

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 AUGUST 16, 2025

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

4:00PM - Billy Jean Prestidge

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: L. Brocato

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

8:00AM - Silvia Kitka

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: C. Lohman

10:30AM - Patricia Parslow

Lector: B. Lowe

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lectors: J. Reynolds

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

7:00AM - Stephen Rodeback

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

7:00AM - Judy Smith

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

7:00AM - Nola Chapman

WEEK OF AUGUST 23, 2025

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

4:00PM - Raymond "Sonny" Tucker

Lector: J. Louviere

Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

8:00AM - Carl Bess, Jr.

Lector: D. Bess

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Msgr. Bruce Miller

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: B. Winegeart

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00AM - Randy and Janet Lamkin

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

7:00AM - Lynn Riche

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

7:00AM - Walter Preau

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED PARISHIONERS AND BENEFACTORS

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

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, Robert Gates, Celia Halbert, Thomas Hickman, Annie Johnson, Daniel Jones, Brad Kohler, Pearl LaFleur, Curtis Meaux, Terry Melancon, Deacon Doug Moreau, Jo Tassin, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

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

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Michael Flynn, LaVerne Fortenberry, Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, 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 - 08/9/2025**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,462.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,080.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,925.00
Shortage	\$ 1,383.00
Goal for August (5 Sundays)	\$ 34,625.00
Received for August	\$ 12,996.00
Still Needed for August	\$ 21,629.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 20.00

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

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (132 families)	\$ 946,696.00
Monies Received	\$ 510,516.00
Balance Remaining	\$ 53,304.00

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2025	\$ 22,506.00
Pledged (39 families)	\$ 18,810.00
Balance Remaining	\$ 3,696.00

On behalf of Bishop Marshall and myself thank you for your generosity to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift can make a real difference by supporting faith formation, Spiritual Renewal through the work of Maryhill Renewal Center and in the education and formation of our seminarians. If you have not made your gift it is not too late. Pledge envelopes may can be placed in the collection basket, brought to the parish office or mailed directly back to the diocese.

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**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

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

GRADES 7 - 8

Meets weekly on Wednesday evenings in the *youth center* from 6:00–7:15 PM. The format will include lessons, small group discussion, and videos from current Catholic speakers.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 - 12)

Meets on Wednesday evenings in the *church hall* from 6:00–7:15 PM. The format will include lessons, discussion, and opportunities for faith-sharing.

PREK - 6TH GRADE

A home-based program using God's Plan in Scripture from Ascension Press. Each week focuses on the same Bible story for the whole family, with age-specific workbooks for each child. The church will provide all materials, and support you with weekly emails, reminder texts. Katie is available for any questions or guidance.

WHOLE FAMILY NIGHTS (ONCE A MONTH)

Once a month, all families (PreK–12 + parents) will meet together in the church hall from 6:00–7:15 PM for a special evening of fellowship, review, and prayer. These nights will include a brief overview of the material, help preparing for the upcoming month, and a shared activity like the Rosary or Adoration.

Jr. High and High School students will come with their families and will not have separate class.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 PM - *First Whole Family Night* (PreK - 12 + parents in the church hall).

Wednesday, September 10 at 6:00 PM - *weekly youth group* begins for Grades 7–12.

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

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.

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle is available to burn weekly for any intentions for the living, the deceased, in thanksgiving, in need, etc. The suggested donation is \$7.00. Please call Cindy at the church office.

FORMED

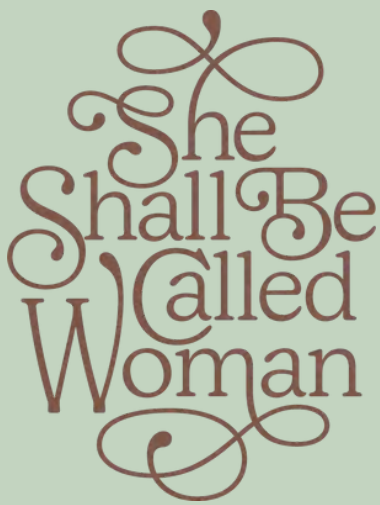
This online platform subscription service offers access to the best Catholic digital content producers - studies, films, audio, and eBooks. All parishioners of every age can access this great Catholic material. Go to www.formed.org, select Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, and complete the simple registration.

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.

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 YouTube, search for MMJ Woodworth.



A PROGRAM FOR ALL WOMEN BY

PARADISUS DEI

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME

“

This is a program for all women!
Regardless of your state of life,
She Shall Be Called Woman is a
place to both give and receive!

”

KATIE HARTFIEL

JOIN US...

On Tuesdays beginning September 2
in the DPC Building

SCHEDULE:

6:30 - 7:00 PM Fellowship and Refreshments

7:00 - 7:30 PM Speaker Presentation

7:30 - 8:00 PM Small Group Discussion

Kindly complete your
registration by scanning
the QR code or visiting

[https://programs.paradisusdei.org/
join/26ECB7](https://programs.paradisusdei.org/join/26ECB7)



MASTERPIECE of CREATION

OBJECTIVE:

To truly understand the way the Lord views femininity is to live as one who is fully alive. In a world that often speaks in cliches and labels, God desires to reveal who He is through a greater understanding of who we are. This season will not only unpack the wealth of celebration of what Saint John Paul II called "The Feminine Genius" but will also give real advice on how to combat the mental, emotional, and spiritual challenges we, as women, face every day.

She Shall Be Called Woman is a transformative journey designed to meet the deepest longings of the feminine heart. Our program is a sanctuary for women seeking to be truly seen, known, and loved as they grow in their relationship with the Lord. Through vibrant conversations, authentic speakers, and enriching prayer experiences, we equip women with the tools to embark on a profound spiritual journey. Our gatherings blend insightful video presentations with intimate small-group discussions, fostering a supportive environment for growth.



Brooklyn Museum - Address to Saint Philip (Allocution à Saint Philippe) - James Tissot, Public domain

August 17, 2025

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 | Heb 12:1-4 | Lk 12:49-53

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Today's readings acknowledge the real challenges of living our faith. Following Christ will sometimes put us at odds with others – an uncomfortable reality that many will face in our broken and divided world. Yet we can find strength knowing that Jesus understands the constant opposition (both inward and outward) that we face. The second reading says, “Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners.” Jesus knows what it’s like to face opposition, but he endured it “for the sake of the joy that lay before him.” That is our calling too. We are made to know the joy that awaits us beyond our crosses. We find the strength to persevere through our trials by “keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.” Keeping Christ as our focus, we will be able to overcome any obstacle we may face and run toward the goal of heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today's Gospel, Jesus said, “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing.” Jesus' desire is that the whole world be set aflame with his love, and yet, he knows that this will not come easily. The good news is that Jesus is with us in the midst of the struggle. He too knows the deep longing and even anguish (the Gospel today uses that word!) that we experience as we work so that others may come to know God's love. We can take comfort in the fact that as much as we want to see others come to faith, God desires it even more than we do, and he is also pouring out his grace continually upon us. In the midst of any discouragement we may feel about those who seem opposed to God and to faith, may we remember the burning love that Christ has and his immense desire to draw all people to himself.

PRAY

Pray for those whom you may know who seem closed to the Gospel, or who are away from the Church. Invite the Holy Spirit to touch your heart with a particular love and zeal to pray for them, that those who may seem the most opposed to faith might come, one day, to embrace it.