

Mary, Mother of Jesus Roman Catholic Church



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.



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

Ms Cindy Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper

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

Dr. Mary DeVille, Organist/Director of Music

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

Mrs. Brinda Edwards, Coordinator, Religious Ed

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

Mrs. Linda Kelly, First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 447-3149 - lkelly@mmjchurch.org

Ms Jennifer Smilie, Youth Minister

(318) 201-5367 - youthministry@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.

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 7, 2019

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

4:00PM - Richard Kelly

*Lector: C. Sayes
Server: L. Brocato*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00AM - Vic Tolito

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

10:30AM - Bertha Hopewell

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

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: R. Mallach
Server: C. Mallach*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00AM - Kyle Jordan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:00AM - Ada Bergeron

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:00AM - Marty Doiron

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00AM - Eloise Andries

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

WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2019

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

4:00PM - Bootsy Gauthier

*Lector: K. Sayes
Server: TBD*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:00AM - Marty Doiron

*Lector: K. Chapman
Server: L. Delaney*

10:30AM - Eva Foster, Neil Kavanagh

*Lector: B. Lowe
Server: L. Brocato*

5:30PM - Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Reynolds
Server: M. Reynolds*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00AM - Richard Kelly

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00AM - Irvin Butler

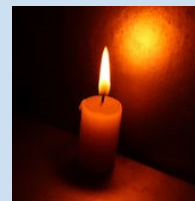
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00AM - Donald Normand

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00AM - Vic Tolito

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
PAUL LAUVE
BY MELOU JAMES**

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.

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY GIFTS - 12/01/19

Total # of Envelopes	55
Avg. Identifiable Gift	\$ 104.55
Weekly Identifiable Collection	\$ 4,920.00
EFT Collection	\$ 830.00
Loose Cash	\$ 486.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>5,330.00</u>
Overage	\$ 906.00
Goal for December (5 wks)	\$ 26,650.00
Received for December	\$ <u>6,236.00</u>
Short for December	\$ 20,414.00
Maintenance	\$ 80.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 270.00
Thanksgiving-CLHC	\$ 327.50
Thanksgiving-Manna House	\$ 327.50

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - PHASE I

Goal	\$400,000.00
Pledged to Date	\$192,950.00
Received to Date	\$ <u>184,682.00</u>
Unpaid Pledges	\$ 8,368.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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

Help us Grow

"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)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

Amelia Brocato, Lauryn Brown, Andrew Brundrett, Bayleigh Cataldie, Braden Emerson, Cora Lohman, Olivia Long, Helen Mathews, Estella Montalvo, Leah Moreau, Charliee Patin, Finley Ponthier

OUR SICK

Joan Alpha, Jayne Blackman, Russ Edwards, Randy Francis, Helen Robbins Hubbard, Jacques Matt, Beverly Richey

OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING

Glenn Carroll, Amy Ladner Davis, Geri Deptula, Walter Deptula, Jr., Eric Duck, Betty Jones, Bryan Kelly, Irene Thompson, Joseph Thompson, Buddy Wise

OUR HOMEBOUND

Joan Alpha, Butch Doiron, Henry Lemoine, Donald Smith, Shirley Smith

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Joan Alpha, Bunny Bosak, Francis Thiels, Ruth Valley

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Kory Butler, Brandon Coreil, Travis Edwards, Michael Hawthorne, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Michael Smilie



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**PREK TO GRADE 5**

Wednesday, December 11
6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

GRADES 6 TO 8

Sunday, December 8
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Ages 2- 4
Every Sunday
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Drop children off directly at the Youth Center before Mass.

RCIA

Who is **RCIA** for?

- ⇒ **Unbaptized...** Persons (7 years and older) who want to follow in Jesus' footsteps and become members of the Catholic Church;
- ⇒ **Baptized in Another Christian Church...** Those members from a different Christian community other than Catholic who are seeking full initiation in the Catholic Church;
- ⇒ **Baptized but no previous Religious Education...** persons who were baptized as babies in the Catholic Church but have not had any Religious Education within the Catholic Tradition. Have you celebrated all of your sacraments of Communion and Confirmation?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 - 6:30 P.M.

The home of Keith and Beth Chapman
1022 Doc Drive, Woodworth
Beth - 623-8016; Cindy - 446-2893

PRO LIFE COMMITTEE

A labeled container is in the narthex for the Central Louisiana Homeless Coalition (CLHC) who needs the following: travel size deodorant and body lotion, new in package underwear (both men & women), socks, tarps, gloves, jackets, wool (sock) caps. Monetary donations should be in an envelope marked CLHC and put it in the collection basket.

PARISH NEWS**ADVENT GIVING TREE**

Please remember to return your gifts, unwrapped and in a closed bag with the tag affixed, to the church next weekend, December 14 and 15. Please don't bring gifts until that weekend since we have no place to store them.

BREAKFAST & PICTURES WITH ST. NICHOLAS

Sunday, December 8
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Church Hall
Sponsored by the Men of MMJ.

MUG AND MUFFIN

Wednesday, December 11
Cumella Hall - 9:00 a.m.

Usually a monthly gathering for "mature" women, this month we invite both men and women of any age to join us. Coffee will be served beginning at 9:00 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. there will be a video presentation "*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary*" by Dr. Brant Pitre, lasting approximately 80 minutes. Hostess: Linda Amberg.

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 11-12, 2020. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is in the pews and 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.

FORMED

Our parish has subscribed to FORMED, an online platform subscription service offering 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 formed.org, select Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, and complete the simple registration.

Second Sunday in Advent



The Immaculate Conception, 1627, artist: Guido Reni (Italian). Met. Museum. Collection.

Prayer from St. John Paul II

Immaculate Virgin!

Your spotless spiritual beauty
is for us a living source of
confidence and hope.
To have you as Mother, Holy Virgin,
reassures us on the path of life
as a pledge of eternal salvation.
Because of this, O Mary,
we have recourse to you
with confidence.
Help us to build a world
where human life is always
cherished and defended,
every form of violence banished,
the peace of all tenaciously sought.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

While traditionally recognized on December 8, this year the Church recognizes the feast on Monday, Dec. 9. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation.

An essential part of God's plan for the mother of his Son was that she be conceived free from Original Sin. "Through the centuries the Church became ever more aware that Mary, 'full of grace' through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception" (CCC, no. 491).

In anticipation that she was to bear the Son of God, Mary was preserved from the time of her conception from Original Sin. We call this the Immaculate Conception. No sin would touch her, so that she would be a fitting and worthy vessel of the Son of God. The Immaculate Conception does not refer to the virginal conception and birth of Christ, but rather to Mary's being conceived without inheriting Original Sin. In the course of time, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception became more precisely enunciated, as its truth—long supported by the universal popular devotion of the faithful—was better understood by deepening theological inquiry.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed this dogma infallibly, that is, in his role as supreme teacher of the Church, he declared that this doctrine is divinely revealed and must be accepted with faith by the entire Church.



Image from Saint John Paul II, copyright © 2004, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City/Rome. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The card is about the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It is an excerpt from the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2006) 141-142, 146. Copyright © 2006, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.



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 the second through the last Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. The first Tuesday of the month we gather at the Molly Wise Senior Apartments recreation room.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

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

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

All ministers must be confirmed and in a valid Catholic marriage, recommended by the pastor, and approved by the bishop for a three-year term which is indefinitely renewable.

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

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