

Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

COLD & FLU PRECAUTIONS

If you have a cold or any symptoms of the flu, then you are to stay at home and not go to Mass. The sick are excused from the obligation to go to Mass, and those who might be contagious have a moral duty to not expose others to their illness.

Our response to cold and flu should continue to be guided by recommendations from our health officials. During 'flu seasons', they are recommending extra caution which includes:

- ◆ Those who are feeling ill stay at home so as not to spread the disease;
- ◆ Increased vigilance in washing hands and not touching our own eyes, mouth, or nose;
- ◆ Coughing and sneezing into disposable tissues (and washing one's hands afterwards), or if none available, the inside of one's forearm to reduce spreading any virus;
- ◆ Getting the current flu and pneumonia vaccination;



Whenever there is a report of a disease outbreak, it is often asked if we would stop the shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace. However, that 'solution' ignores the fact that colds and flu are also airborne viruses. Those who are infected can spread such viruses simply through breathing, let alone sneezing and coughing. Also, if someone's hands are infected, then those hands also touch door handles, tops of pew, hymnals, etc... and spread the virus to those surfaces. If the touch of hands is to be excluded at the Sign of Peace to avoid 'contact germs,' then one would also have to refrain from touching *anything* in the church that those infected hands have also touched, which is nearly impossible to do. The absolutely best way for colds and flu to be kept from spreading is for those who have them to self-quarantine.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament should no longer be considered exclusively for the dying, as in "last rites". It is to be celebrated by and for those whose health has been seriously impaired by illness or old age. Anyone may be anointed before surgery or an invasive test or medical procedure. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present. The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then again falls ill or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious. This is one more way that God imparts to each of us, and in particular at this time to the seriously ill and elderly his endless love and grace. Please contact Fr. Paul if you would like to be anointed.

AMAZON SMILE



You shop. Amazon gives.

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.

OF COUNSEL TO THE PASTOR

Pastoral Council

Chair: Deborah Bess
 Brinda Edwards, Brad Gadel, Priscilla Gadel,
 Runnie Hunter, Bobbie Long, Rachel Patin,
 Cindy Sayes, Katie Upton

Finance Council

Chair: Marshall Long (Trustee)
 Gary Delaney, Bernard Patty,
 Kenny Sayes (Trustee), Kevin Switzer



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.



ST. DYMPHNA NOVENA

Monday, April 2 - 6:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD

No Classes this week due to Spring vacation.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET & BENEDICTION

Sunday, April 8 - 3:00 p.m.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

PARISH OFFICES

9323 Highway 165 South
P. O. Box 408,
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485

Phone - (318) 487-9894

Fax - (318) 445-0436

Website: mmjchurch.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Rev. Paul M. LaPalme KHS, Pastor

2120 Coulee Crossing Road, Woodworth, LA 71485

(318) 487-9894 - fatherpaul@mmjchurch.org

Ms Cindy Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper

(318) 487-9894 - secretary@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Brinda Edwards, Coordinator, Religious Ed

(317) 250-9997 - ccd@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Natalie Flynn, Janitorial/Maintenance

(318) 487-9894 - maintenance@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Priscilla Gadel, Director of Music

(318) 442-2245 - pgadel@mmjchurch.org

Dr. Mary DeVille, Organist

(318) 487-9894 - mdeville@mmjchurch.org

Mr. Matt Brundrett, Youth Minister

(225) 274-5196 - mbrundrett@mmjchurch.org

DIVINE WORSHIP

Monday - Thursday
7:00 a.m.

Saturday Anticipated
4:00 p.m.

Sunday
8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH**Reconciliation/Confession**

30 minutes before every weekend Mass for 15 minutes.

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

A program of religious education for children ages 2-4. They meet every Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Center. Please call facilitator Rachel Patin at (318) 625-5614 with any questions or if you would like to teach or register your child(ren).

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

At the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, children ages 4-7 are dismissed during the Liturgy of the Word. Led by a trained adult, these children reflect on the scriptures at a level and in a manner appropriate for them. They return to the worshipping community for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

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 (Confession) and receive their first Eucharist (Communion) in the Spring of the next year, the following conditions must be met:

- ◆ A personal interview with the child and their parent(s)/guardian(s) with the pastor;
- ◆ Attend Sunday class 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.;
- ◆ One year previous religious education, either CCD or Catholic School;
- ◆ Complete and submit a religious education/CCD registration form;

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

If you are or have a child who will be entering 11th grade in the Fall and is expecting to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring, the following conditions must be met:

- ◆ A letter handwritten by the candidate submitted to the Pastor by October 1 requesting the Sacrament;
- ◆ Submit a completed and signed Sponsor eligibility form;
- ◆ One year previous religious education, either CCD or Catholic School;
- ◆ Attend Wednesday classes 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.;

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.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**SACRISTAN**

A family, couple or person that arrives at least 30 minutes before mass to open up the church and make sure everything is set up for Mass. That the Lector, Altar Server, Eucharist Ministers and Ushers have arrived, if not find their replacement – Father Paul can help with this. Please contact head sacristan Ada Choate (318) 484-3529 if you are interested.

ALTAR SERVER

Any young person in at least the 3rd grade, or adult, is invited to serve at the altar during Mass. Training is provided. There are also social events planned throughout the year. Anyone interested should contact lay leader Jennifer Montalvo (337) 704-1892

LECTOR/READER

The ministry of proclaiming the Word of God is a real gift and blessing. We welcome any adult who has a strong voice and is comfortable in front of people to share God's word in scripture. Please contact Fr. Paul if you would like to share your gifts and talents.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

If you have been confirmed and are in a valid Catholic marriage, you may distribute Communion. All ministers are recommended by the pastor and approved by the bishop for a three year term which is indefinitely renewable.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**ORIGIN OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Saint Faustina: Mankind's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on dire urgency in the 20th Century, when civilization began to experience an "eclipse of the sense of God" and, therefore to lose the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of human life. In the 1930s, Jesus chose a humble Polish nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, to receive private revelations concerning Divine Mercy that were recorded in her Diary. Bl. John Paul explains:

This was precisely the time when those ideologies of evil, nazism and communism, were taking shape. Sister Faustina became the herald of the one message capable of off-setting the evil of those ideologies, that fact that God is mercy - the truth of the merciful Christ. And for this reason, when I was called to the See of Peter, I felt impelled to pass on those experiences of a fellow Pole that deserve a place in the treasury of the universal Church. ~ Bl. Pope John Paul II, Memory and Identity (2005)

Divine Mercy Sunday: St. Faustina's Diary records 14 occasions when Jesus requested that a Feast of Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday) be observed, for example: My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. ... Let no soul fear to draw near to Me. ... It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary, no. 699)

On May 5, 2000, five days after the canonization of St. Faustina, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

PRAYER/SOCIAL/OUTREACH**ST. DYMPHNA NOVENA**

The first Monday of each month for nine months, beginning September 2017, we will gather at 6:30 p.m. to pray for those whose lives are impacted by nervous disorders, Alzheimer's, incest and/or sexual abuse.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

On the fourth Sunday of every month beginning in September and ending in May, the 10:30 a.m. Mass concludes with exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and the sung Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The second Sunday of every month, a complimentary breakfast is served following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Monthly on the 3rd Wednesday
10:00 a.m. - Cumella Hall
Contact Gerry Craft at (318) 448-3152

During construction, whether of a shawl, blanket or infant baptism gift, the committee begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient.

PRO LIFE COMMITTEE

Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month to address various pro life issues. We help Cenla Homeless Coalition, local crisis pregnancy centers, nursing homes, hospices, etc. Call Cindy Sayes at (318) 446-2893 if you would like to join us in this ministry.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Every Sunday
Ages 2-4
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Youth Center

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Every Sunday
10:30 a.m. Mass
During the Liturgy of the Word
Ages 4-7
Youth Center

MASS INTENTIONS**WEEK OF MARCH 31, 2018**

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: INFIRM PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lectors: K. & B. Chapman, B. & G. Patty
S. Cranford, B. Edwards
Servers: B. Gadel, M. Mallach

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

8:00AM - Our Parish Family

Lector: K. Switzer
Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Antee
Server: I. Antee

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Louviere
Server: V. Montalvo

MONDAY, APRIL 2

NO MASS

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

7:00AM - Alfred & Betty Mathews

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

7:00AM - Carl Bess, Jr.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

7:00AM - James Doiron

WEEK OF APRIL 7, 2018

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

4:00PM - Barbara Reich

Lector: S. Cranford
Server: K. Sayes

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

8:00AM - Deceased Members of the Bess and Lowe Families

Lector: K. Chapman
Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Alfred & Betty Mathews

Lector: J. Antee
Server: I. Antee

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Louviere
Server: V. Montalvo

MONDAY, APRIL 9

7:00AM - Buddy Normand

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

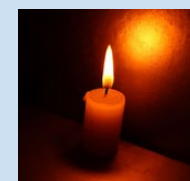
7:00AM - Barbara Reich

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

7:00AM - Carl Bess, Jr.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

6:00PM - James Doiron

**SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK**

*In loving memory of
Jack Ellington
by his wife, Audrey*

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.

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) 623-3804 or the Diocesan **HOTLINE** (318) 445-1427. 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

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY GIFTS - 03/25/18

Total # of envelopes	43
Avg. identifiable gift	\$ 112.60
Weekly Collection	\$ 4,597.00
EFT Collection	\$ 245.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 5,330.00
Shortage	\$ 488.00
Goal for March (4 wks)	\$ 21,320.00
Received for March	\$ 20,636.00
Short for March	\$ 684.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 100.00
(FY 2017/2018)	\$ 2,770.00

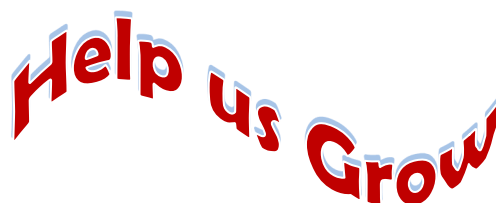
ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Goal	\$ 16,579.03
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

EXPENSES WEEK OF 03/25/18

Payroll	\$ 6,266.29
Total Expenses	\$ 6,266.29



Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. You won't need to write checks and prepare envelopes every week. And even when you can't attend Mass, your electronic contributions will arrive without delay. Visit our website: www.mmjchurch.org

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

RECENTLY DECEASED

Paul R. Dunstane

OUR NEWLY RECEIVED & CONFIRMED

Jocelyn Brown, Maddie Doherty, Lara Riché

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST COMMUNION

Cohen Antee, Grace Brundrett

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Peyton Bellard

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Jason E. Duck and Elizabeth A. Smith

OUR SICK

Fr. Terry Allen, George Babin, Becca Bartlett, Gerri Deptula, Jackie Deptula, Betty Jones, Dan Keely, Donzal Langston, Shelly Larrieu, Paul Lauve, Mathew Leotta, Diane Melder, Raymond Michiels, Leigh Anne Mulvey, Terry Rabalais, Biz Roberts, Jenny Butler Spurlock, Blaine Thiels, Francis Thiels, Elliott Trahan

OUR RECOVERING

Kathy Stevens Bosch, Joann Fuqua Brock, Kylie Renee Bush, Amy Ladner Davis, Walter Deptula, Jr., John Goetz, Rachel Mayfield

OUR HOMEBOUND

Joan Alpha, Butch and Marty Doiron, Richard Kelly, Diane Melder, Donald Normand

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Bunny Bosak, Francis Thiels, Fleta Waits, Ruth Valley

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Timothy Deptula, Travis Edwards, Cade Jameson, Daniel Keely, Michael Smilie, Hunter Stafford

DAILY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Father Scott Chemino, Bishop David Talley, Bishop Emeritus Ronald Herzog, Fathers Daniel Cook, Daniel Corkery, John Cunningham, Wade Decoste

Please inform us if you know of anyone who should be included or removed. You may also use a pew envelope for this purpose.

PARISH NEWS

NOVENA TO ST. DYMPHNA

Monday, April 2 - 6:30 p.m.

St. Dymphna is the patron saint of those whose lives are impacted by nervous or mental disorders, Alzheimer's, or sexual abuse.

PRO LIFE COMMITTEE

Monday, April 9 - 5:30 p.m.

SACRISTANS' MEETING

Tuesday, April 10 - 6:00 p.m.

In The Church

This meeting is for all current sacristans and anyone who might be interested in participating.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer-oriented society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that all we have is a gift from God and may this understanding help us be generous to our church parish and to the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

June 18 - 22, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Early drop off begins at 7:30 a.m.

VBS PLANNING MEETING

Monday, April 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Church Hall

We are in need of adults and junior high/high school students to assist us to ensure a fun and successful week. Please contact Brinda Edwards if you are interested in helping but unable to attend this meeting.

CCD/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes resume

Wednesday, April 11 - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

EASTER 2018

EASTER SUNDAY

Breakfast w/the Easter Bunny - 9:00 a.m.
This replaces our usual 2nd Sunday breakfast.

Easter Egg Hunt - 9:45 a.m.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Next Sunday, April 8

Immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. Beginning at 3:00 p.m. we will sing the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy followed by Benediction.

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 May 26-27 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.

FROM THE PASTOR

The USCCB, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, have proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Each year, we commemorate Child Abuse Prevention to highlight the importance of protecting minors from abuse. *We pray that God may grant those affected by abuse in any way the courage to tell their story and seek healing.*

Congratulations and welcome to Jocelyn Brown, Maddie Doherty, and Lara Riché who were received into full communion of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

Parishioner Peyton Bellard will be confirmed on Friday, May 4, at 6:00 p.m., by Bishop David Talley. This is both an important event in Peyton's faith life and in the life of our parish family. Please plan to attend this Mass and the reception following. What a blessing it would be for Peyton, Bishop Talley, and Mary, Mother of Jesus Parish if our church was filled in celebration, love, and support.