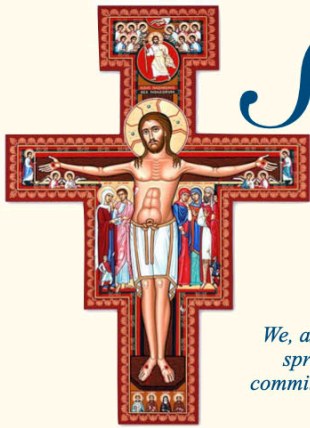


JANUARY 9TH, 2022 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



St. Thomas Aquinas

CATHOLIC CHURCH & STUDENT CENTER

The Diocese of Shreveport

MISSION STATEMENT

We, as members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community of faith in the Diocese of Shreveport, affirm our mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to both the local and Catholic college community in the Ruston, Louisiana area. We commit ourselves to God and to this community through a spirit of welcoming and service in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00PM Vigil
Sunday: 9:30AM
1:30PM (Spanish)
7:00PM (Sept. - May)

DAILY MASSES

Tuesday: 8:00AM
Wednesday: 9:00PM (Sept. - May)
Thursday: 8:00AM
Friday: 12:00PM

BAPTISM

Please call the Church Office to schedule

MARRIAGE

Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:00PM to 4:45PM

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

Fr. Ed Shea, OFM (773) 892-4134 *Pastor*
Br. Mike Ward, OFM (318) 251-0793 *Campus Minister*
Deacon John Serio
Deacon Robert Ransom
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 *Business Manager*
Elise Reis (318) 310-4009 *Religious Education Director*
Martin Aviles (318) 265-2992 *Youth Coordinator*
John Denny *President of Pastoral Council*
Thurston Allen *Chairman of Finance Council*
St. Vincent de Paul Society (255-8090)



NEW PARISHIONERS

“May the Church be a place of God’s mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live according to the good life of the Gospel. And to make others feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged, the Church must be with doors wide open so that all may enter. And we must go out through these doors and proclaim the Gospel.” - Pope Francis

Please contact the office to register your membership if you are new in our community.

813 Carey Ave. | Ruston, Louisiana 71270 | 318-255-2870 | stthomasaquinasruston.com

PARISHIONERS BIRTHDAYS

<u>January 1st</u>	Wayne Skipper Michael Langiulli Dolly Garcia
<u>January 2nd</u>	Carmen Trevison Ethan Moreno
<u>January 3rd</u>	Atilano Garcia Martinez Stephanie Martinez
<u>January 4th</u>	Oscar Hannibal
<u>January 5th</u>	Ramona Bishop
<u>January 7th</u>	Josie Bishop
<u>January 8th</u>	Callum Conroy
<u>January 10th</u>	Yanney Hernandez
<u>January 11th</u>	Olivia Roger
<u>January 12th</u>	David Broussard Melissa Jackson Caitlin Corcia Harry Lopez
<u>January 14th</u>	Brennan Jackson Marcie Tucker
<u>January 15^h</u>	Sandy Freeman
<u>January 16th</u>	Juana Maria Leon Ella Viator
<u>January 17th</u>	Paul Kabbes Jesus Gonzalez Jerry Berg II
<u>January 18th</u>	Linda Oakley
<u>January 21st</u>	Rose Kitishian John Adams Jose Maria Garcia
<u>January 22nd</u>	Benjamin Denny Hayden Frost
<u>January 24th</u>	Cindy Bimle
<u>January 26th</u>	Ryan Corcia
<u>January 27th</u>	Riley Oakley
<u>January 28th</u>	William Slucher Zane Morris
<u>January 31st</u>	Pedro Derosa

If I've missed your birthday, please email me at

starbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com so that I can add you to the master list.

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**Sunday, January 9th**

9:30AM - Sunday Mass
Children's Liturgy: Haley Perot
1:30PM - Misa en Español
7:00PM - Sunday Mass

Monday, January 11th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
5:30PM - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Tuesday, January 12th

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

Wednesday, January 13th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - STAY
9:00PM - Daily Mass

Thursday, January 14th

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

Friday, January 15th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
12:00PM - Daily Mass

Saturday, January 16th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass



If you would like to donate flowers in the church, please sign up at the bulletin board in the church vestibule. Please call Carol Mercier at **(318)254-8826** for more information.

Ministry Schedule

January 8th, 2022

Lector: Dolly Hurtig & Samantha Groce

Altar Servers: Mac, Keeva & Doc Conroy

January 9th, 2022

Lector: Marina & Carmen Bishop

Altar Servers: Brad Denny, Ava & Olivia Good

Eucharistic Ministers: Emily Chartier & Rodney Manning

Lectores:

January 15th, 2022

Lector: Jim Martin & Christy Weeks

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

January 16th, 2022

Lector: AJ Barbiero & Stacey Denny

Altar Servers: Brennan & Matthew Jackson & Kaejha Stewart

Eucharistic Ministers: Gary Kennedy & Paul Jackson

Lectores:

ST. THOMAS' PRAYER LIST

Please contact the parish office to have names added to our prayer list.

Ramona Adams	Cynthia Murry
Miriam Bishop	Katherine Ned
Charles Bourgeois	Don Olivier
Abby Bray	Pearline Robey
Frankie Career	Lometa Rorie
Tony Clark	Mary Russo
Judy Darcey	Gloria Saldana
Jill Denys	Laura Leigh Saleese
Layten Davis	Ginger Schanks
Adrien "Butch"	Laura Schneider
Doiron	Jo Mary Smith
Sean Dwyer	Holly Hollis Star
June Finnorn	Dianne Stuckey
Emmely Gay	Marguerite Swannon
Bernice Harrison	Willie Tannerhill
Magnolia Johnson	Joanne Thompson
Jeffery Judice	Robin Thrasher
Chris Letendre	Toni Troiano
Mary Manuel	Jamie Tucker
Ken Martinez	Kathleen "Kathy"
Tobie McKown	Walter
J. C. Meshell	Donna Venters
Rueben Moreno	Stephen Webre
Kelly Morgan	Janice Williams

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday January 9th
9:30 AM

Bob Aillet †
(by Cynthia Murry)

Bernice & Howard Glenn †
(by The Colemans)



You may have Masses offered for your intentions, or for the intentions of your loved ones, both living and deceased. Please call the parish office for more information and available dates.

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of December 25/ December 26

General Sunday Collection	\$59,135.00
Catholic Life Center	\$50,350.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN

If you're enjoying the new bulletin, but want to see more, advertise for your company in the back. The more advertisements we have, the more space they will give us at no charge.



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University



Selected at one of the "Top 50 Catholic Campus Ministry Programs" in the United States.

SERVICE

The "theme" for the 20-21 school year for ACTS is "Service". It is the fifth tenet of our mission statement. The scripture guidance is 1 Peter 4:10.

IT'S STILL CHRISTMAS

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him



WELCOME BACK ALUMNI



A yearly tradition for a group of ACTS alumni is to visit Ruston over the New Year's break. Part of the gathering involves a visit to St. Thomas Church to help out with the choir. This year, seven ACTS alum were able to make the journey "up here" to sing with the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass choir. Thank you so much!

OPERATION HELP

"Operation Help" has been an ACTS tradition since 2013, begun by ACTS member, Derek Warden. This year the ImpACTS committee coordinated our members to supply food and pantry items for three local families. Thank you!

LIFE CHOICES GIVING TREE

Every year, ACTS sets up a tree covered with ornaments that are gift requests from Life Choices North Central Louisiana. Students collected baby items for mothers with children who are in need of help. ACTS collected 20 items this year. You may still donate if you wish! Thank you to the IMPACTS committee for organizing the logistics of this ACTS Christmas tradition.

GINGERBREAD CROSSING



Thanks to the Freshmen Council for coordinating the annual ACTS "Gingerbread Crossing" night. All were invited to construct confectionary masterpieces!

ACTS HISTORY



From 1994-2000, Sr. Edith Schnell, a Grand Rapids Dominican Sister, was the campus minister at St. Thomas, as well as its DRE. Sr. Edith wore many hats for the St. Thomas Community and was always there when she was needed. As campus minister, she led our college students on an emersion experience to Saltillo, Mexico. The group worked with the poorest of the poor. In 2022, Sr. Edith will be celebrating her 60th year as a Dominican Sister.

ACTS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 3/26/21

ACTS became a university organization 25 years ago and this decision has changed the face of the campus ministry here at St. Thomas ever since. To celebrate this momentous act there will be an all day celebration on Saturday, March 26, 2022, concluding with Mass and a banquet. If you would like to be part of the planning process or if you have some ideas you would like to share, call 318-251-0793.



ACTS ATHLETICS



Thanks to Anna Johnson for agreeing to chair the ACTS Athletics committee for rest of the leadership term. Pictured here is the co-ed soccer team.

ACTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thanks to the Socials and Hospitality Committees for coordinating the annual ACTS White Elephant Christmas Party before the break.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hey Everyone, I hope you all had a merry Christmas break and a happy New Year! As we come back to school, ACTS has a lot going on: We've got a praise and worship service on 1/14, and nominations for leadership start this week. Also, marked your calendars for the Spring Retreat on March 18-20, and for the ACTS 25th Anniversary Party on March 26. Be on the lookout for more activities! God bless.

GRUPO DE JOVENES DE SANTO TOMAS DE
AQUINO (STAY)

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH (STAY)

Faith | Fellowship | Fun | Food

WEDNESDAYS
6:30-7 PM MIDDLE SCHOOL
7-8 PM HIGH SCHOOL

Questions: Martin Aviles: 318-265-2992 | stay1941@gmail.com

STAY Wednesday Night Dates	Ignite Topic	Weekend Special Event Dates	Title
January 5, 2022	Who is God?		
January 12, 2022	What is sin?		
January 19, 2022	Grace	January 22, 2022	Bowling @ Tech
January 26, 2022	The Soul	January 29, 2022	Basketball @ The Luffey Gym
February 2, 2022	What is Real Love?		
February 9, 2022	Am I Good Enough?	February 12, 2022	Paintball @ Ultrazone Paintball
February 16, 2022	God as Father		
February 23, 2022	Trust in God	February 26, 2022	Examination of Conscience/Confession @ STA Church
March 2, 2022	Why Did Jesus Come?	March 5-6, 2022	Beyond the Limits Jr. High Conference: Fly! @ Alexandria
March 9, 2022	<i>Spring Break</i>		
March 16, 2022	The Resurrection	March 18, 2022	STAY Stations of the Cross @ STA Church
March 23, 2022	The Church as the Body		
March 30, 2022	Priest, Prophet, King		
April 6, 2022	The Sacraments	April 9, 2022	Service Project @ CCA
April 13, 2022	What is Baptism?		
April 20, 2022	What is Reconciliation?	April 23, 2022	Soccer @ Ruston Sports Complex
April 27, 2022	What is the Eucharist?		
May 4, 2022	God in Nature	May 7, 2022	Hike & Pray the Rosary @ Lincoln Parish Park
May 11, 2022	Living with Faith		
May 18, 2022	Living with Hope		
May 25, 2022	Living with Charity	May 28, 2022	Lock In Party @ The Luffey Gym
		June 24-26, 2022	Steubenville South 2022: Fearless! @ Alexandria

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

BAPTISMAL DEATH AND RESURRECTION

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we also honor our own baptism as our initiation into the Christian life and community. In the Gospel, the baptism of Jesus, with his immersion and then emergence from the water, points to his later submission to God at his death, and his emergence from the grave at his resurrection. This pattern of death and resurrection is our path too, as followers of Jesus. Throughout life, often in small ways, we learn to surrender our limited and self-centered agendas. This surrender often feels like death. The sacrament of Baptism ritually enacts this pattern to remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection, so that we too might embrace the deaths and resurrections of our own lives. As Jesus emerged from the water, he encountered his Father and the Holy Spirit. Like Jesus, we can know we are God's beloved, empowered by the Spirit.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.

Psalms — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* Psalm 104.

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) *or* Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

The Baptism of the Lord

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him,
solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

The Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022

He saved us through the bath of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

— Titus 3:5

9 de enero de 2022

El Bautismo del Señor

MUERTE Y RESURRECCIÓN BAPTISMAL

A medida que celebramos el Bautismo del Señor, también honramos nuestro propio bautismo como nuestra iniciación en la vida y comunidad cristiana. En el Evangelio, el bautismo de Jesús, con su inmersión y posterior salida del agua, indica su posterior entrega a Dios en su muerte, y su salida del sepulcro en su resurrección. Como seguidores de Jesús, esta forma de muerte y resurrección también es nuestro camino. A lo largo de la vida, y a menudo de manera limitada, aprendemos a renunciar a nuestros planes egoístas y limitados. Esta renuncia a menudo se siente como la muerte. El Sacramento del Bautismo ritualmente representa este camino para recordarnos la muerte y resurrección de Jesús, para que nosotros también podamos aceptar las muertes y resurrecciones de nuestras propias vidas. Cuando Jesús salió del agua, se encontró con su Padre y el Espíritu Santo. Como Jesús, podemos saber que somos los amados de Dios, fortalecidos por el Espíritu.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Miren a mi siervo, en quien tengo mis complacencias (Isaías 42:1-4, 6-7) *o* Isaías 40:1-5, 9-11.

Salmo — El Señor bendice a su pueblo con la paz (Salmo 29 [28]) *o* Salmo 104 (103).

Segunda lectura — Dios ungió con el Espíritu Santo a Jesús de Nazaret (Hch 10:34-38) *o* Tito 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

Evangelio — Después del bautismo de Jesús, el cielo se abrió (Lucas 3:15-16, 21-22).

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

El Bautismo del Señor

Dios todopoderoso y eterno,
que proclamaste solemnemente a Jesucristo
como tu Hijo muy amado,
cuando, al ser bautizado en el Jordán,
descendió el Espíritu Santo sobre él,
concede a tus hijos de adopción,
renacidos del agua y del Espíritu Santo,
que se conserven siempre dignos de tu complacencia.
Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo,
que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo
y es Dios por los siglos de los siglos.

El Bautismo del Señor

9 de enero de 2022

Lo hizo mediante el bautismo,
que nos regenera y nos renueva,
por la acción del Espíritu Santo.

— Tito 3:5

Baptism of Our Lord -- January 9, 2022

“This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” Are you considering making known the love of our Heavenly Father as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Bautismo de Nuestro Señor - 9 de Enero de 2022

“Este es mi Hijo amado en quien tengo complacencia.” ¿Está considerando dar a conocer el amor de nuestro Padre Celestial como sacerdote, diácono, hermana o hermano? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.



The Devotion to the Divine Mercy is based on the private revelations of Jesus to Polish Saint Faustina in the 1930's. It recognizes God as infinite mercy and involves a decision to accept God's mercy with thanksgiving, to trust in Him, and to be merciful as He is merciful. One element of the devotion is the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a form of prayer using Rosary beads. The Recitation of the Chaplet is prayed each Monday evening from 5:30 to 6:00 PM in the small chapel. All are welcome!

RETREATS

There are several Domestic Church Evangelization Retreats taking place in the spring. The retreat provides sacramentally married couples with an opportunity to begin their spiritual journey together (or deepen it if it already exists). The retreat serves as the introduction to Domestic Church for those interested in beginning formation in a Domestic Church circle. However, the retreat can fruitfully be attended by any sacramentally married couple. The retreat includes daily Mass, talks, and time for couples to encounter the Lord together.

- **January 14 - 17, 2022 - Abbeville, LA**

- **January 27 - 30, 2022 - Osyka, MS (near Baton Rouge)**

- **February 3 - 6, 2022 - Oklahoma City, OK**

- **April 7 - 10, 2022 - Schriver, LA**

Website: <https://domesticchurchfamilies.com/>

God Bless.

Tom Aranda

318-393-8285

Youth Small Group

If you are a high school student interested in a small bible group, please contact Carmen Bishop at (318) 243-3070 for more information. The youth small group meets on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm.

**¡Thank You...Gracias!**

As Pastor of this wonderful parish of St. Thomas I want to THANK YOU for your very generous donations at Christmas time. I know that many families gave “extra” to the Church this past Christmas, and it really helps a lot!

In nombre de la familia de Santo Tomás quiero darles GRACIAS por su gran generosidad durante el mes de Diciembre 2021. Mucha gente participó en las celebraciones de la Virgen de Guadalupe y la Navidad, y todos ofrecieron su tiempo, su talento y también su dinero para ayudar a nuestra familia. Muchas Gracias!

Father Ed/Padre Lalo

Epiphany 2022

Three wise men came to help celebrate Epiphany Sunday, January 2, 2022. Thank you to John Mark Adams (far left), Adams Perot (middle), and Banion Conroy (far right) for bringing the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**PSR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sunday PSR classes resume on January 9th at 10:45 am.
- Wednesday PSR classes resume on January 12th at 5:30 pm.
- SEEKERS class will begin January 9th @ 3 pm and run through February 27.
- First Communion Parent Meeting – January 9th @ 11 am. Parents of second graders are asked to meet at 11 am in the AV room January 9th.
- Confirmation Parent Meeting – January 23: Parents. Please plan to meet at 12:00 pm in the CLC gym regarding the Confirmation retreat and Mass dates.
- Colorcraft Church Directory Follow Ups – January 18, 19, 20. The photographer will be back to St. Thomas Aquinas on January 18, 19, and 20 for families to review their photos and have the option to purchase prints.
- Missed the photo session???? Please send a family photo by email to Elise Reis at stthomaspsr430@gmail.com. The final phase of the directory production will be completed in January. The digital photos will be included. Also, any church group that would like to send in a group photo can also send to Elise. Thank you!

200 for this week

PLEASE ADD FILLER PAGE

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270