

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. Katie Upton

Director, Religious Ed

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

Mrs. Linda Kelly

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 447-3149 - lkelly@mmjchurch.org

Ms Jennifer Smilie

Junior/Senior High Religious Education

(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 MAY 7, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 7

4:00PM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lectors: P. Gadel

Servers: A. Schexnyder, L. Brocato

SUNDAY, MAY 8

8:00AM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: T. Long

Servers: O. Long, B. Emerson

10:30AM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: B. Lowe

Server: C. Mathews

5:00PM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: L. Brouillette

MONDAY, MAY 9

7:00AM - Monica Carroll

TUESDAY, MAY 10

7:00AM - Thelma Schulz

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

7:00AM - Ashley Brinson

THURSDAY, MAY 12

7:00AM - Max Kroll

WEEK OF MAY 14, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 14

4:00PM - Owen Gerrity, Jacob Williamson

Lector: M. Leleux

Server: A. Daigrepoint

SUNDAY, MAY 15

8:00AM - Virginia Kroll

Lector: D. Bess

Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Terry Kohler, Austin Olivier, Jr.

Lector: J. Antee

Server: I. Antee

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Servers: V. Montalvo

MONDAY, MAY 16

7:00AM - Michael Kroll

TUESDAY, MAY 17

7:00AM - Isabelle Weltring

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

7:00AM - Terry Kohler

THURSDAY, MAY 19

7:00AM - Margurite Steinkamp

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 HONOR OF OUR MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

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 MATRIMONY**

Alisha Vickers and Logan Robichaux
Mallory Robichaux and Alexander Klein

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, 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, 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 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 - 5/1/2022**

Regular Collection	\$ 5,284.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,125.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>5,330.00</u>
Overage	\$ 2,079.00

Goal for May (5 Sundays)	\$ 26,650.00
Received for May	\$ <u>7,409.00</u>
Still Needed for May	\$ 19,241.00

Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 75.00
Mothers' Day	\$ 205.00
Catholic Communications	\$ 30.00
Fathers' Day	\$ 70.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2022	\$ 20,744.00
Pledged (43 families)	\$ <u>23,792.00</u>
Overage	\$ 3,048.00

"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 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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

June 20 - 25, 2022
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. Please register by May 27 to get a T-shirt! Volunteers are always welcome and needed! Call Brinda Edwards or the Church office.



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?

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

CHURCH NEWS

MOTHERS' DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, May 8, 2022
Immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass
Sponsored by the Men of MMJ

FR. PAUL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY MASS



Sunday May 22 - 10:30 a.m.
A luncheon will follow in the church hall.

PRAYER SHAWL & QUILTING MINISTRY

Wednesdays beginning at 8:30 a.m.
Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123.

HOMELESS COALITION



Louisiana Homeless Coalition (CLHC) needs the following: Bottled water; travel size deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, and soap; underwear (all sizes, men and women); individual hand sanitizers; bug spray; packs of white socks; blankets and tarps. Place monetary donations in the collection basket in an envelope marked CLHC.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70th or other significant anniversary in 2022, we would like to honor you on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at the 4:00 p.m. Mass and present you with a Papal Blessing in honor of your marriage. If you would like to participate, please call or email the church office. Deadline is Tuesday, August 31, 2022.

MMJ PRAYER LINE

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

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 13:14,43-52
Ps 100:1-3,5
Rev 7:9,14b-17
John 10:27-30

Monday May 9

Acts 11:1-18
Ps 42:2-3;43:3-4
John 10:1-10

Tuesday May 10

Acts 11:19-26
Ps 87:1b-7
John 10:22-30

Wednesday May 11

Acts 12:24-13:5a
Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8
John 12:44-50

Thursday May 12

Acts 13:13-25
Ps 89:2-3,21-22,25,27
John 13:16-20

Friday May 13

Acts 13:26-33
Ps 2:6-11ab
John 14:1-6

Saturday May 14

St. Matthias
Acts 1:15-17,20-26
Ps 113:1-8
John 15:9-17

This Sunday's Gospel reading is short and to the point: Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is the only one we follow, the only one we can trust blindly.

Others who have authority in our lives might be good shepherds, but none of them are to be followed blindly, not even the best of them. We respect the positions of bishops, parish pastors, employers, teachers, parents, etc., but all make mistakes, all sin, all have incomplete understandings of the situations for which they're responsible. We must use the Holy Spirit's gift of discernment in each case so that we don't behave like dumb sheep inadvertently cooperating with decisions that grieve our Father God.

Only Jesus can be blindly trusted. Only Jesus is perfect

and knows all, understands all, and never sins. Only Jesus can successfully make the right decisions all the time and lead us through the various situations of life without inadvertently cooperating with evil. Only Jesus can discern and implement a plan that's best for every person who's affected by the plan. Only Jesus can lead us closer and closer to heaven while guiding us through the pitfalls and dangers of the journey.

And it is only Jesus who can smile at our blunders when we stray from his plans, because he knows that we still really do love him and want to do what's right. He knows



how to implement a new plan that will steer us back into safe pastures. He compassionately holds onto us so that we don't wriggle away from the Father's hand forever.

Whenever we distrust anyone (ourselves included) we can safely trust that no matter what happens,

Jesus is there, steadfastly guiding us and re-guiding us after we stray. Because we really do love him and want to do what's right, he is securing our safety, redeeming our mistakes, making good come from bad when we repent of our sins, and of course always making sure that we'll get home to heaven.

To be good sheep, all we have to do is cooperate with his guidance!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you trust yourself and your discernment of truth and your ability to stay on the path to heaven? Who else is difficult to trust right now?
2. What will you do this week to entrust these matters to Jesus?
3. When is it difficult to trust Jesus? Why is it so difficult?
4. Considering that past experiences with imperfect humans naturally cause us to distrust even Jesus, what helps you overcome this so that you can trust God?

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, 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