

Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

COLD & FLU PRECAUTIONS

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.

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.

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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD

Grades 6 to 8

Sunday - February 24 - 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Grades Pre K to 5

Wednesday, February 27 - 6:00pm to 7:00pm

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
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

Deacon Paul Sunderhaus, Permanent Deacon

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

Cindy Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper

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

Mrs. Brinda Edwards, Coordinator, Religious Ed

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

Mrs. Nicole Coreil, First Eucharist/Penance Prep.

(337) 831-3722 - ncoreil@bellsouth.net

Dr. Mary DeVille, Organist

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

Mrs. Priscilla Gadel, Director of Music

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

Ms Jennifer Smilie, Youth Minister

(318) 201-5367 - youthministry@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Natalie Flynn, Janitorial/Maintenance

(318) 487-9894 - maintenance@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 in the Youth Center during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Facilitator: Rachel Patin at (318) 625-5614.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

During the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, children ages 3-7 are dismissed during the Liturgy of the Word. 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 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;

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 Sacramental Preparation Classes.

PRAYER/SOCIAL/OUTREACH**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. Please call Gerry if you know of anyone affected by physical or mental illness who could benefit from a prayer shawl or blanket.

PRAYER/SOCIAL/OUTREACH**SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

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

PRO LIFE COMMITTEE

Meetings are at 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Monday of the month to address various pro life issues. Contact: Cindy Sayes, (318) 446-2893.

LADIES' ROSARY MINISTRY

Women gather in the Church every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. to pray the rosary.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Provides for the luncheon following the funeral of a member of our parish family. Contact: Bobbie Long, (318) 442-3578

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**SACRISTAN**

A family, couple or individual that arrives at least 30 minutes before mass to open up the church and ensure everything is prepared for Mass. Contact: Ada Choate (318) 484-3529.

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. Contact Deacon Paul or 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. Contact Deacon Paul to share your gifts.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

If you are confirmed and 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.

A REFLECTION ON LENTEN FASTING - BY REV. DANIEL MERZ

In the early Church and, to a lesser extent still today, there were two fasts. There was the "total fast" that preceded all major feasts or sacramental events. The ancient name for this fast was "statio" from the verb "sto, stare" to stand watch, on guard or in vigil. The second fast was a fast of abstinence from certain foods, e.g., meats or fats. This was more an act of self-discipline and self-control. The *statio* fast was total and a means of watching and waiting...i.e. *for* something. The fast of abstinence was more general and personal, to help oneself be more disciplined or self-controlled. The total fast is still kept today prior to reception of Holy Communion. Following Holy Communion, the total fast ceases because Jesus had explicitly stated that we don't fast when the bridegroom is here, in other words, what we're keeping vigil for has arrived, the wait is over. On the other hand, the fast of abstinence was allowed on Sundays because the continuity of abstinence can be important for it to be effective.

These initial observations, then, teach us that the Eucharist is always the end of a preparation. It is always the fulfillment of an expectation. In the Orthodox Church during Lent, they have Eucharist only on Saturday and Sunday. But because Wednesdays and Fridays are total fast days, those two days are also days for the Communion service (Liturgy of the PreSanctified) which are held in the evening, i.e., after the day of preparation. Fasting is always *preparatory*.

But how did *fasting* become such an important means of preparing for the Eucharist and of learning virtue through self-discipline? Christian fasting is revealed in an interdependence between two events in the Bible: the "breaking of the fast" by Adam and Eve; and the "keeping of the fast" by Christ at the beginning of his ministry.

Humanity's "Fall" away from God and into sin began with eating. God had proclaimed a fast from the fruit of only one tree, the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:17), and Adam and Eve broke it. Fasting is here connected with the very mystery of life and death, of salvation and damnation. Food perpetuates life in this physical world, which is subject to decay and death. But God "created no death." (Wis. 1:13) Humanity, in Adam and Eve, rejected a life dependent on God alone for one that was dependent rather on "bread alone." (Dt. 8:3; Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4) The whole world was given to man as a kind of food, as a means to life, but "life" is meant as communion with God, not as food. ("Their god is their belly." Phil. 3:19) The tragedy is not so much that Adam ate food, but that he ate the food for its own sake, "apart" from God and to be independent of Him. Believing that food had life in itself and thus he could be "like God." And he put his faith in food. This kind of existence seems to be built on the principle that man does indeed live "by bread alone."

Christ, however, is the new Adam. At the beginning of his ministry in the Gospel of Matthew, we read, "When He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He became hungry." Hunger is that state in which we realize our dependence on something else - when we face the ultimate question: "on what does my life depend?" Satan tempted both Adam and Christ, saying: Eat, for your hunger is proof that you depend entirely on food, that your life is in food. Adam believed and ate. Christ said, "Man does NOT live by bread alone." (Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4) This liberates us from total dependence on food, on matter, on the world. Thus, for the Christian, fasting is the only means by which man recovers his true spiritual nature. In order for fasting to be effective, then, the spirit must be a part of it. Christian fasting is not concerned with losing weight. It is a matter of prayer and the spirit. And because of that, because it is truly a place of the spirit, true fasting may well lead to temptation, and weakness and doubt and irritation. In other words, it will be a real fight between good and evil, and very likely we shall fail many times in these battles. But the very discovery of the Christian life as "fight" and "effort" is an essential aspect of fasting.

Christian tradition can name at least seven reasons for fasting:

- 1) From the beginning, God commanded some fasting, and sin entered into the world because Adam and Eve broke the fast;
- 2) For the Christian, fasting is ultimately about fasting from sin;
- 3) Fasting reveals our dependence on God and not the resources of this world;
- 4) Fasting is an ancient way of preparing for the Eucharist - the truest of foods;
- 5) Fasting is preparation for baptism (and all the sacraments) - for the reception of grace;
- 6) Fasting is a means of saving resources to give to the poor;
- 7) Fasting is a means of self-discipline, chastity, and the restraining of the appetites.

MASS INTENTIONS**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 2019**

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

4:00PM - Richard Gadel

*Lector: M. Leleux**Server: TBD***SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

8:00AM - Raymond Paul, Sr.

*Lector: G. Delaney**Server: M. Mallach*

10:30AM - Marshall B. Newton, Sr.

*Lector: J. Antee**Server: M. Hawthorne*

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Montalvo**Server: V. Montalvo***MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

7:00AM - Communion Service

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

7:00AM - Communion Service

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:00AM - Communion Service

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:00AM - Communion Service

WEEK OF MARCH 2, 2019

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

4:00PM - Thomas Nassif, Recovery and Healing

*Lector: B. Patty**Server: TBD***SUNDAY, MARCH 3**

8:00AM - Richard Gadel

*Lector: B. Edwards**Server: K. Chapman*

10:30AM - Donald Normand

*Lector: K. Bellard**Server: I. Antee*

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Louviere**Server: R. Lowe***MONDAY, MARCH 4**

7:00AM - Lena Cortello

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

7:00AM - Albert (Chris) Navarro

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

7:00AM - PFC Justin Roy Gadel Sanders

4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word

6:00PM - For the Parish Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

7:00AM - Donald Normand

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK***In loving memory of Our Beloved Dead.***

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 - 2/17/19

Total # of Envelopes	54
Avg. Identifiable Gift	\$ 114.31
Weekly Collection	\$ 5,333.00
EFT Collection	\$ 840.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 5,330.00
Overage	\$ 843.00
Goal February (4 wks)	\$ 21,320.00
Received for February	\$ 16,785.00
Still needed for February	\$ 4,535.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 89.00
Church Today	\$ 30.00

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - PHASE I

Goal	\$400,000.00
Pledged to Date	\$187,105.00
Received to Date	\$167,242.00
Remaining Pledges to Goal	\$212,895.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Help us Grow

EXPENSES WEEK OF 2/17/19

Payroll	\$ 380.00
Natalie Flynn (reimburse)	\$ 12.64
OSV (pew envelopes)	\$ 331.14
Rogers Creek Landscaping	\$ 150.00
The Pastoral Center	\$ 109.49
J & J Exterminating	\$ 187.00
Sam's (RLE)	\$ 577.15
Diane Fuqua (reimburse)	\$ 119.87
Suddenlink	\$ 81.94
WC of LA (dumpster)	\$ 97.70
Scorpion Tech. (computers)	\$ 240.00
Town of Woodworth	\$ 315.41
ACS Technologies	\$ 37.00
F. C. Ziegler	\$ 231.36
USPS (postage)	\$ 160.00
Total Expenses	\$ 3,030.70

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

OUR RCIA CANDIDATES

Robin Burns, Katelyn Emerson, Lincoln Holton, Lindsay Holton, Becky Lowe, Pete Lowe

THOSE PREPARING FOR 1ST EUCHARIST

Luke Brocato, Caroline White

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Noah Bellard, Julianna Foote, Tucker Foshee, Frank Lemoine, Max Mallach

OUR SICK

George Babin, Becca Bartlett, Cary Boyd, Mary Brawner, Jackie Deptula, Stephen Deville, Eric Duck, Jeff Fitzgerald, Lona Foote, Justin Hebert, Dan Keely, Paul Lauve, Mathew Leotta, Missy Mathews, Leigh Anne Mulvey, Jennifer Quitta, Biz Roberts, Jacob Smith, Jenny Butler Spurlock, Zac Steely, Francis Thiels, Carlyn Volman, Jody Walker, Marilyn Wilson

OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING

Callie Bess, Kathy Stevens Bosch, Kylie Renee Bush, Glenn Carroll, Amy Ladner Davis, Geri Deptula, Walter Deptula, Jr., John Goetz, Brenda Holloway, Betty Jones, Shelly Larrieu, Rachel Mayfield, Ana Maria Sierra, Irene Thompson, Elliott Trahan, Buddy Wise

OUR HOMEBOUND

Joan Alpha, Butch Doiron, Marty Doiron, Richard Kelly, Henry Lemoine, Beatrice Papillion, Donald Smith, Shirley Smith

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Bunny Bosak, Francis Thiels, Fleta Waits, Ruth Valley

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

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

DAILY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Bishop David Talley and Fathers Ron Mathews, Dale Meade, Luke Melcher, Angelo Messina, Jack Michalchuk, Kenneth Michiels

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD

GRADES PRE K TO 5

Wednesday, February 27
6:00pm to 7:00pm

GRADES 6 TO 8

Sunday - February 24
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Every Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. Mass
For children ages 2 - 4.

Drop children off directly at the Youth Center before Mass.

LIVESTREAMING MASS

For the benefit of our homebound and/or sick parishioners, we livestream the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass each week. To watch it live on YouTube, search for MMJ Woodworth. You may also view it on our Facebook page.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL 2019



As a Catholic community, we are called to be one body in Christ and to live as His disciples. The Annual Diocesan Appeal offers each of us the opportunity to become one in His body by supporting the ministries of the local Church and contributing to the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

LENT 2019

ASH WEDNESDAY - MARCH 6

7:00 a.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes
4:00 p.m. - Prayer Service & imposition of ashes
6:00 p.m. - Mass with imposition of ashes

WAY OF THE CROSS

Fridays - 6:00PM

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Bishop Robert Barron's - The MASS
The Tuesdays of Lent - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Presenter: Deacon Paul Sunderhaus

MEN OF MMJ - FRIDAY FISH FRY

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
\$8.00 per plate; eat in or take out.



Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat and we have only one full meal. The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics 14 years of age and older. The obligation to fast, limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of the day, binds Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. Those who are younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. But Lenten disciplines should never endanger your health. It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent.