

# 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](http://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](mailto:fatherpaul@mmjchurch.org)

### **Deacon Paul Sunderhaus, M.D.**

*Permanent Deacon ~ Adult Faith Formation*

*Altar Servers*

(318) 487-9894 - [deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org](mailto:deaconpaul@mmjchurch.org)

### **Ms Cindy Campbell**

*Secretary/Bookkeeper ~ Safe Environment*

(318) 487-9894 - [secretary@mmjchurch.org](mailto:secretary@mmjchurch.org)

### **Dr. Mary DeVille, PhD**

*Organist/Director of Music*

*Adult Faith Formation ~ Lectors*

(318) 487-9894 - [devillem@nsula.edu](mailto:devillem@nsula.edu)

### **Mrs. Katie Upton**

*Director, Religious Ed and Youth Ministries*

(318) 308-9991 - [ccd@mmjchurch.org](mailto:ccd@mmjchurch.org)

### **Mrs. Linda Kelly**

*First Penance/First Eucharist*

(318) 447-3149 - [lkelly@mmjchurch.org](mailto:lkelly@mmjchurch.org)

### **Mr. Brad Gadel**

*Confirmation Preparation*

(318) 446-1153 - [bgadel@prodigy.net](mailto:bgadel@prodigy.net)

### **M/M Keith and Beth Chapman**

*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)*

(318) 623-8016 - [bethachapman@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethachapman@bellsouth.net)

### **M/M Jody and Jackie Byrd**

*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)*

(318) 451-5596 - [jodybyrd@hotmail.com](mailto: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 APRIL 15, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, APRIL 15

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

Lector: G. Patty  
Server: A. Byrd

### SUNDAY, APRIL 16

8:00AM - Mary Lee and Gerald Robichaux, Sr.

Lector: R. Normand  
Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Ernestine Moras 51<sup>st</sup> anniv., Stephen Rodeback

Lector: J. Leglue  
Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds  
Server: H. Reynolds

### MONDAY, APRIL 17

7:00AM - Shirley Sayes

### TUESDAY, APRIL 18

7:00AM - Isabelle Weltring

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

7:00AM - Charlie and Alma Gaiennie

### THURSDAY, APRIL 20

7:00AM - Margurite Steinkamp

## WEEK OF APRIL 22, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, APRIL 22

4:00PM - Louise Destor

Lector: S. Cranford  
Server: J. Schexnyder

### SUNDAY, APRIL 23

8:00AM - Frank Cospelich

Lector: E. Lohman  
Server: A. Daigrepont

10:30AM - Kristian Louviere

Lector: B. Lowe  
Server: C. Mathews

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo  
Server: V. Montalvo

### MONDAY, APRIL 24

7:00AM - Rickey Sayes

### TUESDAY, APRIL 25

7:00AM - Lawrence Cospelich

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

7:00AM - Lloyd and Eola Killen

### THURSDAY, APRIL 27

7:00AM - Louis Sklar, Jr. Month's Mind

### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



**LAWSON BROWN, FOR HEALING AND PEACE  
BY THE ELLINGTON FAMILY**

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](http://www.diocesealex.org)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST**

Saturday, May 6 - 10:00 a.m.

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

**THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY**

Christina Rubio and Chad Doyle - October 21, 2023

**OUR SICK, RECOVERING, CONVALESCING**

*After two weeks names are removed unless notification to retain someone is received in the collection, at secretary@mmjchurch.org, calling 487-9894x1200 or by mail. Exceptions can be made, of course.*

Brian Dobard, Eric Duck, Rhonda Earhart, Jana Fontenot, Linda Kelly, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melançon

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

Evelyn Bartow, Phyllis Broussard, Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Janet Lamkin, Janet Normand, Jane Richey, Joe & Irene Thompson

**OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

Betty Jones, Adrienne Stevens

**OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY**

Kory Butler, Brandon Coreil, 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 - 04/09/2023**

Regular Collection	\$ 4,566.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,055.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
<b>Overage</b>	<b>\$ 91.00</b>

Goal for April (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for April	\$ <u>14,421.00</u>
<b>Still Needed for April</b>	<b>\$ 18,229.00</b>

Maintenance and Repair	\$ 20.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 220.00
Holy Land	\$ 550.00
Infirm Priests	\$ 2,463.00

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

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

Parish Goal 2023	\$ 21,256.00
Pledged	\$ <u>22,488.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 1,232.00

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, ensuring that our parish would reach our goal. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your pledge to the ADA, you may visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org) and click on the **do-nate** tab at the top of the page. Please take the time to make your commitment to the larger Church, knowing your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal makes a real difference in the lives of the laity of the Diocese.

**COMMUNITY REWARDS**

Visit [Kroger.com](http://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.

**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](http://www.mmjchurch.org)

**FAITH FORMATION****MARK YOUR CALENDARS****VBS - JUNE 5-9****FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Sunday, April 16 - 3:30 p.m.  
Church Hall

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

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



Who Is OCIA (Formerly 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?

Please contact either Beth and Keith Chapman or Jody and Jackie Byrd. Their contact information is on the front page of the bulletin.

**CHURCH NEWS****DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

As the concluding rite to the 10:30AM Mass this Sunday, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and pray the chaplet of the Divine Mercy followed by Benediction. Everyone is encouraged to join us as we thank God through Jesus Christ for the gifts of his mercy and compassion lavishly poured out upon us, his sons and daughters.

**PRO LIFE MINISTRIES**

Monday, April 17  
5:00 p.m. - Church Hall

**LADIES' ROSARY MINISTRY**

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Church.

**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

**MUG AND MUFFIN RETURNS**

Thursday, April 20  
9:30 a.m. - Church Hall



If you are a woman over 60, you are invited to join our gatherings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. Don't forget to bring your own mug.

**LIVE STREAMING**

For the benefit of our homebound and/or sick parishioners, we livestream the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass each week. To watch it anytime on You Tube, search for MMJ Woodworth.

**HOLY WATER BOTTLES**

A basket containing bottles of water blessed at the Easter Vigil is located near the baptismal font. Every family is invited to take one with you for use at home.

## 2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy

### Divine Mercy Sunday April 16

Acts 2:42-47  
Ps 118:2-4,13-15,22-24  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### Monday April 17

Acts 4:23-31  
Ps 2:1-9  
John 3:1-8

### Tuesday April 18

Acts 4:32-37  
Ps 93:1-2,5  
John 3:7b-15

### Wednesday April 19

Acts 5:17-26  
Ps 34:2-9  
John 3:16-21

### Thursday April 20

Acts 5:27-33  
Ps 34:2,9,17-20  
John 3:31-36

### Friday April 21

Acts 5:34-42  
Ps 27:1,4,13-14  
John 6:1-15

### Saturday April 22

Acts 6:1-7  
Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19  
John 6:16-21

We are an Easter people, because we know and celebrate that Jesus has risen from the dead. And yet, we don't always feel like celebrating.

It's hard to feel like the Good Friday experience of carrying our crosses has really ended.

Today's second reading describes what the Easter experience is supposed to feel like: an indescribable and glorious joy. But how does that happen?

The attitude of joy does not come from reaching the end of our cross-like burdens. Rather, it comes from knowing that Christ's death and resurrection have overcome our crosses, and by uniting ourselves to his life, we are victorious even before we see the battle end.

Furthermore, it comes from knowing that we have the ultimate victory – eternal life in God's abundant love – and we know that this gift is "imperishable, undefiled, and unfading" and that it's being

safeguarded by the power of God because, by choosing to have faith in Christ, we have accepted the gift in advance.

This joy-from-knowing is the definition of "hope". Hope isn't wishful thinking. Hope means celebrating what is certainly going to happen *before* it happens.

Some Catholics say that they're afraid they might lose their salvation because they're afraid that something will tempt them



to turn away from Jesus between now and the hour of death. If you worry about this, let me ask you: During times of suffering, do you reject God or run to him?

Even when we get angry at God, we're actually very close to him. We're angry because we believe in him and trust him and he seems to be

disappointing us. This is normal: Our faith is purified by our trials.

To embrace life as an Easter people, we must learn to remember that our sufferings are temporary and that someday we will enter into eternal joy. This is what we celebrate even while carrying our crosses.

### Reflect & Discuss:

† In what ways has God apparently disappointed you? What is he doing (or not doing) that's upsetting you? How is this increasing your closeness to him, even if it feels like he's silent and distant?

† Give an example of wishful thinking: What have you wished for in prayer? What have you been begging God to do? How is this different than hoping (joy-from-knowing)? Even if your wish never comes true, what's your reason for a higher hope?