

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

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 APRIL 16, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: INFIRM PRIESTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

8:00PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: K. & B. Chapman, J. Reynolds,
M. Leleux, S. Cranford,
B. Edwards
Server: B. Emerson, K. Sayes*

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

8:00AM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: E. Lohman
Server: L. Delaney*

10:30AM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Antee
Server: M. Hawthorne*

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

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

MONDAY, APRIL 18

NO MASS

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

7:00AM - Ernestine Moras 50th anniv.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

7:00AM - Ashley Brinson

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

7:00AM - Monica Carroll

WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

4:00PM - Owen Gerrity

*Lector: T. Reynolds, G. Delaney
Server: A. Byrd, A. Daigrepont, K. Sayes*

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

8:00AM - Mary Virginia Young

*Lector: B. Edwards
Server: J. Schexnyder, J. Byrd*

10:30AM - Omega Dobard, Austin Olivier, Jr.

*Lector: M. Brundrett
Server: I. Antee*

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

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

MONDAY, APRIL 25

7:00AM - Owen Gerrity

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

7:00AM - Mary Mrozinski

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

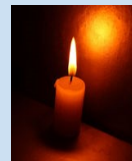
7:00AM - Terry Kohler

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

7:00AM - Mervin Gadel

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 OWEN GERRITY
BY BILL & GAYNELL PATTY

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 RECENTLY DECEASED**

Fr. Donald Martin, S.J., William "Billy" Reynolds

OUR NEWLY INITIATED

Patti Andries, Alisha Vickers

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONYAlisha Vickers and Logan Robichaux
Mallory Robichaux and Alexander Klein**THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST**

Sophie Baquet, Lydia Brown, Lucas Wheat

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATIONNatalie Brouillette, Luke Delaney, Cain Landreneau,
Anthony Reynolds**OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Kenny Sayes

OUR SICKBaby Asher, Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner,
George Juan Burns, Rachal Burns, Richard Charon,
Brian Dobard, Randy Francis, Keith Johnson, Mar-
lene 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, Gerry Craft, Eric
Duck, Amy Ladner Davis, Rhonda Earhart**OUR HOMEBOUND**Butch Doiron, Jane Hollier, Betty Jones, Alvin
Loyacano, Jane Richey, Adrienne Stevens, Joe &
Irene Thompson**OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

Marie Hawthorne, Francis Thiels

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARYKory 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 - 4/10/2022**

Regular Collection	\$ 5,874.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,375.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>5,330.00</u>
Overage	\$ 2,919.00
Goal for April (4 Sundays)	\$ 21,320.00
Received for April	\$ <u>14,894.00</u>
Still needed for April	\$ 6,426.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 50.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 40.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 30.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 20.00
Holy Land	\$ 30.00
Infirm Priests	\$ 30.00
Mothers' Day	\$ 30.00

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

Parish Goal 2022	\$ 20,744.00
Pledged (34 families)	\$ <u>20,209.00</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 535.00

**"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 cour-
age." (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**FIRST COMMUNION/EUCHARIST PREPARATION**

Thursday, April 21
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Church Hall

CONFIRMATION

Saturday, April 23, 2022
4:00 p.m. Mass

FIRST COMMUNION/EUCHARIST

Sunday - May 1, 2022
10:30 a.m. Mass

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

June 20 - 25, 2021
8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Early drop off begins at 7:30 a.m.

Register online under the Faith Formation Tab.
Volunteers are always welcome and needed!
Call Brinda Edwards or the office to volunteer.

THANK YOU...

...to Mrs. Brinda Edwards for her tireless work as our Coordinator, Religious Education since 2018. Thankfully she will remain active in our parish and with our youth. Brinda, you have been, and continue to be, a real blessing.

...to Mrs. Katie Upton for accepting the position as our new Director, Religious Education for grades PreK-11. Ms Jennifer Smilie will continue teaching grades 6-11 on Sunday afternoons.

CONGRATULATIONS

Patti Andries and Alisha Vickers who entered into full communion of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass. Welcome to our Church and family of faith!!!

CHURCH NEWS**SECOND COLLECTION - INFIRM PRIEST**

A portion of our monthly obligations to the diocese of Alexandria includes \$250 (\$3,000 annual) to support the sick/infirm priests of our diocese. This weekend, there will be a second collection to help our parish defray these costs. All funds collected will be directly applied to this \$3,000 budget item.

**HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 16, 2022**

Easter Vigil - 8:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 17, 2022

Masses - 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Breakfast w/the Easter Bunny - 9:00 a.m.

This replaces our usual 2nd Sunday breakfast.

Easter Egg Hunt - 9:45 a.m.

HOLY WATER BOTTLES

A basket containing bottles of water blessed at the Easter Vigil is located near the baptismal font. Every family is invited to take one with you for use at home.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - APRIL 24, 2022

Immediately following 10:30AM Mass, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and pray the chaplet of the Divine Mercy followed by Benediction. Everyone is encouraged to join us thanking God for his mercy and compassion.

THANK YOU...

...to everyone whose stewardship of time, talent, and treasure ensured that our Triduum and Easter season were filled with joy and beauty.

...to the Men of MMJ for their hard work and dedication, especially during our Lenten Fish Fry. They netted a total of \$6,451 for the five weeks. Thanks also to those who supported these men. This group is open to all men of the parish. For more information contact Brad Gadel at 318- 446-1153 or bgadel@prodigy.net.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23
Colossians 3:1-4
or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
John 20:1-9
or Matthew 28:1-10

Monday April 18

Acts 2:14,22-33
Ps 16:1-2a,5,7-11
Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday April 19

Acts 2:36-41
Ps 33:4-5,18-20,22
John 20:11-18

Wednesday April 20

Acts 3:1-10
Ps 105:1-9
Luke 24:13-35

Thursday April 21

Acts 3:11-26
Ps 8:2ab,5-9
Luke 24:35-48

Friday April 22

Acts 4:1-12
Ps 118:1-2,4,22-27a
John 21:1-14

Saturday April 23

Acts 4:13-21
Ps 118:1,14-21
Mark 16:9-15

Alleluia! Celebrate the healing and increased faith that comes from growing closer to Jesus through the faith-building exercises of Lent and the solemn meditations of Holy Week!

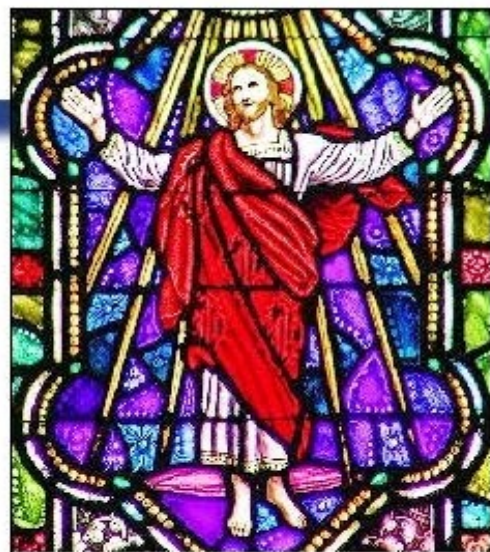
The doorway into heaven is the cross. Experiencing the glory of the celebration of Easter -- deep within our hearts, within our needs, within our desires -- began with accepting our sorrows and sacrifices and sufferings are our own personal connections to Jesus. And now, Easter joy comes not only from accepting what Jesus did for you on the cross but also from continuing the journey, side by side, step by step with Jesus.

When we're sincere about following Christ, if we truly want to grow in faith, we do whatever he does, united to his ministry of helping others grow in their eternal relationship with God. In this, we face the cross again and again. There is no gain in salvation

without the pain of sacrificial love.

The victorious alleluia of Easter is the triumph of the cross. It's the realization that life doesn't have to be free of troubles in order to be full of joy. It's the day-to-day living out of a faith that comes from trusting that God is carrying us through the trials and bringing good out of bad.

Our cross is a soft word that we speak when someone else is angry and we feel like shouting. Our cross is a



hand outstretched to comfort the afflicted when it's inconvenient and we feel like withdrawing. Our cross is a good deed that we do to those who treat us unjustly and we feel like retaliating. And our resurrection is the joy that comes from knowing that we have made a difference in the lives of others for the sake of God's kingdom.

Love that's given when it's difficult is a suffering love, a passionate love, a salvific love, i.e., it benefits the eternal lives of others. Then, our sacrifices have a value of endless worth. This is so much better than a self-serving, easy life. It's *eternally* better! Easter Sunday Mass is the celebration of rising with Jesus into glorious victory over evil.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. What sacrifices are you suffering from right now? This is your cross. God appreciates all you have done for his kingdom; knowing this is your resurrection!
2. Describe the time when a bad experience turned into something good. What did you learn from it about God or faith?
3. How do you know that you're an Easter Christian?

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

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.

OF COUNSEL TO THE PASTOR

Pastoral Council

Chair: Deborah Bess
Brinda Edwards, Brad Gadel, Priscilla Gadel, Runnie Hunter, Bobbie Long, Marshall Long, Cindy Sayes, Kenny Sayes, Jennifer Smilie, Katie Upton

Finance Council

Chair: Marshall Long
Trustees: Gary Delaney, Bernard Patty, Maureen Downs, Emily Lohman

Building Committee

Gary Delaney, Maureen Downs, Bernard Patty, Kenny Sayes, Jessica Reynolds, Matthew Reynolds, Jeff Robichaux, Chris Wheat