

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, M.D.

Permanent Deacon

Adult Faith Formation

Altar Servers

(318) 487-9894 - deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org

Ms Cindy Campbell

Secretary/Bookkeeper

Safe Environment

(318) 487-9894 - secretary@mmjchurch.org

Dr. Mary DeVille, PhD

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



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 JULY 23, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JULY 23

4:00PM - Eugene Elkins

Lector: M. Leleux

Server: A. Byrd

SUNDAY, JULY 24

8:00AM - Menard Wise

Lector: R. Normand

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Austin Olivier, Jr.

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: C. Mathews

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Servers: V. Montalvo

MONDAY, JULY 25

7:00AM - Polly Walton

TUESDAY, JULY 26

7:00AM - Ashley Brinson

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

7:00AM - Charles "Greg" Gravel

THURSDAY, JULY 28

7:00AM - Emile Gadel

WEEK OF JULY 30, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JULY 30

4:00PM - A. B. and Juanita Coreil

Lector: J. Louviere

Server: A. Daigrepoint

SUNDAY, JULY 31

8:00AM - Ed Michael

Lector: B. Edwards

Servers: A. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Ashley Brinson, Stephen Rodeback

Lector: J. Foote

Server: M. Hawthorne

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

7:00AM - Terry Kohler

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

7:00AM - Noah Chapman

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

7:00AM - Terry Kohler

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

7:00AM - Chris Jardoine 49th birthday remembrance

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.

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**

Mallory Robichaux and Alexander Klein
August 5, 2022

Jennifer Smilie and C. J. Fuqua
April 15, 2023

OUR SICK

Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner, George Juan Burns, Rachal Burns, Richard Charon, Brian Dobard, Eric Duck, Randy Francis, Keith Johnson, Marlene Margnano, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melancon, Debbie Norment, Jana Robinson, Lori Spratling, Kyle Stokes, Chuck Vernon, Michelle Vincent, Baby Scarlett Wood, Carmen Wyrick

OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING

Chris Andries, Michael Brewton, Dan Broussard, Matt Brundrett, Rhonda Earhart

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Betty Jones, Janet Lamkin, 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 - 7/17/2022**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,235.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,285.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
Shortage	\$ 1,010.00
Goal for July (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for July	\$ <u>21,798.00</u>
Still Needed for July	\$ 10,852.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 50.00
Church in Africa	\$ 80.00

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)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2022	\$ 20,744.00
Pledged (47 families)	\$ <u>26,292.00</u>
Overage	\$ 5,548.00

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registrations for the 2022/2023 school year. Please go online to mmjchurch.org, click on the both the Religious Education Registration and the Information for Parents/Guardians under the Faith Formation tab. You may pay the registration fee utilizing the online giving tab on our home page.

Registration Fee:

- 1 Child - \$25.00
- 2 Children - \$40.00
- 3 or more Children - \$50.00

Contact Mrs. Katie Upton with any questions.



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 **Right of Christian Initiation for Adults. RCIA** is the process by which people celebrate their Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, in the Catholic Church.

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.

FROM THE PASTOR

This past week I received written notice from Jennifer Smilie that she will not be returning in the Fall to lead junior high/high school religious education. We thank her for her dedication to the youth of our parish and keep her and C. J. Fuqua in our prayers as they prepare for the upcoming Marriage.

CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER SHAWL & QUILTING MINISTRY

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



Central 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, 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*.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Please remember that the sanctuary candle is available to burn weekly for any intentions you may have for the living, the deceased, in thanksgiving, in need, etc. If you're interested, please call Cindy at the church office.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138:1-3,6-8
Colossians 2:12-14
Luke 11:1-13

Monday July 25 St. James

2 Corinthians 4:7-15
Ps 126:1bc-6
Matthew 20:20-28

Tuesday July 26 Sts. Joachim and Anne

Jeremiah 14:17-22
Ps 79:8,9,11,13
Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday July 27

Jeremiah 15:10,16-21
Ps 59:2-4,10-11,17,18
Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday July 28

Jeremiah 18:1-6
Ps 146:1b-6ab
Matthew 13:47-53

Friday July 29

Sts. Martha, Mary, Lazarus
Jeremiah 26:1-9
Ps 69:5,8-10,14
John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Saturday July 30

Jeremiah 26:11-16,24
Ps 69:15-16,30-31,33-34
Matthew 14:1-12

In Luke 11:1-13, Jesus teaches us how to pray with faith. The "bread" that runs as a theme in this scripture is the life of holiness. The "Bread of Life" is Jesus. The gift of the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, is a *holy* life.

Notice also that the visitor in the parable is a friend of God, not a stranger, who wants to share the bread with another friend. This represents a baptized Christian who wants to share the friendship of God ("three loaves" – the Trinity) with others, but he or she is inadequate for the task.

When we knock on the door to God's heart seeking help for our inadequacies, the Father gives us his fully adequate Holy Spirit. And that's not all we get! Whenever we pray, this Holy Spirit connects us to the Father and to Jesus. Therefore, every prayer increases our holiness, brings us closer to God and empowers us to be more like Jesus. But holiness does not come quickly nor easily. We must

be persistent in our prayer lives. We must continually rely on God's Spirit in order to resist temptations and grow in faith.

No matter what we ask God to share with us, including the material things that we need or desire, God wants to use it to nourish our souls. This is what we ask for when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Be



persistent. Receiving God's bread takes time (we're slow learners).

It's the devil who says we can have everything we ask for as fast as

we want it. New Age and occult practices are fast-food spiritualities that are riddled with the dangerously unhealthy fat of false beliefs. They lack the growth in holiness that we can only receive from the Holy Spirit. Many people turn to the occult because they don't have the desire to do the hard work of holiness.

The supernatural adequacies of the Holy Spirit are ours for the asking, because we already received the Holy Spirit during baptism. However, to live in God's supernatural power, we have to pray persistently, identify our sins and repent, and humbly open ourselves to the holiness of the Holy Spirit.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you rely on the Holy Spirit's help in your daily life?
2. How often do you humble yourself before the Lord in prayer and ask for an increase of holiness?
3. Describe your prayer life. How does it help you become holier in your daily activities?
4. How has the Holy Spirit purified you?

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 4:00 p.m. Saturday 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.

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
Deacon Paul Sunderhaus, Brinda Edwards, Brad Gadel, Priscilla Gadel, Runnie Hunter, Bobbie Long, Marshall Long, Cindy Sayes, Katie Upton

Finance Council

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

Building Committee

Deacon Paul Sunderhaus, Gary Delaney, Maureen Downs, Bernard Patty, Jessica Reynolds, Matthew Reynolds, Jeff Robichaux, Chris Wheat