

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 AUGUST 29, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

4:00PM - Stanley Hromadka, Richard Gadel

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

8:00AM - Frank Smith, III

Lector: E. Lohman

Server: E. Lohman

10:30AM - The 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 31

7:00AM - Keith Chapman

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

7:00AM - Lily Beard

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

7:00AM - Laura Gadel Jacob

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

7:00AM - Stanley Hromadka

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

REG. COLLECTION: SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

ADD'L COLLECTION: RETIRED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

4:00PM - Kristian Louviere, Jacquelyn Brown
Mary Virginia Young

Lector: S. Cranford

Server: J. Schexnyder

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:00AM - David Smith

Lector: D. Bess

Server: C. Lohman

10:30AM - Omega Dobard 6th anniv., Margaret Lacombe

Lector: J. Antee

Server: B. Upton

5:00PM - For Our Parish Family

Lector: J. Montalvo

Server: A. Byrd

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:00AM - Bernice Moore

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7:00AM - Pauline Theriot

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:00AM - Robert Antoon

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

7:00AM - Raymond "Sonny" Tucker

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

5:30PM - For The Victims 9/11/2001

Lector: P. Gadel

Server: B. Gadel

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 THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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, Daniel Jones, Henry Jones, Bud Martine, Deacon Doug Moreau, Fr. Craig Scott, Sharman Steltenpohl, Jo Tassin, Fr. Vick Vead, Tonya Wood

OUR HOMEBOUND

Faye Connella, Butch Doiron, Marshall Long, 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 - 08/23/2026**

Regular Collection	\$ 3,684.00
EFT Collection	\$ 1,717.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 6,925.00
Shortage	\$ 1,524.00

Goal for August (5 Sundays)	\$ 34,625.00
Received for August	\$ 26,671.00
Still Needed for August	\$ 7,954.00

Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20.00
Assumption	\$ 25.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MERCI BEAUCOUP!!

MMJ CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal	\$ 1,000,000.00
Pledges Received (139 families)	\$ 1,017,373.00
Monies Received	\$ 799,856.00
Over Goal	\$ 17,373.00

"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)	\$ 21,259.00
Balance Remaining	\$ 2,473.00

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.

FAITH FORMATION**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

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

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.

OCIA

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

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?

CHURCH NEWS**POPE LEO XIV'S 2026 PRAYER INTENTION****For evangelization in the city**

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

ADDITIONAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

A portion of our monthly obligations to the Diocese of Alexandria includes \$375 (\$4,500 annual) to support the retired priests of our diocese. There will be a separate second collection to help our parish defray these costs. All funds collected will be directly applied to this \$4,500 budget item.

LABOR DAY MASS

September 7th - 8:00 a.m.

The offices will be closed.

9/11/2001 COMMEMORATION MASS

Friday September 11th - 5:30 p.m.

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 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.



August 30, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:7-9 | Rom 12:1-2 | Mt 16:21-27

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

Peter, understandably, responded to Christ's foreshadowing of his death with shock and horror – insisting that Jesus would not suffer and die. But Christ's words to his disciples taught them all to respond with humble obedience, trusting in the mission of God without fully understanding it. And Jeremiah in the first reading felt that God had “duped” him. Perhaps the message here is to expect the unexpected when taking on a life of holiness. In my own vocations of marriage, motherhood, and teaching, I regularly encounter challenges and surprises. As disciples, when we discern the will of God in our lives and choose to live according to his will, we do so not because we know all that it will entail, but because we know and trust the One who calls us. We are not promised an easy life, but we are promised abundant life. God calls us to a life of holiness because he knows that is what will bring us fulfillment and peace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the process of discernment, we consider our gifts and talents, humbly reflect upon what is needed to build the kingdom of God, and listen carefully in prayer to the voice of God. We have the immense gifts of Sacred Tradition and Scripture to facilitate the “renewal of [the] mind” (Rom 12:2) as we allow our minds and hearts to be transformed by God's will. And in humble obedience, we must be honest with ourselves about whether we are fully open to God's call, even when it is contrary to our plans. When we believe with our entire being that we are living according to God's will, we will not be able to remain quiet or live in a mediocre way. Just as Jeremiah was unable to keep himself from speaking on the Lord's behalf, the Good News of Christ will come pouring forth from our being in everything that we do. And in this outpouring of God's love, we will give others the opportunity to encounter Christ through us.

REFLECT

Spend some time this week considering the vocation to which you are being called. Reflect upon how you can grow in trust of God to depend upon his care and guidance as you serve according to his will. Although our specific call may be challenging and may seem overwhelming, we can trust in the promise that following God's will leads to a life of joy and peace.