

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

Deacon Paul Sunderhaus, M.D.

Permanent Deacon ~ Adult Faith Formation

Altar Servers

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

Mrs. Linda Kelly

First Penance/First Eucharist

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

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

(318) 446-1153 - bgadel@prodigy.net

M/M Keith and Beth Chapman

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 623-8016 - bethachapman@bellsouth.net

M/M Jody and Jackie Byrd

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 451-5596 - jodybyrd@hotmail.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 JANUARY 7, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:00PM - Ben Van Mol 36th birthday remembrance, Rita A. LaPalme 10th anniv., Kristian Louviere

Lector: J. Louviere

Server: L. Brocato

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00AM - Mary Virginia Young

Lector: R. Normand

Server: B. Emerson

10:30AM - Marie Hawthorne

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: H. Reynolds

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

7:00AM - Gene Tucker

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00AM - Wilfred Moras 128th birthday remembrance

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

7:00AM - Jackie Kroll Reine

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

7:00AM - Bob and Johnnie Lively

WEEK OF JANUARY 14, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

4:00PM - Adrien, Lena, Marty, Larry, and Jim Doiron

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00AM - Valorie Clayton

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: A. Daigrepoint

10:30AM - Austin Olivier, Jr.

Lector: B. Lowe

Server: C. Mathews

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: L. Brouillette

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

7:00AM - Richard Gadel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

7:00AM - Larry Robin, Jr. 2nd anniv.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

7:00AM - Laura Gadel Jacob

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

7:00AM - Grady Sayes 17th anniv.

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**FOR THE HEALING OF FRANK J. CORTELLA
BY HIS SISTER, SANDRA 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 \$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) 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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Maynette Schwartz Dobard, Barbara Dobard Rigby, Mary Lee Robichaux

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

Corbin Bennett, James Ducote, Thomas Long, Harper Rajewski, Bentley Ryland, Ben Upton, Lawson Wheat, Charlie White

THOSE PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Madeline Buller, Kennedy Daigrepoint, Julia Loken, Casey Mallach

O CIA CANDIDATES

Mary Deweese, Chad Doyle, Lory Malone, Benjamin Malone, Jackson Malone, Bridgette Thompson, Garrison Thompson, Claude Weatherford

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Jennifer Smilie and C. J. Fuqua - April 15, 2023

Christina Rubio and Chad Doyle - October 21, 2023

OUR SICK

Lynn Bawner, Mary Louise Bawner, George Juan Burns, Rachal Burns, Richard Charon, Frank Cortello, Brian Dobard, Randy Francis, Keith Johnson, Betsy Lanclos, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melançon, Debbie Norment, Jana Robinson, Lori Spratling, Kyle Stokes, Earlene Tanner, Chuck Vernon, Michelle Vincent

OUR RECOVERING/CONVALESCING

Michael Brewton, Mary Cezar, Eric Duck, Rhonda Earhart

OUR HOMEBOUND

Phyllis Broussard, Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Betty Jones, Janet Lamkin, Janet Normand, Jane Richey, Adrienne Stevens, Joe & Irene Thompson

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Kory Butler, Brandon Coreil, Travis Edwards, David J. Francis. Dustin Guillory, Michael Hawthorne, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Robin 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.

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY GIFTS - 01/01/2023

Regular Collection	\$ 5,175.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,300.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
Shortage	\$ 55.00
Goal for January (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for January	\$ <u>6,475.00</u>
Still needed for January	\$ 26,175.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 80.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!
MERCI BEAUCOUP!!**

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.

AMAZON SMILE

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.

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

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 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.

FAITH FORMATION**FROSTY FEST**

Sunday, January 15
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Youth Center

Everyone in Grades 6-12 is invited to our first ever!! Join us for winter-themed snacks, drinks, and minute-to-win-it-style games.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD**GRADES PREK - 5**

January 11 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

GRADES 6 - 12

January 11 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

This weekend at all the Masses, youth from our Religious Education/CCD Program will be handing out bags for each family to take home. Inside each bag is chalk and a prayer card. On the Feast of Epiphany, the family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. Traditionally chalk is used to write above the home's entrance and/or above any of the doors in the house.

+20 C M B 23+

The letters CMB have 2 traditional meanings: 1) the initial of the traditional names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar; 2) the abbreviation of the Latin words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The + sign represents the cross and 2023 is the year. Each of you is invited to bless your home on this Feast when Jesus Christ was manifested to the world and invites us to continue this manifestation through our work in the world.

OCIA (FORMERLY RCIA)

Tuesday, January 10
5:30 p.m. - Church Hall

CHURCH NEWS**A NOTE OF APPRECIATION**

To all those who ensured that our liturgies, celebrations, and hospitality during the Christmas season would be filled with love and prayer.

**EPIPHANY POT LUCK LUNCHEON**

Sunday, January 8 - Serving starts at 12:00 p.m.

The Church is providing the pork loin and drinks. Please bring your favorite side-dishes to share.

Please email secretary@mmjchurch.org to let us know how many of you will be coming and what food you will be bringing to share.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

LADIES' ROSARY MINISTRY

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church to pray for our Church and World.

ROMEOS

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Coffee, biscuits, conversation - Church Hall

QUILTING MINISTRY

Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m.
Call Brenda Mathews (318) 730-8123

FORMED

Our parish has a subscription 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.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Please remember that the sanctuary candle is available to burn weekly for any intentions you may have for the living, the deceased, in thanksgiving, in need, etc. Please call Cindy at the church office.

SPEND TIME IN PRAYER

Our church is open Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to take some quiet time out of your day to spend a moment in prayer with Jesus.

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Monday January 9 Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7
or Acts 10:34-38
Ps 29:1-4,9-11b
Matthew 3:13-17

Tuesday January 10

Hebrews 2:5-12
Ps 8:2ab,5-9
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday January 11

Hebrews 2:14-18
Ps 105:1-4,6-9
Mark 1:29-39

Thursday January 12

Hebrews 3:7-14
Ps 95:6-11
Mark 1:40-45

Friday January 13

Hebrews 4:1-5,11
Ps 78:3,4bc,6c-8
Mark 2:1-12

Saturday January 14

Hebrews 4:12-16
Ps 19:8-10,15
Mark 2:13-17

Let's consider the humble adoration of the magi for the Christ child. The magi were Gentiles, and the Greek word "magi" meant oriental scientists. Despite sometimes being translated as "astrologers", their visit to the manger does not validate astrology.



Because they were not Jews, their determination to meet the Jewish savior says much about what the word "epiphany" means. The magi are good examples of believing in the importance of Jesus even without understanding what it would mean to them personally or to the rest of the world.

They worshiped Jesus as a King-Messiah before they knew how he would become king or how his kingship would save the world from evil. As scientific scholars, they had studied religious writings from beyond the scope of their own culture.

Then, they acted on faith in response to the Spirit of God who activated them, and it changed their lives.

Only the Spirit of God can move someone to have faith, because faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12). The word "epiphany" means discovery, a revelation that changes our lives. Epiphanies are gifts from God as he collaborates with our desire for new growth.

We can imagine how the magi felt when they experienced an epiphany in the presence of the Christ child.

Although they did not understand how this baby from a poor family could become king, they remembered him for the rest of their lives and listened for news from the land of Israel about Jesus. We know that they heard about his crucifixion and learned what his followers were teaching about it, for they became Christians – their relics have been venerated since very early times.

Reflect & Discuss:

† What sign from God, like the star that the magi followed, are you waiting to see?

† What signs is God already showing you?

† What epiphany – new understanding – is Jesus giving you about what God is doing in your life?

† God has given you faith to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. How do you act on this faith? And how do these actions evangelize non-believers?