

# 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)

## **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.

## **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 23, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

4:00PM - Russell Cospelich, Richard Falcon

*Lector: G. Patty*

*Server: L. Brocato*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:00AM - Betty Jones

*Lector: G. Delaney*

*Server: A. Schexnyder*

10:30AM - Ashley Brinson

*Lector: J. Antee*

*Server: C. Mathews*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Montalvo*

*Server: V. Montalvo*

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

7:00AM - Rickey Sayes

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

7:00AM - Betty Jones

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

7:00AM - Sue and Charlie Wagener

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

## WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

4:00PM - Alma Reitzell

*Lector: P. Gadel*

*Server: B. Gadel*

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:00AM - Betty Jones

*Lector: D. Bess*

*Server: B. Emerson*

10:30AM - Ashley Brinson

*Lector: J. Leglue*

*Server: A. Brundrett*

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

*Lector: J. Reynolds*

*Server: H. Reynolds*

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

7:00AM - Gene Tucker

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:00AM - Richard Tucker

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:00AM - Stephen Rodeback 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.

### SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF BETTY JONES  
BY HER DAUGHTER, DEBORAH BESS

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**

Sherri Ann Guillory Basco, Robert Lemons

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

**OUR HOMEBOUND**

Evelyn Bartow, Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Janet Lamkin, Cecile Liotta, 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 pew envelope for this purpose.*

**STEWARDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY GIFTS - 09/17/2023**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,441.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,755.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
<b>Shortage</b>	<b>\$ 334.00</b>

Goal for September (4 Sundays)	\$ 26,120.00
Received for September	\$ <u>19,457.00</u>
<b>Still Needed for September</b>	<b>\$ 6,663.00</b>

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 30.00
Retired Priests	\$ 1,434.00

**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 27  
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**GRADES 6 - 12**

Wednesday, September 27  
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



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



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.

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.

**Monday, September 25 - 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.

**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)

**PRE-LENTEN MISSION**

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

**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.

**If You Really Want To Help,  
Don't Enable Panhandling**

Instead, Donate Directly To These Organizations  
That Directly Benefit The Homeless Population:

**CLHC**

318-443-0500 ext. 0

**Volunteers of America (VOA)**

318-442-8026

**Hope House (Alexandria)**

318-487-2061

## 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Sunday September 24

Isaiah 55:6-9  
Ps 145:2-3,8-9,17-18  
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a  
Matthew 20:1-16a

### Monday September 25

Ezra 1:1-6  
Ps 126:1b-6  
Luke 8:16-18

### Tuesday September 26

Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20  
Ps 122:1-5  
Luke 8:19-21

### Wednesday September 27

**St. Vincent de Paul, Priest**  
Ezra 9:5-9  
Tb 13:2-4a,6e-j,7-8  
Luke 9:1-6

### Thursday September 28

Haggai 1:1-8  
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b  
Luke 9:7-9

### Friday September 29

**Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels**  
Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 or  
Revelation 12:7-12b  
Ps 138:1-5  
John 1:47-51

### Saturday September 30

**St. Jerome, Pr, Dr**  
Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a  
Jeremiah 31:10-12b,13  
Luke 9:43b-45

God's not fair! How many times have we felt that way? And it's true, at least by our standards. The parable in the Gospel reading is a fine example of this.

The landowner seems to be very unfair. We can begin to understand him, however, if we think of this parable in terms of parenthood. A loving father cares about each of his children equally. Although he gives more attention to the child who needs it more, he loves the others just as much.

God the Father is like a vineyard owner who gives equally to all. Since we cannot earn our way into heaven, equal benefits are not an injustice to those who labored longer. Rather, God gives complete and perfect love even to those who only discovered, at the last minute, the value of having a relationship with him. He can do no less.

The first reading reminds us that as high as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are greater than our ways and his thoughts are higher than our thoughts. We think that justice (fairness) means equal treatment, but that harkens back to the Old Testament concept of justice: "an eye for an eye". Jesus raised justice to its highest level,

which means being equally loving and kind to all, whether they deserve it or not.

We don't have to understand God's higher ways. We only have to be grateful that God loves us even when we are unloving. No matter how undeserving of his love we might be, he still



gives us the same amount of love that he gives to the holiest of saints. He loves us as much as he loves Mary the Blessed Mother of Christ! "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own love?" he asks.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † When have you felt undeserving of God's goodness?
- † What evidence proves that he never stopped loving you? What did he do for you?
- † How has your own opinion of yourself interfered with feeling his love?
- † Share the story of a time when you saw something good happen to a "bad" or undeserving person, or a time when you prayed for something that you didn't get while an unfaithful person received it without turning to God for help. Despite the unfairness of this, why are you glad that you have known God's love?
- † Can you also be glad for the blessings that unbelievers receive from God?