

PARISH NEWS

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Two collections will be taken up this weekend. The first for your regular Sunday stewardship and the second for your Christmas offering.

ADDITIONAL COLLECTION

Traditionally at all Christmas Masses, an additional collection is taken throughout our diocese for the education and formation of our priests. Through the **Church Vocations** collection, your generosity and prayers allow the church to continue to provide priests, sisters and brothers to serve our spiritual and physical needs. This collection will be taken up with the regular Sunday stewardship collection.

YOUTH MINISTRY - GRADES 2-12

In observance of the Christmas Season and its focus on family and friends, there will not be a youth night on December 27th. Please join us when we resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

ADULT EDUCATION

On Tuesday, January 10, Fr. Paul will begin a seven part series on the Sacraments of the Church. Each week a new Sacrament will be studied, beginning with the Sacrament of Baptism.. Our traditional pot luck supper starts at 5:30 p.m. with the presentation at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited and welcomed to attend. There is no requirement that everyone be able to attend all seven presentations.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Beginning on January 22, 2017, (the 4th Sunday) the 10:30 a.m. Mass will end with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will conclude at 3:00 p.m. with the sung Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

EPISCOPAL VISITATION

Coadjutor Bishop David Talley will be celebrating the 10:30 a.m. Mass in our parish on Sunday, January 22. A light reception will follow in the church hall. Please come to meet our new Bishop and welcome him to our parish and diocese.

FROM THE PASTOR

I am so pleased that Bishop Talley was able to accept my recent invitation. He will celebrate the 10:30 a.m. Mass with us and then join us for a welcoming reception in the church hall. It is my hope and prayer that he will be overwhelmed by our hospitality and affection.

This past week Janet Cargle accepted my invitation to provide music ministry on the first Sunday of every month at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. (In January it will be the second Sunday due to New Year's Day.) Many of you may know or be familiar with Janet's musical talents. She is both a gifted guitarist and singer. I know that you join me in welcoming Janet to our parish music ministry team.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND

This fund enables us to decorate the Church during the Christmas season. The donors and those remembered will be listed in the bulletin the weekend of January 7-8, 2017. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is available in the pews and in your monthly packet. You may use one of your own envelopes, as well. Remember to include on the envelope the name(s) of those to be remembered/honored.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 30th
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

All parishioners are invited to stop by the rectory, 2120 Coulee Crossing, to celebrate the Christmas season. You should feel free to come and go as you would like. This is in lieu of our traditional potluck dinner in the hall.

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 31st - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 1st - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

There will be NO 5:30 p.m. Mass.

2017 CALENDARS

Religious calendars are available in the narthex. They are your parish's gift to you.

*Mary, Mother of Jesus Catholic Church*PARISH OFFICES

Monday - Thursday 8:00AM to 4:00PM
Friday 8:00AM to Noon
9323 Highway 165 South - P. O. Box 408,
Woodworth, Louisiana 71485
Phone - (318) 487-9894/Fax - (318) 445-0436
Website: mmjchurch.org

**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.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Paul M. LaPalme KHS, Pastor
2120 Coulee Crossing Road, Woodworth, LA 71485
(318) 487-9894 - fatherpaul@mmjchurch.org

Ms Kathy Rachall, Secretary/Bookkeeper
(318) 487-9894 - secretary@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Courtney Landry, Coordinator, Religious Ed
(318) 715-0080 - CCD@mmjchurch.org

Mr. Gary Leblanc, 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

Ms Janet Cargle, Guitarist
(318) 201-5967 - jcargle@mmjchurch.org

Mr. Matt Brundrett, Youth Minister
(225) 274-5196 - mbrundrett@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Katie Upton, Youth Minister
(318) 308-9991 - kupton@mmjchurch.org

On behalf of Fr. Paul and those who minister to you at Mary, Mother of Jesus Parish, may you and those you love experience in your lives and hearts the true joy of the Lord's Nativity!

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCHReconciliation/Confession

30 minutes before every weekend Mass for 15 minutes.

Baptism

Celebrated during any weekend Mass or on Sunday afternoons. 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 DECEMBER 24, 2016

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
ADD'L COLLECTION: CHURCH VOCATIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM - For our parish family

Lector: S. Cranford
Server: M. Mallach

6:00PM - For our parish family

Lector: E. Lohman
Server: I. Antee

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00AM - For our parish family

Lector: G. Delaney
Server: J. Loken

10:30AM - For our parish family

Lector: C. Coreil
Server: B. Coreil

5:30PM - **NO MASS**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:00AM - **NO MASS**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00AM - Lloyd & Eola Killen

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:00AM - Carl Bess, Jr.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:00AM - Murriel Jones, Sr. birthday remembrance

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK

In loving memory of

Jack Ellington

by Mrs. Audrey Ellington

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 \$5.00 per candle.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2016

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:00PM - For our parish family

Lector: B. Patty
Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00AM - For our parish family

Lector: C. Sayes
Server: E. Loken

10:30AM - For our parish family

Lector: J. Antee
Server: J. Landry

5:30PM - **NO MASS**

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

7:00AM - Eugene F. LaPalme 17th anniv.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00AM - Wilfred Moras 33rd anniv.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

7:00AM - Joe Gauthier

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00AM - Charlie & Alma Gaiennie

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 available in the safe environment section of the Diocesan website: www.diocesealex.org.

The Nativity Of The Lord

December 24 - December 25 2016

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY GIFTS - 12/18/2016

Total # of envelopes	56
Avg. identifiable gift	\$ 73.83
Weekly Collection	\$ 3,481.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,040.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 4,529.00
Shortage	\$ 8.00
Goal for December (4 wks)	\$ 18,116.00
Received for December	\$ 16,096.00
Still needed for December	\$ 2,020.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 55.00
(FY 2016/2017)	\$ 3,900.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

STEWARDSHIP NOTE

Amid the beautiful readings at the Christmas Masses is a reading from a small New Testament letter from Saint Paul to his protégé, Titus, read during Mass at night. Saint Paul reminds Titus that God has given us a gift in the person of Jesus Christ. This gift represents God's active presence in our lives and in our world. This gift redeems us from evil and death. This gift purifies us as God's people. This is a gift that also comes with an expectation: that we receive it with thanksgiving, allow it to transform us into Christ's image; and from it, learn how to live a life "eager to do what is good." Take time the next few days to reflect on the marvelous gift we celebrate at Christmas, and how we might become better stewards of this gift.

DAILY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

For this coming week:

December 24 - Father Craig Scott

December 25 - Father Ramji Shoury

December 26 - Father Brian Seiler

December 27 - Father Pedro Sierra

December 28 - Father Louis Sklar

December 29 - Father Stephen Soares

December 30 - Father Irion St. Romain

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

OUR SICK

Landen Bradford, Charlie Butler, Robyn Gallent, Russell Gauthier, Jane Juneau, Bruce Laborde, Evelyn Lamkin, Randall Lamkin, Donzal Langston, Paul Lauve, Mathew Leotta, John Linzay, Helen R. Mathews, John McClure, Charles Medica, Ottis Monroe, Donald Normand, Cynthia Parker, Donna Pearson, Jewel Perkins, Travis Perkins, Kelly Pias, Raymond & Joan Rachall, Alma Reitzell, Harold Roshto, Ben Rougeou, Robert Ruemker, Jr., Jenny Butler Spurlock, Michael Stevens, Paula Bailey Stokes, Ruth Valley, Jacob Williamson

OUR RECOVERING

Cameron Brown, Amy Ladner Davis, Gerri Deptula, Walter, Jr. & Jackie Deptula, John Goetz, Terry Kohler, Jana Massy, Rachel Mayfield, Dusty Nas-sif, Sarah Waits

OUR HOMEBOUND

Joan Alpha, Butch and Marty Doiron, Richard Kelly, Buddy Normand, Ray Reich, Fleta Waits,

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Florence Broussard, Rose Ponthieux, Emma Wells, Mary Virginia Young

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

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

If you know of anyone who should be included or removed, contact Kathy at the office. You may also use a pew envelope for this purpose.

Pastoral Council

Chair: Deborah Bess
Nicole Coreil, Brad Gadel, Priscilla Gadel, Runnie Hunter, Courtney Landry, Bobbie Long, Marshall Long, Rachel Patin, Katie Upton

Finance Council

Chair: Marshall Long
Brenda Benoit, Pat Brister, Gary Delaney
Bernard Patty, Kevin Switzer

Trustees

Pat Brister, Gary Delaney