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.

a growing family of love in Jesus Christ

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

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

Deacon Paul Sunderhaus
Permanent Deacon
Adult Faith Formation
Altar Servers
(318) 487-9894 - deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org

Kenny Sayes
Permanent Deacon Candidate
Building Maintenance and Repair
Altar Servers
Homebound
(318) 487-9894 - ksayes@sayesoffice.com

Ms Cindy Campbell
Secretary/Bookkeeper
Safe Environment
(318) 487-9894 - secretary@mmjchurch.org

Dr. Mary DeVille
Organist/Director of Music
Adult Faith Formation
Lectors
(318) 487-9894 - devillem@nsula.edu

Mrs. Brinda Edwards
Coordinator, Religious Ed
(317) 250-9997 - ccd@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Linda Kelly
First Penance/First Eucharist
(318) 447-3149 - lkelly@mmjchurch.org

Ms Jennifer Smilie
Youth Minister
(318) 201-5367 - 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 FEBRUARY 26, 2022

Reg. Collection: **Support Of Our Parish**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26
4:00PM - Simon and Felicia Moore
Lector: S. Cranford
Server: K. Sayes

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27
8:00AM - Mary Virginia Young
Lector: R. Normand
Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Adrien, Marty, Larry, Jim, and Lena Doiron, Austin Olivier, Sr.
Lector: M. Brundrett
Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - Our Parish Family
Lector: J. Reynolds
Server: V. Montalvo

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28
7:00AM - Terry Kohler

TUESDAY, MARCH 1
7:00AM - Laura Gadel Jacob

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2
7:00AM - Ashley Brinson
Lector: R. Normand
Server: K. Sayes

4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word
Lector: M. Leleux

6:00PM - Jacqueline Brown
Lector: J. Montalvo
Server: V. Montalvo

THURSDAY, MARCH 3
7:00AM - Rose Gerchow

Sanctuary Candle Burns This Week

For Those Living With Mental Illness and Addictions

By Kenny and Cindy Sayes

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 MARCH 5, 2022

Reg. Collection: **Support Of Our Parish**

SATURDAY, MARCH 5
4:00PM - Owen Gerrity, Ashley Brinson
Lector: M. Leleux
Server: L. Brocato

SUNDAY, MARCH 6
8:00AM - Shirley Marie Smith
Lector: G. Delaney
Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Omega Dobard
Lector: M. Brundrett
Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - Our Parish Family
Lector: J. Montalvo
Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, MARCH 7
7:00AM - Terry Kohler

TUESDAY, MARCH 8
7:00AM - Billy Jean Prestidge

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
7:00AM - Charles "Greg" Gravel

THURSDAY, MARCH 10
7:00AM - Ashley Brinson

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Those Preparing For Matrimony

Alisha Vickers and Logan Robichaux
Mallory Robichaux and Alexander Klein

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

Baby Asher, Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner, George Juan Burns, Rachal Burns, Richard Charon, Brian Dobard, Randy Francis, Brenda Holloway, Keith Johnson, Marlene Margnano, 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

Our Homebound

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

Our Nursing Home Residents

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 - 2/20/2022

Regular Collection	$ 3,481.00
EFT Collection	$ 1,580.00
Weekly Goal	$ 5,330.00
Shortage	**$ 269.00**
Goal for February (4 Sundays)	$ 21,320.00
Received for February	$ 20,224.00
Still needed for February	**$ 1,096.00**
Repairs & Maintenance	$ 40.00

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



FAITH FORMATION

GRADES PRE K - 5

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

GRADES 6 - 11

Sunday, February 27, 2022
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Live Streamed and In Person
3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12

The Book of Revelation
Presenter: Dr. Mary DeVille
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Creed - Bishop Robert Barron
Presenter: Deacon Paul Sunderhaus
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

RCIA
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Who is **RCIA** 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?

Monday, February 28, 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

CHURCH OFFICES

The offices will be closed on Tuesday, March 1, in observance of Mardi Gras.

The First Monday Suppers for March and April are cancelled since the Men of MMJ will be frying fish on Fridays. We will resume on Monday, May 2.

LENTEN NEWS

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.

CHILDRENS' LITURGY OF THE WORD

We will be reinstituting this ministry at the 10:30 a.m. Mass beginning March 6 for all children ages 4-7.

ASH WEDNESDAY - MARCH 2

7:00 a.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes
4:00 p.m. - Prayer Service & imposition of ashes
6:00 p.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes

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

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat and have 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.

WAY OF THE CROSS

Fridays - 6:00PM

MEN OF MMJ - FRIDAY FISH FRY

March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
$9.00 per plate
Eat in or drive thru.

Good News
INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

8th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:4-7
Ps 92:2-3,13-16
1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

Monday February 28
1 Peter 1:3-9
Ps 111:1-2,5-6,9,10c
Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday March 1
1 Peter 1:10-16
Ps 98:1-4
Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday March 3
Ash Wednesday
Joel 2:12-18
Ps 51:3-6ab,12-14,17
2 Corinthians 5:20 -- 6:2
Matthew 6:1-6.16-18

Thursday March 3
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Ps 1:1-4,6
Luke 9:22-25

Friday March 4
Isaiah 58:1-9a
Ps 51:3-6ab,18-19
Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday March 5
Isaiah 58:9b-14
Ps 86:1-6
Luke 5:27-32



A blind person, in the analogy that Jesus makes in this Sunday's Gospel reading, is anyone who cannot see things in the light of truth. It can be due to sin or ignorance, but it's always dangerous. There are many wrong decisions that we bump into when we don't see things the way God sees them. We make mistakes that hurt us and others. We feel safe with temptations that lead us away from God.

Here are four popular lies that are ruining lives by leading people into spiritual blindness, followed by the truths that everyone needs to know.

1. Your happiness is the most important goal. To achieve it:
2. Put yourself first.
3. Trust your feelings.
4. If you dream it, you can have it.

This never works. Happiness is elusive or, at best, short. So people try even harder, stuck in the trap of these lies. When it still doesn't work, they get rightfully angry, but at others, blaming others. Conflicts worsen. Anger increases. Violence is the eventual outcome, and spiritual hell.

The only way that does work is what Jesus revealed.

1. Happiness is based on externals, which you cannot control very long. Joy, on the other hand, comes from within and is discovered when you understand that God loves you so much that he gave you his only begotten Son to conquer evil and lead you to the eternal joy of heaven.

2. When you lay down your life for others, you experience fulfillment from making a difference, and this is a great joy. And it unites you to Christ, bringing heaven to earth.

3. Realize your natural tendency to sin and the limitations of your finite brain, which make it easy to misinterpret everything. Do not trust your own understanding. Feelings can change quickly. Receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit so you can discern God's guidance. Trust only God.

4. When you seek to know God's dreams for you, you develop good vision. You discover which talents, knowledge, and experiences will give you your greatest fulfillment, because he had these in mind when he created you. And when you work hard to make these dreams come true, forsaking distractions, persisting past obstacles, and accepting the lessons that are hidden in hardships, you realize the best that life can offer.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Which of the four lies described above have you been blinded by?
2. How has believing them made you feel?
3. Give an example for each of the four truths described above.
4. How has each one given you joy? How do they help you see Jesus more clearly?

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word

During the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, children ages 4-7 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 11th 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/SOCIAL/OUTREACH

Prayer Shawl & Quilting Ministry

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.

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 3rd 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.

Altar Server

Any young person in at least the 3rd 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 Dr. Mary Deville 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. 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 amazonsmile

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.

