

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

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 - dre@mmjchurch.org

Mrs. Colleen Lohman

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 447-8287 - clohman@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Collene Van Mol

First Penance/First Eucharist

(318) 446-0155 - cvanmol@levertonfarms.com

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

(318) 446-1153 - bgadel@prodigy.net

Mrs. Beth Chapman

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 623-8016 - bethachapman@bellsouth.net

M/M Ryan and Brandie Brocato

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

(318) 715-1742 - rbrocato55@gmail.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 MARCH 7, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

4:00PM - Randy and Mallary Smith 9th month wedding anniv., Kristian Louviere

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: J. Louviere

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

8:00AM - Frank Smith, III

Lector: G. Delaney

Server: J. Schexnyder

10:30AM - Deceased members of the Olivier family

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: J. Moreau

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: M. Leleux

Server: L. Brocato

MONDAY, MARCH 9

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:00AM - Mary Mrozinski

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7:00AM - David Stephenson

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:00AM - Russell Cospelich

WEEK OF MARCH 14, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH
2ND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

4:00PM - Robert Antoon, Charles Medica 9th anniv.

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

8:00AM - David Smith

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: E. Lohman

10:30AM - Stephen Rodeback

Lector: J. Antee

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: H. Reynolds

MONDAY, MARCH 16

7:00AM - Zachary Veillon

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

7:00AM - Pauline Theriot

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

7:00AM - Rose Gerchow

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF CHARLES MEDICA
ON THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

BY MIKE AND SHERRI 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 suggested donation 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 OCIA CATECHUMEN**

Cate Nettles

OUR FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES

Lucy Lamkin, Harper Landry, Oliver Lopez, Ashtyn Moreau, Cali Williams, James Michael Upton

*Saturday, May 2 - 10:00 a.m.***OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES**

Georgia Buller, Ayden Byrd, Isaac Delaney, Andrew Lohman, Marcie Loken, Maya Reynolds

*Saturday, April 11, 2026 - 4:00 p.m.***OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONYPeyton J. Bellard and A'lysse M. Wallace
October 10, 2026 - St. Charles Borromeo**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.*

Sara Andries, Kay Andries, Brian Dobard, Celia Halbert, Daniel Jones, Henry Jones, Deacon Doug Moreau, Mike Stevens, Jo Tassin, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Joan McLure, Richard Milano, Sr., Constance Weil

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

LaVerne Fortenberry, Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, Adrienne Stevens, Donna White

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Brandon Coreil, Dustin Guillory, Daniel Keely, Kelley Perry, Robin Perry, Chuck Williams

*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 - 03/01/2026**

Regular Collection	\$ 5,803.00
EFT Collection	\$ 3,557.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,925.00
Overage	\$ 2,435.00

Goal for March (5 Sundays)	\$ 34,625.00
Received for March	\$ 9,360.00
Still Needed for March	\$ 25,265.00

Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 20.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 60.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**MERCI BEAUCOUP!!****MMJ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (137 families)	\$ 1,000,300.00
Monies Received	\$ 655,624.00
Over Goal	\$ 300.00

“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)**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)**

Parish Goal 2026	\$ 23,732.00
Pledged (14 families)	\$ 5145.00
Balance Remaining	\$ 18,587.00

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism...that people place their gifts, their resources - themselves - at God's service in and through the Church." Prayerfully consider supporting your church parish by weekly contribution and the diocesan church by contributing to the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

FAITH FORMATION**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Every Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Mass
During the Liturgy of the Word
Ages 3 - 7 - Youth Center

GRADES 7 - 8

Meets weekly on Wednesday evenings in the *youth center* from 6:00–7:15 PM. The format will include lessons, small group discussion, and videos from current Catholic speakers.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 - 12)

Meets on Wednesday evenings in the *church hall* from 6:00–7:15 PM. The format will include lessons, discussion, and opportunities for faith-sharing.

PREK - 6TH GRADE

A home-based program using God's Plan in Scripture from Ascension Press. Each week focuses on the same Bible story for the whole family, with age-specific workbooks for each child. The church will provide all materials, and support you with weekly emails, reminder texts. Katie is available for any questions or guidance.

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.

March 15, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
Church Hall

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 online at www.mmjchurch.org, under the "parish forms" tab. Adult children no longer living at home and recently married couples are especially encouraged to register.

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday, March 8
2:00 a.m. - We Spring Ahead By One Hour

POPE LEO XIV'S 2026 PRAYER INTENTION

For disarmament and peace: *Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.*

LENTEN COLLECTION

To put into practice the Lenten discipline of almsgiving, we will have a second collection at all Sunday Masses, during the season, for the benefit of Catholic Charities Cenla. They provide many and various services for our sisters and brothers. May our generosity assist them in continuing their ministry.

ROSARY MINISTRY

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Hall.

ROMEOs

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. - Sweet Delta Bakery

COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit 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

FORMED

This online platform subscription service offers access to the best Catholic digital content producers - studies, films, audio, and eBooks. All parishioners of every age can access this great Catholic material. Go to www.formed.org, select Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, and complete the simple registration.



March 8, 2026

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7 | Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 | Jn 4:5-42

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

As the Israelites wandered in the desert, Moses heard their cries and recognized their deeper need, not simply for water, but for hope. And so Moses calls upon the Lord, who gives them water in the desert, revealing his trustworthiness. In the big and little ways that we ask the same question – “Is the Lord in our midst or not?” – our loving and generous Father reminds us that he has not abandoned us and that his goodness will ultimately prevail. It’s easy to become disgruntled like the Israelites when there is great pain and suffering around us. But through the ways that we care for one another and the peace that we find in prayer, the Father reminds us that he stands with us, granting us sustenance and grace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When Christ told the woman at the well that those who drink the water he gives will never thirst again, she thought he was offering literal water. Christ was instead revealing his own identity as the Son of God. This woman, who hears the words of Christ and knows God’s promise of a Messiah, is filled with hope as she comes to recognize that the Lord indeed was in her midst. And I find it interesting that when she told people in town of her encounter with Christ, she told them of how he saw the mistakes of her past. Jesus loved her, and called her to step into the fullness of who she could be by turning away from the past that she clung to. We live in a world where we have very real physical needs, like the Israelites who thirsted, and the need to be seen in love, like the Samaritan woman. Ultimately, at the core of both of these needs is the desire for the hope that only God can give. When we serve our neighbors and look upon others with love, we can also be the vessel through which the presence of God is made known.

WITNESS

In our world, people are constantly asking the question, “Is the Lord in our midst or not?” Reflect on one way that you can share the Good News of the Gospel through word or action to make the presence of God known to those in your community.

Mary, Mother of Jesus Catholic Church
Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
Church Operating Fund
For the 3 Months Ended Dec 31, 2025
(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)

	2nd Qtr FY 2025-2026	2nd Qtr FY 2024-2025	VARIANCE
CHURCH RECEIPTS			
Regular Collections and Contributions	\$ 84,798.82	\$ 93,213.73	\$ (8,414.91)
Repairs & Maintenance Collections	\$ 186.00	\$ 233.00	\$ (47.00)
Building Fund Collections	\$ 82,872.79	\$ -	\$ 82,872.79
Special Parish Purpose Collections	\$ 12,795.00	\$ 15,784.38	\$ (2,989.38)
Fundraising Adult, Youth, Other Income	\$ 1,446.60	\$ 3,671.95	\$ (2,225.35)
Parish Suppers		\$ 186.00	\$ (186.00)
Church Hall Rental Income		\$ 100.00	\$ (100.00)
Insurance Proceeds		\$ -	
Regular Non-Collection Receipts	\$ 10,268.23	\$ 16,253.51	\$ (5,985.28)
Total Receipts	\$ 192,367.44	\$ 129,442.57	\$ 62,924.87
CHURCH EXPENSES			
Clergy Earnings	\$ 8,603.85	\$ 10,305.05	\$ (1,701.20)
Lay Employee Salary & Benefits	\$ 24,800.68	\$ 26,252.44	\$ (1,451.76)
Diocesan Support Assessment	\$ 18,840.00	\$ 15,720.00	\$ 3,120.00
Charitable Donations	\$ 3,061.92	\$ 2,827.35	\$ 234.57
Mass & Liturgical Supplies	\$ 8,329.08	\$ 12,196.15	\$ (3,867.07)
Insurance	\$ 3,933.80	\$ 6,823.62	\$ (2,889.82)
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 959.81	\$ 807.14	\$ 152.67
Parish Offices & Rectory	\$ 9,708.47	\$ 7,347.34	\$ 2,361.13
Religious Education, Programs & Services	\$ 507.34	\$ 757.09	\$ (249.75)
Fundraising Adult, Youth, Other	\$ 1,392.93		\$ 1,392.93
Youth, Programs & Services		\$ 3,806.12	\$ (3,806.12)
Parish Supper Expenses	\$ 5,470.21	\$ 787.61	\$ 4,682.60
Maintenance & Improvements	\$ 57,369.19	\$ 9,748.61	\$ 47,620.58
Buildings, Furnishings, & Remodeling		\$ 4,341.94	\$ (4,341.94)
Utilities & Telephone	\$ 9,010.35	\$ 9,150.08	\$ (139.73)
All Other Expenses	\$ 32,565.98	\$ 20,749.59	\$ 11,816.39
Total Expenses	\$ 184,553.61	\$ 131,620.13	\$ 52,933.48
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES	\$ 7,813.83	\$ (2,177.56)	