

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

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 9, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 9

4:00PM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: J. Louviere

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, MAY 10

8:00AM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: C. Lohman

10:30AM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: J. Moreau

5:00PM - All Mothers Living and Deceased

Lector: M. Leleux

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, MAY 11

7:00AM - Ben Van Mol 6th anniv.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

7:00AM - Robert Antoon

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

7:00AM - David Stephenson

THURSDAY, MAY 14

7:00AM - Gene Tucker

WEEK OF MAY 16, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 16

4:00PM - Gene Tucker, Randy & Mallary Smith
11mo. wedding anniv., Stanley
Hromadka

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: J. Louviere

SUNDAY, MAY 17

8:00AM - David Smith

Lector: B. Edwards

Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Deceased members of the Olivier
Family, Linda Jenkins, Judy Newton

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, MAY 18

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, MAY 19

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

7:00AM - Robert Antoon

THURSDAY, MAY 21

7:00AM - Mike Flynn

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



ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

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 PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Abby Lebleu and Ronald Bass
June 12, 2026 - Mary, Mother of Jesus

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, 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 - 05/02/2026**

Regular Collection	\$ 6,285.00
EFT Collection	\$ 3,901.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,925.00</u>
Overage	\$ 3,261.00
Goal for May (4 Sundays)	\$ 34,625.00
Received for May	\$ <u>10,186.00</u>
Still Needed for May	\$ 24,439.00
Mother's Day	\$ 95.00

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>720,590.00</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 (33 families)	\$ <u>16,579.00</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 7,143.00

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.

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**

That everyone might have food:

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

CHURCH PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, June 7

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Food - Games - Fun For All Ages
Everyone Is Welcome and Invited

Sponsored by MMJ Youth Ministries

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70th or other significant anniversary in 2026, we would like to honor you on Saturday, February 13, 2027 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 Monday, August 31, 2026.

ROSARY MINISTRY

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

ROMEOs

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. - Honee  Donuts

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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



May 10, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 | 1 Pt 3:15-18 | Jn 14:15-21

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

Several years ago, while praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, I heard the words, "I just couldn't bear to leave you." It was one of the clearest responses to prayer that I have experienced, and it occurred at a time when I was feeling incredibly lonely. I have spent years reflecting on those words, which resurface often as I receive Christ in the Eucharist. In the Gospel today, I hear echoes of those words again as Christ explains to the Apostles the many ways in which they – and we – will not be abandoned after his ascension into heaven. As the rest of the Gospel unfolds, the events of his passion and resurrection reveal the Lord's faithfulness to them. After the resurrection, the Apostles know they can trust his word because they remember Jesus' promise that the Father will send an Advocate to be with them. We, also, can trust him believing that out of complete and utter love for humanity, Jesus remains with us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Apostles accompanied one another in their community of faith, and they walked with those who had recently responded to God's call to know the truth, as we see with the newly baptized in Samaria. In our lives today, the value of accompaniment cannot be underestimated. In our busy world when it is easy to feel disconnected and alone, being with one another is a powerful way to be a vessel through which Christ proclaims his promise to never leave us. By sitting with another in a time of grief, listening to the questions of a friend who is struggling, or rejoicing with a friend in response to good news, we accompany each other through life's ups and downs. Sometimes accompaniment consists of proclaiming the Good News of Christ's love and thereby helping others to have the courage to do the same. In whatever ways we are called to accompany another in their journey of faith, we do so with the promise that Christ is doing the same for us.

ACCOMPANY

In this joyful season of Easter, we continue to celebrate those who entered or were fully welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. This week, consider reaching out to someone who is new to the Church to celebrate with them, offer your continued prayers for them, or invite them to a parish event.