

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 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

5:00PM - **NO MASS**

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

WEEK OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:00PM - Mr. & Mrs. M Harris Veillon, Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Coreil

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: L. Brouillette

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00AM - Alvin Loyacano

Lector: E. Lohman

Server:

10:30AM - Austin Olivier, Jr., Eric Steltenpohl
68th birthday remembrance

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: V. Montalvo

5:00PM - **NO MASS**

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

7:00AM - Eugene F. LaPalme 23rd anniv.,
Wilfred Moras 39th anniv.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00AM - Griffin Ogaard in honor of his 1st
birthday

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

7:00AM - Adrien, Lena, Marty, Larry, and Jim
Doiron

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

7:00AM - Adrienne Angele Matt

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARIE HAWTHORNE

BY HER 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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Emma Marie Hawthorne

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

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

OCIA 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, 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

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 - 12/18/2022

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Regular Collection | \$ 5,783.00 |
| EFT Collection | \$ 1,840.00 |
| Weekly Goal | \$ 6,530.00 |
| Overage | \$ 1,093.00 |
| Goal for December (4 Sundays) | \$ 26,120.00 |
| Received for December | \$ 23,981.00 |
| Still Needed for December | \$ 2,139.00 |
| Maintenance and Repairs | \$ 75.00 |
| Christmas Flowers | \$ 226.00 |
| Retired Religious | \$ 10.00 |
| Church Vocations | \$ 15.00 |

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

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

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. Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

FAITH FORMATION**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.

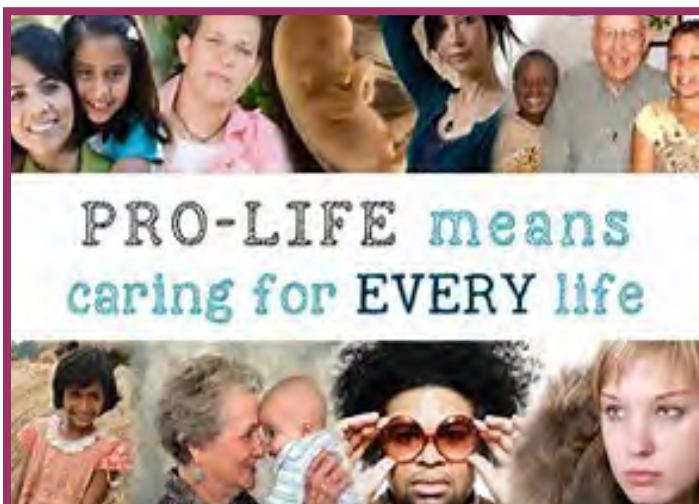
OCIA (Formerly RCIA)

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?

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

**CHURCH NEWS****HOLY DAY/HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

In observance of Christmas, the church offices will be closed Monday, December 26.

In observance of New Year's Day, Mary, Mother of God, the church offices will be closed Monday, January 2.

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.

Please email secretary@mmjchurch.org to let us know how many of you will be coming and what food you will be bringing to share.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

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

The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5
Acts 13:16-17,22-25
Matthew 1:1-25

Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9:1-6
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14

Daytime Mass

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Monday December 26

St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4,6,8ab,16bc,17
Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday December 27

St. John

1 John 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12
John 20:1a,2-8

Wednesday December 28

Holy Innocents

1 John 1:5--2:2
Ps 124:2-5,7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday December 29

1 John 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-3,5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

Friday December 30

Holy Family

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
or Colossians 3:12-21
Ps 128:1-5
Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Saturday December 31

1 John 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2,11-13
John 1:1-18

Joy to the world! This is our song. This is what we should always be proclaiming as a people of faith.

Don't focus on what destroys your joy, for nothing can destroy the coming of the Lord. The absence of joy is merely a blank area in your view of what God is doing.

Look at the love that Jesus has for you! Jesus was born not only to save you from the darkness of sin; he was born because he loves you -- he loves YOU! Even if you had never sinned, he would have come into the world so that he could love *you* on your level, human-to-human.

Sometimes, great things come in surprising packages that do not seem to be great at all. The Eucharist -- in the form of a little wafer of bread -- does not look like it contains the full presence of Jesus with all of his humanity and his divinity. The baby Jesus -- a tiny, helpless child -- does not look like the conqueror of evil. But he is! And so is Jesus in the Eucharist; he is here for you.

And you! You might not seem to be a great person, but you contain Jesus. You contain greatness beyond imagining! This greatness does not dwell only in you; it comes out from



you in every good thing that you do. This is a life of faith!

To be a follower of Jesus means we learn to imitate him. In doing good, evil is defeated. In this goodness, the greatness of Jesus extends outward from us. In this goodness, there is cause for great joy.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. How much do you *really* believe that Jesus loves you? What are some examples of Jesus taking good care of you?
2. How do you reveal the love of Jesus to others?
3. When was the first time you can remember experiencing the love of Jesus and realized that it was a gift from God?
4. What does the Eucharist mean to you? How can it change you so that you leave church ready to give the love of Christ to others?

Merry Christmas! Be very blessed this Christmas season -- because Jesus is delightedly in love with you! You are invited to experience the extravagant love of Jesus all year.