

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 APRIL 29, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

4:00PM - Patrick Matt

Lector: B. Patty

Server: A. Daigrepoint

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

8:00AM - Zelma Cospelich

Lector: B. Edwards

Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Warren Gadel

Lector: T. Reynolds

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: L. Brouillette

MONDAY, MAY 1

7:00AM - Shirley Sayes

TUESDAY, MAY 2

7:00AM - Iva Tucker

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

7:00AM - Gayle Blankenbaker

THURSDAY, MAY 4

7:00AM - Ham Prestidge

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

WEEK OF MAY 6, 2023

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MAY 6

10:00AM - Our First Communicants

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: A. Daigrepoint

4:00PM - Charles Medica 81st birthday
Remembrance, Eugene H. LaPalme
61st anniv., Kristian Louviere

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, MAY 7

8:00AM - Sherman Williamson

Lector: G. Delaney

Server: L. Delaney

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback

Lector: J. Foote

Server: C. Mathews

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, MAY 8

7:00AM - Susan Rosinski Wagener Month's
Mind

TUESDAY, MAY 9

7:00AM - Rickey Sayes

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

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

THURSDAY, MAY 11

7:00AM - Bessie Dee Williamson

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF CHARLES MEDICA
IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS 81ST BIRTHDAY

BY SHERRI AND MIKE STEPHENSON

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

THOSE PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST

Saturday, May 6 - 10:00 a.m.

Corbin Bennett, James Ducôté, Thomas Long, Harper Rajewski, Bentley Ryland, Ben Upton, Lawson Wheat, Charlie White

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Christina Rubio and Chad Doyle - October 21, 2023

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, Jana Fontenot, Linda Kelly, Jacques Matt, Terry Melançon

OUR HOMEBOUND

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

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Eric Duck, Betty Jones, 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 - 04/23/2023

Regular Collection	\$ 4,331.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,450.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,530.00</u>
Shortage	\$ 749.00

Goal for April (5 Sundays)	\$ 32,650.00
Received for April	\$ <u>26,229.00</u>
Still Needed for April	\$ 6,421.00

Maintenance and Repair	\$ 95.00
Infirm Priests	\$ 25.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 25.00
Mothers' Day	\$ 65.00

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

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

Parish Goal 2023	\$ 21,256.00
Pledged	\$ <u>23,688.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 2,432.00

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.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS****VBS - JUNE 5-9**

8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Early drop off begins at 7:30 a.m.

Register online under the Faith Formation Tab.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed! The next volunteer meeting will be Tuesday, May 30, at 6:00 p.m. in the church hall.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

Sunday, April 30 - 3:00 p.m.
Church Hall

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

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



Who Is OCIA (Formerly RCIA) 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

MEN OF MMJ

Tuesday, May 9
6:00 p.m. Church Hall

MOTHERS' DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, May 14, 2023
Immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass
Sponsored by the Men of MMJ

HOPE HOUSE

From now until May 7, donation bins are in the narthex to collect paper towels, large trash bags, toilet tissue, bath towels, and cleaning supplies.

Homeless families with or without children may stay for up to two years, as they participate in comprehensive life skills training and are provided with opportunities that empower them toward self-sufficiency. Daily tutoring is available for the children. Together, we are continuing to make a difference by "building futures full of hope".

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70th 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.

4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday April 30

Acts 2:14a,36-41

Ps 23:1-6

1 Peter 2:20b-25

John 10:1-10

Monday May 1

St. Joseph the Worker

Acts 11:1-18

Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4

John 10:11-18

or Matthew 13:54-58

Tuesday May 2

St. Athanasius

Acts 11:19-26

Ps 87:1b-7

John 10:22-30

Wednesday May 3

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Ps 19:2-5

John 14:6-14

Thursday May 4

Acts 13:13-25

Ps 89:2-3,21-22,25,27

John 13:16-20

Friday May 5

Acts 13:26-33

Ps 2:6-11b

John 14:1-6

Saturday May 6

Acts 13:44-52

Ps 98:1-4

John 14:7-14

Are you at an impasse in your spiritual growth or emotional healing or a difficult relationship? Do you need a breakthrough? Do you feel stuck behind a fence that's keeping you on the outside of peace, joy, satisfaction, or healing?

This Sunday's Gospel reading tells us that Jesus is the gate in that fence. He helps us reach the heavenly side of the gate, outside the realm of earthly restrictions — not only when we die and enter eternal life, but also here and now in our earthly life, so that we might always "have life and have it more abundantly."

When our path seems blocked, we can only make progress by letting Jesus shepherd us around and through and over the obstacles. If people shut a door on something that God wants us to do, Jesus is still our open gate and no one can close him out of our lives. He will lead us into a new opportunity for accomplishing the plans of God. If he's given us a frustrated holy desire or a passion for which there seems to be no outlet, instead of complaining or quitting, we must look at Jesus and see him as a gate that opens into a new direction or location.

Remember, however, that until we get all the way through this gate, we must stick close to him like dumb sheep. There's a journey to take before we can reach the other side of the fence.

The thief that comes to steal and slaughter can only reach us



when we stray away from Jesus and we take our eyes off of him.

Despair and worry are two common thieves, robbing us of peace, joy, satisfaction, and healing. But they're not as powerful as they pretend to be. We defeat them easily by remembering that they do not speak the full truth. The truth is: Jesus is our Good Shepherd safely guiding us into a life of abundant victory!

Reflect & Discuss:

- † What breakthrough are you hoping for? What's frustrating you and seems hopeless? What's causing you to think that a problem you're facing might lead to disaster and destruction?
- † What will you do this week to follow Jesus more closely so that you can get through this with more peace?
- † Share the story of a time when you experienced obstacles and Jesus provided a breakthrough that led to victory.