

Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

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.

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.

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 and Youth Ministries

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

Mrs. Linda Kelly

First Penance/First Eucharist

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

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

(318) 446-1153 - bgadel@prodigy.net

M/M Keith and Beth Chapman

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 623-8016 - bethachapman@bellsouth.net

M/M Jody and Jackie Byrd

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 451-5596 - jodybyrd@hotmail.com

OUR MISSION Statement

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

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 OCTOBER 1, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

4:00PM - Alfred Mathews, Sr.

Lector: M. Leleux

Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00AM - Patsy Chiasson

Lector: B. Edwards

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Adrien, Lena, Marty, Larry, and Jim Doiron

Lector: T. Reynolds

Server: M. Hawthorne

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Servers: H. Reynolds

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

7:00AM - Charles "Greg" Gravel

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:00AM - Alvin Loyacano

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:00AM - Stephen Rodeback 1st Anniv.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

7:00AM - Robert Reich

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.

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK

IN LOVING MEMORY OF STEPHEN RODEBACK
ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

BY HIS WIFE, JUNE

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 OCTOBER 8, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
ADD'L COLLECTION: CATHOLIC CHARITIES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

4:00PM - Carl Holloway, Richard Gadel

Lector: J. Louviere

Server: A. Daigrepoint

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:00AM - Charles "Greg" Gravel

Lector: R. Normand

Servers: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Austin Olivier, Jr., Lorraine Fontenot

Lector: B. Lowe

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: L. Brouillette

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

7:00AM - Terry Kohler

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

7:00AM - David Foshee, Sr.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

7:00AM - Patsy Chiasson

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:00AM - Ernest & Bernice Moore

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**

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

OUR SICK

Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner, George Juan Burns, Rachal Burns, Richard Charon, Brian Do-bard, Randy Francis, Keith Johnson, Betsy Lanclos, Marlene Margnano, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melancon, Debbie Norment, Frank Rachal, Jana Robinson, Lori Spratling, Kyle Stokes, Earlene Tanner, Chuck Vernon, Michelle Vincent, Baby Scarlett Wood

OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING

Michael Brewton, Mary Cezar, Eric Duck, Rhonda Earhart, Michael Flynn

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Betty Jones, Janet Lamkin, Janet Normand, 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, David J. Francis, 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 - 9/25/2022**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,620.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,300.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,530.00
Shortage	\$ 1,610.00

Goal for September (4 Sundays)	\$ 26,120.00
Received for September	\$ 23,496.00
Short for September	\$ 2,624.00

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 15.00
Retired Priests	\$ 50.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit [Kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com) and sign up under Community at the bottom of their home page. Mary, Mother of Jesus will receive a percentage of your purchases. There is no charge to the shopper.

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.

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.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

This 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. And even when you can't attend Mass, your electronic contributions will arrive without delay. Visit our website: www.mmjchurch.org

"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)

FAITH FORMATION**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD****GRADES PREK - 5**

October 5 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

GRADES 6 - 12

October 5 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

FIRST PENANCE

October 9 - 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

OCIA

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

Who Is OCIA 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?

Tuesday, October 4
5:30 p.m. - Church Hall

**CHURCH NEWS****CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENLA**

Please be sure to read the last two pages of the bulletin to be informed about the resurgence of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Alexandria. Be assured that all monies raised and donated are used exclusively for the people of CENLA who's needs are assistance and support.

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 26, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Church Hall
All Ages!

Come help us celebrate All Saints Day this year with carnival games, hot dogs, and trunk or treat! This will also count for our regular Religious Education classes for all ages. For safety reasons children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Brinda Edwards (317-250-9997) or Katie Upton (318-308-9991) to sign up to pass out candy for trunk or treat. All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend!

ROMEOs

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Coffee, biscuits, conversation - Church Hall

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Visit instantchurchdirectory.com to help us build our new online directory. This eliminates the need for photo shoots, and enables each parishioner/family to maintain and update their own information.

QUILTING MINISTRY

Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123.

FORMED

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

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. Please call Cindy at the church office.

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
 Psalm 95:1-2,6-9
 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14
 Luke 17:5-10

Monday Oct 3

Galatians 1:6-12
 Ps 111:1b-2,7-10c
 Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday October 4 St. Francis of Assisi

Galatians 1:13-24
 Ps 139:1b-3,13-15
 Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday October 5

Galatians 2:1-2,7-14
 Ps 117:1bc,2
 Luke 11:1-4

Thursday October 6

Galatians 3:1-5
 Lk 1:69-75
 Luke 11:5-13

Friday October 7 Our Lady of the Rosary

Galatians 3:7-14
 Ps 111:1b-6
 Luke 11:15-26

Saturday October 8

Galatians 3:22-29
 Ps 105:2-7
 Luke 11:27-28

This Gospel reading is disturbing. After doing a lot of hard work, the last thing we want to hear from God is: "You're an unprofitable servant."

Think of how hard you work. Whether it's at home or for a business or in ministry, we're never rewarded enough, right? Instead, we're given *more* work! At home, we try to relax after a busy day but one of the kids or an elderly relative needs help. On the job, we're given more work because our colleagues are either too lazy or they've been laid off. In the parish, most of the work gets done by only 10 to 20% of the people.

Jesus says that our reaction to all this should be: "Lord, I'm an unworthy servant of your kingdom, because I've only done what's expected of me." Is he implying that it's right to

be burdened with more to do when we're tired? Not at all! What he is telling us is that there's a difference between doing what's required out of mere obedience and volunteering to go the extra mile because we love and we care.

When we stop short of going the extra mile, it's usually because we have an unbalanced view of faith. Unaware that we're serving Christ in our everyday tasks, and unaware that we're serving others *with* Christ, we settle for a mediocre, half-hearted attitude. We limit our potential.

And then we're astonished that Jesus would suggest that we can command

trees to cast themselves into the sea! When was the last time you saw *that* happen?

Here's the connection between doing more than the minimum and having a supernatural faith: For both to occur, we have to know that God's love is complete and unconditional and available all the time and that from this comes his desire to serve us.

Knowing this, we're confident that he can accomplish anything he wants in us and through us. If we care like he cares, we *want* to go the extra mile with him. And then when we get hurt or tired, he restores us. Do you believe that yet?

Reflect & Discuss:

1. What's your mulberry tree? What problem is so deeply rooted that it seems immovable?
2. Who in your life is so stuck in sin that you've lost hope? Can you surprise that person with gestures of love that are unexpected and unrequested?
3. Describe examples of service that show the difference between doing our duty and doing more. How does volunteering to serve above and beyond what's expected reveal God's love?



Called to Serve Moms in Need



Our Blessed Mother models a profound witness to love and life in the Gospel account of the Visitation. Luke's Gospel tells us that, when Mary learns that her cousin Elizabeth is pregnant, she travels to the hill country *"in haste"* (Lk 1:39). Despite being unexpectedly pregnant herself, Mary responds to this news with urgency.

She embarks on a long and perhaps difficult journey to be with her cousin during her time of need, bearing Christ to her as He lay quietly hidden in Mary's womb. And, although Jesus is veiled from view, when Mary first arrives John the Baptist leaps for joy in Elizabeth's womb, recognizing the presence of Christ (Lk 1:44). Mary, with Jesus, spends the next three months at Elizabeth's side.

The witness of our Blessed Mother invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have any number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child.

Following Mary's example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children.¹ How can we, like the Blessed Mother, lovingly support mothers in welcoming and caring for God's gift of life?

Throughout the whole of Scripture, Mary's words are few. Yet, in her sacred encounter with Elizabeth, a powerful declaration pours from her lips. Mary proclaims to all generations that the Lord *lifts up the lowly, fills the hungry with good things, and remembers his promise of mercy from age to age* (Lk 1:46-56). In both word and deed, Mary speaks a

My soul proclaims
the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.

Luke 1:46-47

message of *hope*—not only to Elizabeth, but also to every mother in need and to each of us.

Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to *make haste* to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone. By doing so, we too can bear Christ within us and help others experience His presence.

Inspired by the Blessed Mother's example and guided by the Holy Spirit, may we offer Christ's presence and love to mothers in their time of need through our faithful service and support.

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¹ Lori, Most Reverend William E. 2022. Homily for the Opening Mass of the 2022 National Prayer Vigil for Life. Delivered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. January 20, 2022. <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/archbishop-william-e-lori-opening-mass-2022-national-prayer-vigil-life>.



Current Initiatives

1. Mental Health

- a. Affordable Counseling at the Diocese of Alexandria and No Limits for Recovery Clubhouse. Payment is determined from a sliding scale. Starting October 1, 2022 appointments/payments will be made on the website.
- b. Support Groups will be offered starting September 29, 2022. The first support group will be for Divorce Recovery. The group is 9 sessions long and is open to the first 15 individuals that register. The cost is \$50.00. Register on the website.
- c. Three master level social work interns from accredited universities will assist groups and provide supervised counseling.

2. Disaster Relief

- a. CCCL is on the Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) for Central Louisiana. The LTRG consists of a community-based board, with four organizations bringing funds to the table. The group meets monthly to hear cases presented by FEMA Disaster Case Management Program employees and vote on how to assist persons whose homes were affected by Hurricane Laura. CCCL received \$130,000 of disaster relief monies from CCUSA and has paid approximately \$30,000 towards making homes safe and livable.
- b. Central Louisiana Emergency Response Coalition (CLERC) is a group of community partners interested in disaster relief who have recently come together to preemptively address disaster relief needs. A storage location has been established and coalition members are in the process of collecting bottled water, non-perishable food boxes and tarps, for immediate distribution after a disaster strikes. Our Catholic schools will be assisting us in the initial Warehouse Project drive during the month of September.

3. Basic Needs

- a. CCCL is supporting two food pantries (St. Francis of Assisi in Waterproof and No Limits for Recovery Clubhouse in Alexandria). Support for both pantries was made possible by a Grant from the Central Louisiana Community Foundation and donations from our first fundraiser. Total monies given in support is \$4000.
- b. CCCL will be trained to be a community partner to help low-income clients register for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). CCUSA gave CCCL a \$17,000 grant for the program. Training for SNAP is on September 14, 2022. CCCL has three partners (St. Francis of Assisi in Waterproof, St. Juliana in Alexandria, and No Limits for Recovery in Alexandria) that will receive a percentage of the grant and training. CCCL

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www.cccenla.org



- has a fourth spot in Colfax at First Baptist Church where interns will assist with enrollment. The future location will be at Jacob's Well, an inter-agency collaboration to set up a one stop site for basic needs assistance in Central LA. Infrastructure is underway and grants are being scouted to get this program launched by January 2023.
- c. Finance classes will be offered to clients as a condition for them to receive financial assistance from CCCL. Several Financial Coaches have agreed to teach money management and budgeting once a week at No Limits 4 Recovery Clubhouse with a potential second location at the Diocese of Alexandria Conference Room.
 - d. Interns will work as case managers to help clients receive the best care possible. If CCCL is unable to help, the interns will be able to refer them to partner agencies with needed resources.

Grants submitted or grants with future submission dates

1. Central LA Community Foundation – Strong Neighborhood Project that will provide Mental Health, Disaster Relief and Basic Needs at No Limit 4 Recovery Clubhouse. \$50,000. Submitted 8/31/22. Selected recipient will receive funds by 12/21/22.
2. Catholic Charities USA Senior SNAP Enrollment Grant - \$25,000. Letter of intent due 9/15/22; full grant application due 9/29/22.
3. Roy O Martin Grant – for Jacob's Well project. Due 9/19/22.
4. BC/BS Collective Impact Grant – for Warehouse Project. Letter of intent due 12/1/22. Project must be selected to apply for full grant.