

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) 446-0155 - cvanmol@levertonfarms.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 APRIL 18, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

4:00PM - David Stephenson, Mary Mrozinski
Mike Flynn

Lector: B. Patty
Server: J. Louviere

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

8:00AM - Frank Smith, III

Lector: B. Edwards
Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback

Lector: B. Lowe
Server: J. Moreau

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds
Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, APRIL 20

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

7:00AM - Robert Antoon

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

7:00AM - Russell Cospelich

WEEK OF APRIL 25, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

4:00PM - Stanley Hromadka, David Stephenson

Lector: P. Gadel
Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

8:00AM - David Smith

Lector: G. Delaney
Server: E. Lohman

10:30AM - Deceased members of the Doiron
Family

Lector: J. Antee
Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo
Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, APRIL 27

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

7:00AM - Gene Tucker

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

7:00AM - Doyle Olivier 68th birthday
remembrance

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

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 LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED BENEFACTORS AND PARISHIONERS

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**OUR FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES**

Lucy Lamkin, Harper Landry, Oliver Lopez, Ashtyn Moreau, Cali Williams, James Michael Upton, Charlee White, John David White

Saturday, May 2 - 10:00 a.m.

OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Peyton J. Bellard and A'lysse M. Wallace
October 10, 2026 - St. Charles Borromeo

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.

Sara Andries, Kay Andries, Brian Dobard, Maggie Guillory, Celia Halbert, Melou James, Daniel Jones, Henry Jones, Deacon Doug Moreau, Sharman Steltenpohl, Jo Tassin, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Joan McLure, Richard Milano, Sr., Constance Weil

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

LaVerne Fortenberry, Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, Adrienne Stevens, Donna White

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

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 - 04/11/2026**

Regular Collection	\$ 4,789.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,414.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,925.00</u>
Overage	\$ 278.00

Goal for April (4 Sundays)	\$ 27,700.00
Received for April	\$ <u>15,093.00</u>
Still Needed for April	\$ 12,607.00

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20.00
Infirm Priests	\$ 145.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MERCI BEAUCOUP!!

MMJ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (137 families)	\$ 1,000,300.00
Monies Received	\$ <u>693,209.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 300.00

“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)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2026	\$ 23,732.00
Pledged (31 families)	\$ <u>16,229.00</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 7,503.00

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge to the ADA there are pledge envelopes available. Please take the time to make your commitment to the larger Church, knowing that your gift to the ADA makes a real difference to the lives of the laity of the Diocese.

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.

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.

***April 19 & 26
9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
Church Hall***

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**POPE LEO XIV's 2026 PRAYER INTENTION**

For April 2026, Pope Leo XIV asks us to pray for priests experiencing moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find support, accompaniment, and renewed hope.

This month, the Holy Father invites the faithful to pray specifically for priests going through difficult times in their vocation, including moments of loneliness, doubt, or exhaustion. The intention emphasizes that priests are not merely functionaries but beloved sons of God, and that communities are called to support them with understanding, prayer, and accompaniment.

PRO LIFE MINISTRIES

Monday, April 20
5:00 p.m. - Church Hall

ROSARY MINISTRY

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

ROMEOs

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. - Sweet Delta Bakery

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.

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

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.



April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 2:14, 22-33 | 1 Pt 1:17-21 | Lk 24:13-35

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

If I lived at the time of Christ and caught Jesus' eyes while passing him in the streets, would I recognize him as the Messiah? You and I are made in the image and likeness of God. We are the adopted children of the Father. Would my soul be drawn to Christ as two magnets are drawn to one another? I believe that when we are in full and perfect communion with Christ, our entire being will be drawn to the Lord and instinctively rejoice in the glory of God. But on this earth – a world broken by sin – our eyes are clouded and we do not see clearly. In the Gospel today, as the pair of disciples encountered Christ, we read that “their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.” Christ had preached and worked miracles and died in faithful obedience to the Father’s will. He had been raised and was present again fully glorified. Yet, they could not see who it was before them in that moment. In our world today, it is easy to become blinded by sin and miss seeing Christ in our midst. But just as he walked the streets of Nazareth growing up and walked along the road to Emmaus after his resurrection, Christ continues to walk among us today.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When we look at the example of the disciples traveling to Emmaus, we see a blueprint for how we might improve our vision to see the Lord’s presence more clearly. They listened carefully as Jesus reminded them of Scripture, they spoke to him and urged him to remain near to them, and they broke bread with him. After all of this, “their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” We can also come to see Christ more clearly by encountering him in Scripture, by speaking to him in prayer, and by encountering him in the sacraments – particularly by regularly receiving the graces offered in confession and receiving the Eucharist. In doing this, we not only clear our own vision, but we align our thoughts and actions to be more like those of Christ, participating in the Father’s mission to draw humanity back to himself.

WITNESS

After the disciples recognized Christ, they returned to the others and “recounted what had taken place on the way.” This suggests that when we encounter Christ, we are not meant to keep it to ourselves! This week, consider how you can humbly share with a friend or family member how you have encountered Christ.