

# *Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church*



## **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.



## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

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

### 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.

#### **Rev. Paul M. LaPalme KHS**

*Pastor*

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

#### **Deacon Paul Sunderhaus**

*Permanent Deacon*

*Adult Faith Formation*

*Altar Servers*

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

#### **Kenny Sayes**

*Permanent Deacon Candidate*

*Building Maintenance and Repair*

*Altar Servers*

*Homebound*

(318) 487-9894 - [ksayes@sayesoffice.com](mailto:ksayes@sayesoffice.com)

#### **Ms Cindy Campbell**

*Secretary/Bookkeeper*

*Safe Environment*

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

#### **Dr. Mary DeVille**

*Organist/Director of Music*

*Adult Faith Formation*

*Lectors*

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

#### **Mrs. Brinda Edwards**

*Coordinator, Religious Ed*

(317) 250-9997 - [ccd@mmjchurch.org](mailto:ccd@mmjchurch.org)

#### **Mrs. Linda Kelly**

*First Penance/First Eucharist*

(318) 447-3149 - [lkelly@mmjchurch.org](mailto:lkelly@mmjchurch.org)

#### **Ms Jennifer Smilie**

*Youth Minister*

(318) 201-5367 - [youthministry@mmjchurch.org](mailto:youthministry@mmjchurch.org)

#### **MMJ Prayer Line**

(318) 625-9195

### DIVINE WORSHIP

Monday - Thursday

7:00 a.m.

Saturday Anticipated

4:00 p.m.

Sunday

8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.

### 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 JANUARY 1, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH  
2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION: ST. ANTHONY, LAFITTE, LA

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

4:00PM - Lorea Morin

*Lector: G. Patty  
Server: K. Sayes*

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

8:00AM - Wilfred J. Moras, 38<sup>th</sup> anniv.

*Lector: D. Bess  
Server: L. Delaney*

10:30AM - Eugene F. LaPalme, 22<sup>nd</sup> anniv.  
Wilda Veillon, Month's Mind

*Lector: T. Reynolds  
Server: L. Brocato*

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

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

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00AM - **NO MASS**

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

7:00AM - Margaret Kuntz

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00AM - Monica H. Carroll, for recovery

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

7:00AM - Terry Kohler

### WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

4:00PM - Rita A. LaPalme, 9<sup>th</sup> anniv.

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

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

8:00AM - Shirley Marie Smith

*Lector: B. Edwards  
Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Omega Dobard

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

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Montalvo  
Server: L. Brouillette*

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00AM - George Waits

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

7:00AM - Owen Gerrity

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

7:00AM - Connie Ellington

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00AM - Charles "Greg" Gravel

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)

#### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROBERT RUEMKER  
BY HIS WIFE, VIOLA**

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****THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST**

Sophie Baquet, Lydia Brown, Lucas Wheat

**THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION**

Natalie Brouillette, Luke Delaney, Cain Landreneau, Anthony Reynolds

**OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Kenny Sayes

**OUR SICK**

Diane Babin, George Babin, Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner, George Juan Burns, Richard Charon, Brian Dobard, Randy Francis, Keith Johnson, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melancon, Debbie Norment, Lori Spratling, Kyle Stokes, Chuck Vernon, Michelle Vincent, Carmen Wyrick

**OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING**

Chris Andries, Michael Brewton, Eric Duck, Amy Ladner Davis, Rhonda Earhart, Cecile Leotta, Ashlee Maddox, Mark Reitzell

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

Butch Doiron, Jane Hollier, Betty Jones, Alvin Loyacano, Jane Richey, Adrienne Stevens, Joe & Irene Thompson

**OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

Bunny Bosak, Marie Hawthorne, Francis Thiels

**OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY**

Kory Butler, Brandon Coreil, Travis Edwards, Dustin Guillory, Michael Hawthorne, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Robin Perry, Michael Smilie



*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 - 12/26/2021**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,574.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,040.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>5,330.00</u>
<b>Shortage</b>	<b>\$ 716.00</b>
Goal for December (4 Sundays)	\$ 21,320.00
Received for December	\$ <u>24,403.00</u>
<b>Over for December</b>	<b>\$ 3,083.00</b>
Christmas	\$ 4,774.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 320.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 30.00
Church Vocations	\$ 310.00
Giving Tuesday	\$ 300.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**"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** 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. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. You won't need to write checks and prepare envelopes every week. And even 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 PRE K - 5**

Wednesday, January 12, 2022  
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**GRADES 6 - 11**

Sunday, January 9, 2022  
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING**

Next weekend at all the Masses, youth from our Religious Education/CCD Program will be handing out bags for each family to take home. Inside each bag is chalk and a prayer card. On the Feast of Epiphany, the family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. Traditionally chalk is used to write above the home's entrance and/or above any of the doors in the house.

**+20 C M B 22+**

The letters CMB have 2 traditional meanings: 1) the initial of the traditional names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar; 2) the abbreviation of the Latin words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The + sign represents the cross and 2022 is the year. Each of you is invited to bless your home on this Feast when Jesus Christ was manifested to the world and invites us to continue this manifestation through our work in the world.



Monday, January 3, 2022  
5:00 p.m. - Church Hall

For more information please call Beth Chapman (318) 623-8016 or Cindy Sayes (318) 446-2893.

**PARISH NEWS****SECOND COLLECTION**

This weekend we are taking up our regular first Sunday collection to benefit St. Anthony Church in Lafitte, LA as they continue rebuilding following Hurricane Ida.

**HOLY DAY/HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

In observance of New Year, Mary, Mother of God, the church offices will be closed Thursday, December 30 through Monday, January 3, inclusively.

**SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

Sunday, January 9, 2022  
Immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass  
Hosted by the Daigrepoint, Flook, and Schexnyder Families.

**PROLIFE COMMITTEE**

Monday, January 17, 2022  
6:00 p.m. - Church Hall  
Everyone is welcome to join us

**MMJ PRAYER LINE**

Call (318) 625-9195 to pray, in the presence of Christ, with one of our *Prayer Companions*.

**A NOTE OF GRATITUDE**

*Thanks to your generosity, each mother/baby we serve benefits from the support you all give to us. We are grateful. When our moms see the material support they can receive here, they no longer fear being unable to provide for their children. Your church makes this possible. May each of you know forever the faithfulness of our Lord.* - Claire Lemoine, Cenla Pregnancy Center

Our parish has a subscription to FORMED, an online platform subscription service offering access to the best Catholic digital content producers - studies, films, audio, and eBooks. All parishioners of every age can access this great Catholic material. Go to [formed.org](https://formed.org), select Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, and complete the simple registration.





## The Origin of the Creed

BY FR. LARRY RICE

If you ask most people what the longest prayer is that they pray at a Catholic Mass, most will probably respond with the Creed. The only problem with that answer is that the Creed isn't really a prayer.

The Creed, after all, isn't addressed to God. It's a statement of beliefs which we recite together as an expression of our unity in the faith. It may be spoken reverently or even prayerfully, but that doesn't in itself make it a prayer.

So: where does the Creed come from? As a summary of the most central Christian doctrines, it arose from times when those beliefs were in question-- when various factions held different theological positions. The older version of the Creed is the Apostle's Creed, which traces its origin to the 4th Century. Although legend says that the Apostle's Creed was penned by the Apostles themselves, the earliest evidence we have is a letter from St. Ambrose, after the Council of Milan.

The creed we use most frequently at Mass is the Nicene Creed. Although it's origins at the Council of Nicea in 325 place it in the same century as the Apostle's creed, the Nicene creed

is longer, and more explicitly defines what we believe about the human and divine natures of Jesus Christ. This was in reaction to the Arian heresy, which denied Christ's divinity. The version of the Nicene Creed we use today includes additions made at the Council of Constantinople in the year 381.

The Creed was further revised based on other theological controversies. In the late sixth Century, the Latin-speaking Churches of the west, under the banner of Rome, added the words "and the Son" to the phrase explaining the giving of the Holy Spirit. The Orthodox Churches of the East believe that the Holy Spirit is sent only from the Father. While this may seem like a minor point to most of us today, literal battles were fought over this "filioque" controversy,

When we recite the Creed at mass, we're part of the Church's long theological Tradition, re-affirming the results of centuries of theological study and debate that has helped us understand with ever-greater precision who God is, and what He has done for us.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

**POSTPONED DUE TO A RESURGENCE COVID-19**

During the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, children ages 3-7 are dismissed during the Liturgy of the Word. They return to the worshipping community for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

### FIRST PENANCE & FIRST EUCHARIST

If you have a child who is or will be 7 years old in the Fall and is expecting to celebrate their first Penance and receive their first Eucharist in the Spring of the next year, the following conditions must be met: Attend separate class; one year previous religious education, either CCD or Catholic School; complete and submit a religious education/CCD registration form;

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

If have a child who will be entering 11<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall and is expecting to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring, the following conditions must be met: A letter handwritten by the candidate submitted to the Pastor by October 1 requesting the Sacrament; submit a completed and signed Sponsor eligibility form; one year previous religious education, either CCD or Catholic School; attend Sacramental Preparation Classes.

### PRAYER SHAWL & QUILTING MINISTRY

## PRAYER/SOCIAL/OUTREACH

Wednesdays beginning at 8:30 a.m.

All those interested in knitting/crocheting prayer shawls for the sick and homebound. This is also an opportunity to quilt and/or learn how to quilt. Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123 if you're interested.

### LIVESTREAMED MASSES

For the benefit of our homebound and/or sick parishioners, we livestream the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. To view it, click on the YouTube tab on our home page: [mmjchurch.org](http://mmjchurch.org).

## PRAYER/SOCIAL/OUTREACH

### SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The second Sunday of every month, September through June, a complimentary breakfast is served following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

### PRO LIFE COMMITTEE

Meetings are at 6:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from September to June to address various pro life issues. Contact: Cindy Sayes, (318) 446-2893.

### LADIES' ROSARY MINISTRY

Women gather in the Church every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. to pray for our Church and World.

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

### BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Provides for the luncheon following the funeral of a member of our parish family. Contact: Bobbie Long, (318) 442-3578

### SACRISTAN

A family, couple or individual that arrives at least 30 minutes before mass to open up the church and ensure everything is prepared for Mass. Contact: Sally Cranford (318) 792-5019 or Deacon Paul [deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org](mailto:deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org).

### ALTAR SERVER

Any young person in at least the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, or adult, is invited to serve at the altar during Mass. Training is provided. Contact Deacon Paul or Jennifer Montalvo, (337) 704-1892.

### LECTOR/READER

The ministry of proclaiming the Word of God is a real gift and blessing. We welcome any adult who has a strong voice and is comfortable in front of people to share God's word in scripture. Contact Deacon Paul to share your gifts.

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

All ministers must be confirmed and in a valid Catholic marriage, recommended by the pastor, and approved by the bishop for a three-year term which is indefinitely renewable.

## COLD & FLU PRECAUTIONS

Our response to cold and flu should continue to be guided by recommendations from our health officials. During 'flu seasons', they are recommending extra caution which includes:

- ♦ Those who are feeling ill stay at home so as not to spread the disease;
- ♦ Increased vigilance in washing hands and not touching our own eyes, mouth, or nose;
- ♦ Coughing and sneezing into disposable tissues (and washing one's hands afterwards), or if none available, the inside of one's forearm to reduce spreading any virus;
- ♦ Getting the current flu and pneumonia vaccination;

Whenever there is a report of a disease outbreak, it is often asked if we would stop the shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace. However, that 'solution' ignores the fact that colds and flu are also airborne viruses. Those who are infected can spread such viruses simply through breathing, let alone sneezing and coughing. Also, if someone's hands are infected, then those hands also touch door handles, tops of pew, hymnals, etc... and spread the virus to those surfaces. If the touch of hands is to be excluded at the Sign of Peace to avoid 'contact germs,' then one would also have to refrain from touching *anything* in the church that those infected hands have also touched, which is nearly impossible to do. The absolutely best way for colds and flu to be kept from spreading is for those who have them to self-quarantine.

## REGISTRATION/CENSUS

Do you consider Mary, Mother of Jesus Parish "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. In this way we can serve you better. It also facilitates sponsorship for baptisms and confirmations, religious education registration, etc.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament should no longer be considered exclusively for the dying, as in "last rites". It is to be celebrated by and for those whose health has been seriously impaired by illness or old age. Anyone may be anointed before surgery or an invasive test or medical procedure. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present. The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious. This is one more way that God imparts to each of us, and in particular at this time to the seriously ill and elderly his endless love and grace. Please contact Fr. Paul if you would like to be anointed.

## AMAZON SMILE

Welcome to  
**amazon smile**

You shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop at Amazon, and select Mary, Mother of Jesus as your charitable organization, Amazon will donate 0.5% back to our parish. Smile is the same Amazon you know, same products, same prices, same service. Please support us by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

