

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

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 - dre@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Colleen Lohman

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 447-8287 - clohman@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Collene Van Mol

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 452-6415 - collene.vanmol@royomartin.com

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

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

Mrs. Beth Chapman

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

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

M/M Ryan and Brandie Brocato

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 715-1742 - rbrocato55@gmail.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 MAY 17, 2025

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 17

4:00PM - Richard Gadel

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: S. Barth

SUNDAY, MAY 18

8:00AM - Ernest Moore

Lector: G. Delaney

Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback, Msgr. Bruce Miller

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: H. Reynolds

MONDAY, MAY 19

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, MAY 20

7:00AM - Pat Cartwright 91st Birthday

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

7:00AM - Larry Robin, Jr. 69th Birthday

THURSDAY, MAY 22

7:00AM - Mavis Tucker

WEEK OF MAY 24, 2025

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 24

4:00PM - Lynn Richey, Janet Lamkin, Mary Mrozinski

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: J. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, MAY 25

8:00AM - The Menard Wise Family

Lector: B. Edwards

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Janet Normand, Shirley Allemand Olivier

Lector: J. Foote

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lectors: E. Lohman

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, MAY 26

8:00AM - For Those Who Died in Service to our country

TUESDAY, MAY 27

7:00AM - Randy & Janet Lamkin

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

7:00AM - Lynn Richey

THURSDAY, MAY 29

7:00AM - Lillian Villemez

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**For The Healing Of Nancy Lowery
By A Friend**

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 suggested donation 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**OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Randy L. Smith and Mallary A. Soileau
June 7, 2025 - St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

OUR SICK, RECOVERING, CONVALESCING

After two weeks names are removed unless notification to retain someone is received in the collection, at secretary@mmjchurch.org, calling 487-9894x1200 or by mail. Exceptions can be made, of course.

Alfred Cook III, Brian Dobard, Jam Downs, Celia Halbert, Thomas Hickman, Annie Johnson, Daniel Jones, Brad Kohler, Pearl LaFleur, Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, Terry Melancon, Deacon Doug Moreau, James Moser, Laura Strange, Jo Tassin, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, Joan McLure, Richard Milano, Sr., Beverly Jane Richey, Joe & Irene Thompson, Constance Weil

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Michael Flynn, LaVerne Fortenberry, Adrienne Stevens, Donna White

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Parker Barrett, Brandon Coreil, Dustin Guillory, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Robin Perry, Chuck Williams



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 - 05/11/2025**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,116.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,120.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,925.00
Shortage	\$ 1,689.00
Goal for May (4 Sundays)	\$ 27,700.00
Received for May	\$ 12,627.00
Still Needed for May	\$ 15,073.00
Mothers' Day	\$ 353.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**MERCI BEAUCOUP!!****MMJ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (125 families)	\$ 925,871.00
Monies Received	\$ 409,825.00
Balance Remaining	\$ 74,129.00

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2025 \$ 22,506.00

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead a life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance. Today is our parish's 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal in-pew weekend. In the past weeks you might have received a letter from Bishop Marshall asking for your support of the annual appeal. After the homily parishioners who have not yet pledged to the ADA will have an opportunity join with Catholic throughout the Diocese of Alexandria to support the diocesan church.

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

FAITH FORMATION**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025****JUNE 9 - JUNE 13**

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! Please contact Katie Upton if you would like to volunteer. Various opportunities are available

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Every Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Mass
During the Liturgy of the Word
Ages 3 - 7 - Youth Center

LIVE STREAMING

For the benefit of our homebound and/or sick parishioners, we livestream the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass each week. To watch it anytime on You Tube, search for MMJ Woodworth.

REGISTRATION/CENSUS

Do you consider Mary, Mother of Jesus Church "home"? Do you worship with us regularly? If you have not done so already, we ask that you please register online at www.mmjchurch.org, under the "parish forms" tab. Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

CHURCH NEWS**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70th or other significant anniversary in 2025, we would like to honor you on Saturday, February 7, 2026 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 Sunday, August 31, 2025.

FATHERS' DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Sponsored by the Pro Life Ministries

PROLIFE MINISTRIES

Tuesday, May 20 - 5:00 p.m. - Church Hall

EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND

This fund enables us to decorate the Church during the 50 days of the Easter season. The donors and those to be remembered will be listed in the June 14-15 bulletin. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is in the pews, your monthly packet, or one of your own. Don't forget to include on the envelope the name(s) of your loved one(s) to be remembered/honored.

ROSARY MINISTRY

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church.

ROMEOs*(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)*

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

QUILTING MINISTRY

Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123

FORMED

This online platform subscription service offers access to the best Catholic digital content producers - studies, films, audio, and eBooks. All parishioners of every age can access this great Catholic material. Go to www.formed.org, select Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, and complete the simple registration.

COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit 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.



May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 14:21-27 | Rev 21:1-5a | Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Today's Gospel occurs shortly before Jesus gives his Last Supper Discourses in the Gospel of John. Judas has betrayed Jesus, and now the Lord speaks to his inner circle for one of the last times before his arrest. "I will be with you only a little while longer," he says. At these words, I imagine a hush falling over the group. Rattled by Judas' strange actions and alarmed by the Lord announcing his impending departure, the disciples' eyes must have darted about as they held their breath, awaiting Jesus' words. "I give you a new commandment," he says. "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." In a word, Jesus summarizes his teaching: love as God loves. He is using these last moments to exhort his disciples to be as he is. We know it won't be easy – it will involve sacrifice and suffering – but the Holy Spirit is present with us to guide and advocate for us on our journey.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Have you ever experienced a season of suffering and wondered, "Have I done something wrong?" When we meet resistance on the narrow path, it can make us question our choices, ourselves, and sometimes even God. Let today's first reading be a boost of confidence on your journey; remember that your suffering does not imply a misstep. "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," Paul and Barnabas exhort the disciples (and us). It is natural to grow fatigued, especially when we encounter hardships. This is one reason why the Lord desires that we never journey alone. By God's perfect design, humans require companionship, from other humans and from the Creator himself. In the reading from the Book of Revelation, John the Apostle hears a loud voice saying, "God himself will always be with them as their God." Though the road may be peppered with pain, and the trials overwhelming, may we never forget that our God is very near!

PRAY

Today's readings reveal themes of perseverance in faith, radical love, and the stunning reality that the Lord is *truly present* to us. As we pray with these Scriptures, consider asking yourself: *What areas of my life feel distant from the Lord's presence? How can I open these areas up to receive his light and his love?* Take time to talk to the Lord in prayer about these things. When you do, make sure you leave space and silence for him to speak.