

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 DECEMBER 17, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00PM - Neil Kavanagh

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: L. Brocato

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00AM - Mary Virginia Young 78th birthday remembrance

Lector: E. Lohman

Servers: A. Daigrepoint

10:30AM - Charles Ferace, Sr., Jack Ellington 8th anniv.

Lector: J. Antee

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: H. Byrd

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00AM - Andy Brown, Jr.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00AM - Betty Mathews 89th birthday remembrance

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:00AM - Adrienne Angele Matt

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00AM - David Foshee, Sr.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: CHURCH VOCATIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

6:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30AM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: C. Mathews

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00AM - Jackie Kroll Reine

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

7:00AM - Adrienne Angele Matt

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

7:00AM - Garland "Buddy" Williamson

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF PAUL DUCOTE

BY HIS WIFE, DONNA

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

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST PENANCE

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, Brian Dobbard, Randy Francis, Marie Hawthorne, Keith Johnson, Betsy Lanclos, Helen Mathews, Jacques Matt, Terry Melancon, 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, Jane Richey

OUR HOMEBOUND

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

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Marie Hawthorne, Francis Thiels

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 - 12/11/2022

Regular Collection	\$ 3,693.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,665.00
One Time Donation	\$ 3,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
Overage	\$ 2,828.00

Goal for December (4 Sundays)	\$ 26,120.00
Received for December	\$ <u>16,358.00</u>
Still Needed for December	\$ 9,762.00

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 50.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 260.00
Christmas Day	\$ 20.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 671.00
Manna House	\$ 50.00
Retired Religious	\$ 20.00
Church Vocations	\$ 20.00
Mary, Mother of God	\$ 20.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MERCI BEAUCOUP!!

“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)

COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit [Kroger.com](https://www.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

FAITH FORMATION**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD NATIVITY PLAY****ADULT FAITH FORMATION - ADVENT 2022****December 20**

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Facilitator: Dr. Mary DeVille

The Gospel of John

12/20/22 - The Epilogue: John 21

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.

OCIA

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?

Tuesday, January 3
5:30 p.m. - Church Hall

CHURCH NEWS**BREAKFAST & PICTURES WITH ST. NICHOLAS**

Thank you to the Men of MMJ and all those who helped to cook, clean up, and prepare for a wonderful breakfast and celebration with St. Nicholas. Thanks also to Mr. Derwood Delaney for once again offering his photographic talents for beautiful memories of the day.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Please return the gifts to the church this weekend.

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25

9:30 a.m.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday, December 31

4:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND

This fund enables us to decorate the Church during the Christmas season. The donors and those remembered will be listed in the bulletin the weekend of January 14-15, 2023. The suggested donation is \$10. An envelope for this purpose is in the pews and your monthly packet. You may use one of your own envelopes. Remember to include on the envelope the name(s) of those to be remembered/honored.

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14
Ps 24:(7c,10b)1-6
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24

Monday December 19

Judges 13:2-7,24-25a
Ps 71:3-6ab,16-17
Luke 1:5-25

Tuesday December 20

Isaiah 7:10-14
Ps 24:1-6
Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday December 21

Song of Songs 2:8-14
or Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21
Luke 1:39-45

Thursday December 22

1 Samuel 1:24-28
1 Sam 2:1,4-8
Luke 1:46-56

Friday December 23

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24
Ps 25:4-5ab,8-10,14
Luke 1:57-66

Saturday December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-5,
8b-12,14a,16
Ps 89:2-5,27,29
Luke 1:67-79

Love is the theme of the Fourth Sunday of Advent. A good definition of love is in the name that we see in the first reading and again when the prophecy is fulfilled in the Gospel reading: Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." To have love is to have "God with us". To give love is to give God who is with us.

Have you ever felt like you've run out of love to give? Well, that's quite impossible! We might run out of patience; we might get tired of giving more love than we receive from others, but God who is love is always with us.

When we feel empty from loving someone who doesn't equally love us back, or when we reach the point of despising someone who repeatedly hurts us, this is when we need to ask God for a supernatural ability to love with his love. This prayer always works! It's how we become effective evangelizers as dis-

tributors of his love.

When we give God's love to those who are unpleasant to love, we're revealing to them God who is with us.

We all have people in our lives who fail to be Christ to us. They don't love us like God wants them to love us. So we need to remind ourselves that our happiness is not dependent upon how they treat us. God is with us! We need to call upon Emmanuel. God who is with us



loves us fully and unconditionally, whether or not we deserve it.

When we're looking for others to love us more than they do, we feel unloved, but if we

keep our eyes on Jesus, his love fills all the gaps.

Emmanuel. It's a name for Jesus that we should use year-round.

As you finish preparing for the celebration of Christmas, focus on Emmanuel. Sing to Emmanuel. Pray to Emmanuel. This sign, this reminder, this name is God's personal Christmas gift to you.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Are you loved enough?
2. What will you do this week to become more aware of God's love for you?
3. As a spiritual exercise, go to the nativity display at church. Write on a small piece of paper the names of those who fail to love you sufficiently. Place it in the manger and, if it has straw or hay, take a piece of it (or take a flower petal or leaf from a nearby plant) as a reminder that Emmanuel was born to give you more than enough love.
4. What is the best Christmas gift you've ever received from God? Why did it make you feel loved?