

# 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)

### **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 - [bethchapman@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethchapman@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 JULY 8, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, JULY 8

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

*Lector: J. Louviere*

*Server: A. Byrd*

### SUNDAY, JULY 9

8:00AM - Betty Jones

*Lector: B. Edwards*

*Server: A. Daigrepoint*

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback, Eric Steltenpohl,  
2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.

*Lector: J. Leglue*

*Server: A. Brundrett*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Reynolds*

*Server: H. Reynolds*

### MONDAY, JULY 10

7:00AM - Mary Virginia Young

### TUESDAY, JULY 11

7:00AM - Mary Mrozinski

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

7:00AM - Eric Duck

### THURSDAY, JULY 13

7:00AM - Lorraine Leonards Fontenot

## WEEK OF JULY 15, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, JULY 15

4:00PM - Marie A. LaPalme 36<sup>th</sup> anniv.

*Lector: M. Leleux*

*Server: L. Brocato*

### SUNDAY, JULY 16

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

*Lector: G. Delaney*

*Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Shirley Sayes

*Lector: B. Lowe*

*Server: C. Mathews*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: R. Mallach*

*Server: L. Brouillette*

### MONDAY, JULY 17

7:00AM - Communion Service

### TUESDAY, JULY 18

**NO MASS**

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

7:00AM - Communion Service

### THURSDAY, JULY 20

7:00AM - Communion Service

### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROBERT RUEMKER

BY HIS WIFE, VIOLA

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**

**OUR RECENTLY DECEASED**

John Kenneth “Kenny” Brocato, Sr.  
Louis Francis

**THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY**

Christina Rubio and Chad Doyle  
October 21, 2023  
Alexandra Rollins and Thomas Roberts  
December 15, 2023  
Sara Richard and Cody Fitzgerald  
November 16, 2024

**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, Rhonda Earhart, David Harvey, Daniel Jones, Linda Kelly, Jacques Matt, Terry Melançon, Jimmy Neal, Jo Tassin, John Upton

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

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

**OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

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 - 07/02/2023**

Regular Collection	\$ 4,921.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,500.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
<b>Shortage</b>	\$ <b>109.00</b>
Goal for July (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for July	\$ <u>6,421.00</u>
<b>Still Needed for July</b>	\$ <b>26,229.00</b>
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 70.00

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

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

Parish Goal 2023	\$ 21,256.00
Pledged	\$ <u>28,864.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 7,608.00

**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)

**“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)**

**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](http://www.mmjchurch.org). Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

**FAITH FORMATION**



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



Who Is **OCIA** 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**

**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

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70<sup>th</sup> or other significant anniversary in 2023, we would like to honor you on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the 4:00 p.m. Mass and present you with a Papal Blessing in honor of your marriage. If you would like to participate, please call or email the church office. Deadline is Thursday, August 31, 2023.

**LIVE STREAMING**

For the benefit of our homebound parishioners, we livestream the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass weekly. To watch it on You Tube, search for MMJ Woodworth.



**OUTDOOR DINNER/PRAISE AND WORSHIP CONCERT**

Saturday, October 14: 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Artists: Josh Blakesley Band

**PRE-ADVENT MISSION**

Monday, November 27 - Wednesday, November 29  
 Morning and Evening Sessions - Live Streamed  
 Presenter: Fr. Keith Pellerin (Lake Charles Diocese)

**PRE-LENTEN MISSION**

Monday, February 5 - Wednesday, February 7  
 Morning and Evening Sessions - Live Streamed  
 Presenter: Echo Community (Formerly Dumb Ox)



## 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday July 9

Zechariah 9:9-10  
Ps 145:1-2,8-11,13-14  
Romans 8:9,11-13  
Matthew 11:25-30

### Monday July 10

Genesis 28:10-22a  
Ps 91:1-4,14-15b  
Matthew 9:18-26

### Tuesday July 11

#### St. Benedict, Abbot

Genesis 32:23-33  
Ps 17:1b,2-3,6-7b,8b,15  
Matthew 9:32-38

### Wednesday July 12

Genesis 41:55-57;  
42:5-7a,17-24a  
Ps 33:2-3,10-11,18-19  
Matthew 10:1-7

### Thursday July 13

Genesis 44:18-21,23b-29;  
45:1-5  
Ps 105:16-21  
Matthew 10:7-15

### Friday July 14

#### St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Genesis 46:1-7,28-30  
Ps 37:3-4,18-19,  
27-28,39-40  
Matthew 10:16-23

### Saturday July 15

#### St. Bonaventure

Genesis 49:29-32;  
50:15-26a  
Ps 105:1-4,6-7  
Matthew 10:24-33

Does the yoke of Jesus weigh you down or does it feel light? His yoke – according to what he exemplified with his life – is servanthood, a ministry that cares for others, a love that makes sacrifices.

We're weighed down by personal struggles; we have crosses to carry and so many people need our attention that we're exhausted from it all. We need a vacation, an escape, time out! So why does Jesus tell us that his yoke is easy? Why does he say that the burdens of servanthood are light?

When the burdens of life wear us down and tire us out, it's usually because we've taken on more responsibility than God has actually given to us.

Or else it's because we're expending energy trying to get rid of a cross after Jesus has yoked us to it. If the burden leads to burn-out, God lets us get tired, because he's warning us: "Slow down! Simplify your life! Make a change! Spend more time in prayer!"

If it leads to anger and resentment,

God is showing us that our selfish desire for an easier life is, in reality, making our lives more difficult.

In other words, when we strain and pull against the yoke –

against our union with Christ – we suffer from our own mistaken ideas of what we should be doing. It is when we remember that we're yoked to Someone who is infinitely stronger and wiser than we are that the burden becomes light. The yoke becomes a source of joy.

Jesus offers us everything we need for plowing the fields that God assigns to us. When we cooperate with him, the burden is indeed light. We find rest in Jesus and we

benefit from his strength. We experience holy pleasure in our tasks, because we're yoked to the energy of Jesus.

#### Reflect & Discuss:

- † What are you doing that seems good but is wearing you out?
- † What part of it is not God's idea?
- † What can you do to become more aware of the strength of Jesus?
- † Become accountable for the answer to the above questions by speaking of it to your family or faith community: What changes are you going to make to allow Jesus to refresh and renew you?
- † How might this make a difference?

