

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

(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

Mr. Brad Gadel

Confirmation Preparation

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

Mrs. Beth Chapman

Director, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

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

M/M Ryan and Brandie Brocato

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, Youth

(318) 715-1742 - rbrocato55@gmail.com

M/M Claude and Jennifer Weatherford

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

(318) 623-0899 - jweather0925@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 JULY 25, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, JULY 25

4:00PM - Stanley Hromadka, Mavis Tucker

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, JULY 26

8:00AM - David Smith

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: C. Lohman

10:30AM - Deceased members of the Antee Family, Papa Dee and Helen Smart
Deceased members of the Doiron Family

Lector: J. Foote

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Reynolds

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, JULY 27

7:00AM - Keith Chapman

TUESDAY, JULY 28

7:00AM - Ben Van Mol

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

7:00AM - Andy Brown

THURSDAY, JULY 30

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

WEEK OF AUGUST 1, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

4:00PM - Kristian Louviere, Jackie Kroll Reine

Lector: G. Patty

Server: A. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

8:00AM - Frank Smith, III

Lector: D. Bess

Server: E. Lohman

10:30AM - Robert Antoon, Deceased members of the Doiron Family

Lector: J. Leglue

Server: A. Brundrett

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

7:00AM - Keith Chapman

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

7:00AM - Chris Tompkins

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

7:00AM - Garland "Buddy" Williamson

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00AM - Noah Chapman

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS THIS WEEK



IN LOVING MEMORY OF KRISTIAN LOUVIERE
48TH BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

BY HIS PARENTS

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**OUR PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATE**

Brad Gadel

THOSE PREPARING FOR MATRIMONY

Peyton 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, Kyle Gleich, Celia Halbert, Daniel Jones, Henry Jones, Deacon Doug Moreau, Sharman Steltenpohl, Jo Tassin, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

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

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Cecilia "Tookie" Liotta, Adrienne Stevens, Donna White

OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Luke Borrel, 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 - 07/18/2026**

Regular Collection	\$ 4,793.00
EFT Collection	\$ 2,286.00
Weekly Goal	\$ <u>6,925.00</u>
Overage	\$ 154.00

Goal for July (4 Sundays)	\$ 27,700.00
Received for July	\$ <u>20,472.00</u>
Still Needed for July	\$ 7,228.00

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20.00
Church in Africa	\$ 175.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MERCI BEAUCOUP!!

MMJ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (138 families)	\$ 1,002,100.00
Monies Received	\$ <u>743,772.00</u>
Over Goal	\$ 2,100.00

“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 (42 families)	\$ <u>21,189.00</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 2,543.00

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. If you have not had the opportunity to make your pledge to the ADA there are pledge envelopes available. Please take the time to make your commitment to the larger Church, knowing that your gift to the ADA makes a real difference to the lives of the laity of the Diocese.

FAITH FORMATION**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

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

REGISTRATION 2026/2027

If your child/children are planning to participate in CCD/Religious Education for the upcoming academic year, please register online as soon as possible. Visit mmjchurch.org and click on the faith formation tab. Please contact Mrs. Katie Upton with any questions or concerns.

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;

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

If have a child who will be entering 11th grade in the Fall and is expecting to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring, the following conditions must be met: A letter handwritten by the candidate submitted to the Pastor by October 1 requesting the Sacrament; submit a completed and signed Sponsor eligibility form; one year previous religious education, either CCD or Catholic School; attend Sacramental Preparation Classes.

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**POPE LEO XIV's 2026 PRAYER INTENTION**

July: For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70th or other significant anniversary in 2026, we would like to honor you on Saturday, February 13, 2027 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 Monday, August 31, 2026.

ROSARY MINISTRY

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

ROMEOs

(Retired Old Men Enjoying Ourselves)

Wednesdays - 7:30 a.m. - Honee  Donuts

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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.



July 26, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 | Rom 8:28-30 | Mt 13:44-52

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

Today we continue to hear parables about the kingdom of God and the reaction of those who find it. The merchant and the person in the field joyfully sell all they have to acquire their treasures. In a world in which we have so many responsibilities, following God may sometimes feel like an obligation. We abide by truths of the Church that are countercultural and challenging. We give our time and our money for the benefit of our community. We profess bold belief in a Gospel truth that is often questioned. These parables remind us that God desires that we move past seeking him out of a sense of obligation or duty – to a place of joy-filled abandonment to him. To experience the full joy that comes from living the Gospel, Jesus comes to us and remains with us in his sacraments. He invites us over and over again to experience his love and his joy until our hearts are changed and we joyfully put everything aside in pursuit of him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I was pulling weeds in the garden when my daughter asked how I knew which plants not to pull. I realized that I simply recognize a weed from a desired plant because I have spent time in my garden. As we journey with Christ, our eyes become fine-tuned to see the difference between what is characteristic of the kingdom of God and what is of this world. King Solomon had eyes fixed on the kingdom, and he knew the value of asking for an understanding heart to help him see more clearly. We must also ask for the wisdom to see clearly what is from God. As we encounter the beauty of God and the truth of his word, we are called to share those encounters with those who are still searching and whose eyes are untrained. Not unlike pulling weeds in the garden, we must train our eyes to find the longed-for pearl as we see and experience the truth of God's love as a community of believers.

PRAY

As you seek to grow in understanding, pray the prayer of St. Anselm of Canterbury this week: *O Lord, my God / teach my heart this day where and how to see you / where and how to find you / Let me find you by loving you / let me love you when I find you. Amen.*