			
Clergy Earnings	\$ 8,400.58	\$ 8,536.86	\$ (136.28)
Lay Employee Salary & Benefits	\$ 15,486.83	\$ 25,938.47	\$ (10,451.64)
Diocesan Support Assessment	\$ 15,150.00	\$ 14,280.00	\$ 870.00
Charitable Donations	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 7,294.49	\$ (5,354.49)
Mass & Liturgical Supplies	\$ 14,934.89	\$ 9,371.08	\$ 5,563.81
Insurance	\$ 5,284.68	\$ 4,602.39	\$ 682.29
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 745.61	\$ 1,294.43	\$ (548.82)
Parish Offices & Rectory	\$ 5,731.45	\$ 7,583.33	\$ (1,851.88)
Religious Education, Programs & Services	\$ 7,743.16	\$ 539.14	\$ 7,204.02
Youth, Programs & Services		\$ 670.00	\$ (670.00)
Parish Supper Expenses	\$ 781.79	\$ 1,206.14	\$ (424.35)
Maintenance & Improvements	\$ 573.49	\$ 4,336.21	\$ (3,762.72)
Buildings, Furnishings, & Remodeling	\$ 9,359.78	\$ 12,946.45	\$ (3,586.67)
Utilities & Telephone	\$ 9,351.85	\$ 10,752.51	\$ (1,400.66)
All Other Expenses	\$ 5,221.20	\$ 2,151.21	\$ 3,069.99
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$ 100,705.31</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 111,502.71</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (10,797.40)</u></b>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 13,851.76</b>	<b>\$ 7,932.54</b>	

# Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday, February 11

Lv 13:1-2,44-46  
Ps 32:1-2,5,7,11  
1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1  
Mk 1:40-45

### Monday, February 12

Jas 1:1-11  
Ps 119:67-68,71-72,75-76  
Mk 8:11-13

### Tuesday, February 13

Jas 1:12-18  
Ps 94:12-13a,14-15,18-19  
Mk 8:14-21

### Wednesday, February 14

#### Ash Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18  
Ps 51:3-6b,12-14,17  
2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2  
Mt 6:1-6,16-18

### Thursday, February 15

Dt 30:15-20  
Ps 1:1-4,6  
Lk 9:22-25

### Friday, February 16

Is 58:1-9a  
Ps 51:3-6b,18-19  
Mt 9:14-15

### Saturday, February 17

Is 58:9b-14  
Ps 86:1-6  
Lk 5:27-32

This Sunday's second reading gives us a great motto that we should post on our bedroom mirrors so that it's the first thing we see as our sleepy eyes awaken each morning: "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God."

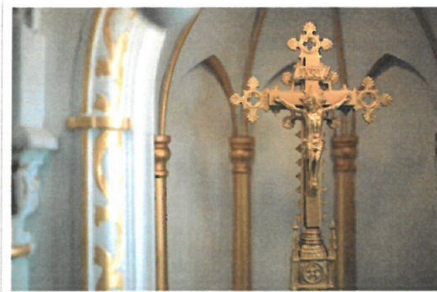
Everything! Brush your teeth for the glory of God. Kiss your family "Good morning!" for the glory of God. Go to Mass for the glory of God (in other words, we don't go to church just for what we can get out of it). Do your work for the glory of God. Drive politely for the glory of God. Shop and eat and greet others for the glory of God. Say yes to the needs of the Church for the glory of God.

And receive all that he wants to give you (the compliments, the money you earn, the unanswered prayers, the good times and rewards) all for the glory of God.

This should be part of our daily prayers every morning: "Holy Spirit, help me to do everything today for the glory of God. Amen!"

By making it a daily habit to start the day this way, the glory of God becomes integrated into our character. When we remember to see our activities through the lens of "whatever you do, do it for the glory of God", we become stronger in avoiding all kinds of sins. It sanctifies each moment of every day.

Often, we see religious activities as separate from our normal activities. We take "time out" from our schedules to go to church. We stop what we're doing when we want to pray. We



think that only Clergy and Religious can be religious all of the time and that a layperson who is like that is a "fanatic". But why?

Why should we limit "for the glory of God" to only what is "holy" – Mass attendance, religious rituals, prayers, the works of ministry, etc.? We can sanctify every moment by remembering that whatever we do, we want to please God with it.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What have you done already today that glorifies God? What is planned for later today and how can that be offered to God?
- † What will you do to remind yourself daily to do everything for the glory of God?
- † Describe ways that we can glorify God in normal, everyday activities. How do you turn mundane tasks into a gift for God?
- † When is it most difficult to glorify him? How can even our lapses into sin become blessings that glorify God?



## Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

### Ash Wednesday

How healing will your Lent be?

#### Read:

Joel 2:12-18

Ps 51:3-6, 12-14, 17

2 Corinthians 5:20 — 6:2

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

What victory do you need? What needs to be resurrected in your life?

For Easter to be more than just a day of colored eggs, fattening chocolates and big dinners, Lent needs to be more than just 40 days of obligatory sacrifices like meatless pizza on Fridays.

To experience the joy and power of resurrection, we have to take a journey through the experience of mourning and repentance. We have to experience the powerlessness of death: the death of our selfishness, the death of our worldliness, the death of behaviors that are not Christ-like.

In the first reading for Ash Wednesday, God beckons: "Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning." Fasting is worthwhile only if it improves our self-discipline so that we can resist sin and grow in holiness. We're hypocrites, like Jesus describes in today's Gospel passage, if fasting produces no inner changes.

What will your journey through Lent be like this year? What daily exercises will promote greater holiness? Here's a suggestion: Identify one fault — just one for now: one selfish behavior or one fear or one flaw or one unloving habit — and choose a daily activity or an abstinence for the duration of Lent that will help you overcome this behavior.

Tell God about this fault. He is beckoning: "Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning."



The readings from Joel and Psalm 51 remind us that God is merciful toward those who recognize their sinfulness and regret it so much that they're truly motivated to change. Dealing with our need to change can feel overwhelming and shameful, but if we keep our focus on God's mercy, we feel helped, healed, and finally resurrected.

By identifying and working on just one sinful tendency as our Lenten project, we can give it to Jesus, and by the end of Lent nail it to his cross and hear him offer it to God as he cries out, "Father forgive them....!" It will die with Jesus, and we'll be resurrected to a new life, a new level of holiness, a new closeness with Christ.

As you receive and wear your ashes, do it fully conscious of your need for forgiveness, with a commitment to overcome a significant sin by Easter.

Why do we keep the black smudges on our foreheads all day?

Not to win the admiration of others. It's a sign that we know we need to change! Otherwise, we should do as Jesus said: "When you fast, see to it that you ... wash your face" so that no one but God will know what you are doing.