

# 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 SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH  
2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION: CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

4:00PM - Kristian Louviere, Robert Ruemker  
*Lector: J. Louviere*  
*Server: A. Byrd*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8:00AM - Alfred and Betty Mathews 68<sup>th</sup>  
wedding anniversary remembrance  
*Lector: R. Normand*  
*Server: A. Daigrepoint*

10:30AM - Omega Dobard, Rickey Sayes, Helen  
Mathews Smart

*Lector: T. Reynolds*  
*Server: A. Brundrett*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family  
*Lector: R. Mallach*  
*Server: H. Reynolds*

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

7:00 AM - Communion Service

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

**NO MASS**

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

7:00 AM - Communion Service

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

7:00 AM - Communion Service

## WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

4:00PM - Adrien, Lena, Marty, Larry, Jim  
Doiron, Alma Reitzell  
*Lector: B. Patty*  
*Server: A. Schexnyder*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:00AM - Betty Jones  
*Lector: E. Lohman*  
*Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback, John Upton for the  
gifts of healing and peace

*Lector: J. Foote*  
*Server: C. Mathews*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family  
*Lector: J. Montalvo*  
*Server: L. Brouillette*

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

7:00AM - Eric Duck

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

7:00AM - Cayman Jardell

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

7:00AM - Wayne Cox

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

7:00AM - Glenda, Billy, Kevin Jardell for  
healing and peace

### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF OMEGA DOBARD  
ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH  
BY HER HUSBAND, LEO

If you would like to have a loved one or special  
intention remembered by providing for the sanctu-  
ary 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 for-  
mal complaint of abuse to the diocese, arrange a  
personal meeting with the bishop or his representa-  
tive, 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 availa-  
ble in the narthex bookcase. Both the Diocesan Pol-  
icy for the Protection of Minors, and the Diocesan  
Code of Pastoral Conduct are in the safe environ-  
ment section at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

**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.*

Rochelle Brasseaux, Gaynell Byrd, Brian Dobard, Rhonda Earhart, David Harvey, Carol Hatchett, Daniel Jones, Linda Kelly, Debbie Duck Lyles, Jacques Matt, Terry Melançon, Philip Monk, Renie Saucier, Dawin “Dee” Smart, Jo Tassin, John Upton, Donna White

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

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

**OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

Patricia “Patty” Mahone, 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*

**STEWARDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY GIFTS - 08/27/2023**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,605.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,050.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
<b>Shortage</b>	<b>\$ 1,875.00</b>
Goal for August (4 Sundays)	\$ 26,120.00
Received for August	\$ <u>25,103.00</u>
<b>Shortage for August</b>	<b>\$ 1,017.00</b>
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20.00

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

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

Parish Goal 2023	\$ 21,256.00
Pledged	\$ <u>31,024.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 9,768.00

**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****GRADES PREK - 5**

Wednesday, September 6  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**GRADES 6 - 12**

Wednesday, September 6  
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 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

**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 have a child who will be entering 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

**OCIA**

If you are not Catholic and have been thinking about initiation in the Catholic Church, or if you are a Baptized Catholic who has not celebrated all three of the Sacraments of Initiation, consider joining the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults. OCIA is the process by which people celebrate their Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, in the Catholic Church.

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

**Tuesday, September 5 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**Church Hall**

**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.

**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.

**GARAGE SALE DROP OFF**

Thursday, September 14: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, September 15: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**No clothes or shoes, please. Clean Items Only!!**

**MMJ GARAGE SALE**

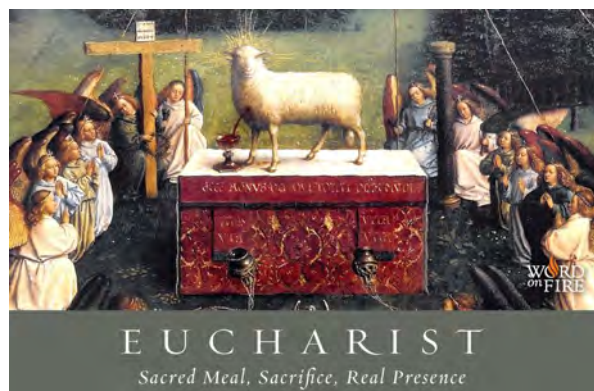
Saturday, September 16  
7:00 a.m. to Noon

**OUTDOOR PRAISE & 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)



## 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday September 3

Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Ps 63:2-6,8-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27

### Monday September 4

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Ps 96:1,3-5,11-13  
Luke 4:16-30

### Tuesday September 5

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6,9-11  
Ps 27:1,4,13-14  
Luke 4:31-37

### Wednesday September 6

Colossians 1:1-8  
Ps 52:10-11  
Luke 4:38-44

### Thursday September 7

Colossians 1:9-14  
Ps 98:2-6  
Luke 5:1-11

### Friday September 8

**Nativity of Bl. Virgin Mary**  
Micah 5:1-4a or  
Romans 8:28-30  
Ps 13:6abc  
Matthew 1:1-16,18-23

### Saturday September 9

**St. Peter Claver, Priest**  
Colossians 1:21-23  
Ps 54:3-4,6,8  
Luke 6:1-5

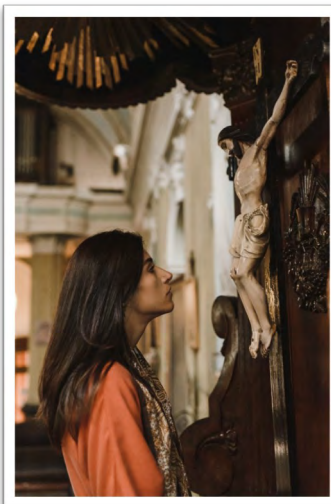
Today's first reading is one of my personal favorites. I have often felt the way Jeremiah does here. I have yelled at God, "You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped!" And I allow it again and again. "You knew this would happen, Lord! Why did you lead me into this trial?" Have you ever felt that way?

Why do we let him do this to us? Why do we trust God even though he leads us into difficult situations? Why do we follow Jesus into giving our help and love to others even though it's going to feel very uncomfortable if not downright painful?

Walking with God and serving his kingdom is an adventure. We can expect the unexpected, and unfortunately in this world that includes suffering – denying ourselves the opportunity to pursue self-centered agendas, taking up crosses, and following Jesus all the way to Calvary (but then of course, all the way to resurrection, too, as explained in the Gospel reading).

Because we love God, we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, like the second reading asks us to do. This is the highest form of worship; it's a spiritual communion that we experience outside of the Eucharistic liturgy of Mass. In union with Jesus, we are the Eucharist.

As Jeremiah's complaint shows us, we can safely complain to



God. We can tell him, without getting punished, that we do not like working for him. Complaining to others, however, is a sin because it causes gossip and prejudices and makes God look bad.

Asking for prayer support during our trials is important, but

complaining to others shows how little we trust God. Eventually, we will see the good that comes from our sacrifices, and this is what we should communicate to others.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † How do you feel when you do a good deed and it later works against you? Have you said "no" to allowing it to happen again?
- † What brings the healing love of Jesus to you to help you recover?
- † What unexpected sufferings have you encountered while giving someone a gift of unconditional love or while doing some other service for the kingdom of God?
- † How did you feel about God at that time? Was the cross you carried worth all the hardships? Explain.