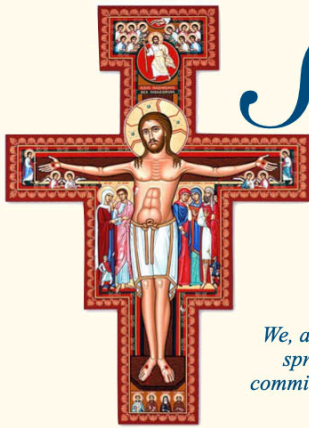


FEBRUARY 20TH, 2022 | 7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



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)

Seventh
SUNDAY
in Ordinary Time

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FEBRUARY
20
2022

“To you who hear I say,
love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you,
pray for those who mistreat you.”

Luke 6:27

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>February 1st</u>	Michael Hinton
<u>February 2nd</u>	Libby Manning Aylmer Rainwater
<u>February 6th</u>	Iris Reis Kaejha Stewart
<u>February 7th</u>	Ralph Pettijohn Francisco Negrete
<u>February 8th</u>	Charles Rogers
<u>February 9th</u>	Christi Faulkner Martin Aviles Cubillo
<u>February 12th</u>	Margaret Stanton Roan Sutherland Britney Aguirre Gail Lindsey Melissa Jackson
<u>February 13th</u>	Matthew Bryan
<u>February 17th</u>	Elizabeth Rodriguez
<u>February 19^h</u>	Melissa Hernandez
<u>February 20th</u>	Linda Viator Samantha Shuff
<u>February 21st</u>	Jesus Salazar
<u>February 22nd</u>	Gwen Barron Michelle McCumber
<u>February 24th</u>	Bre Ausbon
<u>February 25th</u>	Cesario Gonzalez
<u>February 28th</u>	Adams Perot

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, February 20th**

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

Monday, February 21st

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

Tuesday, February 22nd

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
10:00AM - Lectio Divina

Wednesday, February 23rd

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

Thursday, February 24th

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

Friday, February 25th

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

Saturday, February 26th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass

ALTAR FLOWERS

*Flowers donated by Barbara Lewis in honor
Augusta & Odessa Thompson and in memory of
Amelia Thompson & Lizzie Sanders*



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

February 19th, 2022

Lector: Jim Martin & John Allen

Altar Servers:

February 20th, 2022

Lector: Ryan & Lorelei Feeling

Altar Servers: Charlie & Maggie Rogers and Mary Adams

Eucharistic Ministers: Emily Chartier & Gary Kennedy

Lectores: Petra Salazar y Arnulfo Perez

February 26th, 2022

Lector: Pam Allen & Dolly Hurtig

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

February 27th, 2022

Lector: Marina & Carmen Bishop

Altar Servers: Bailey Reger, Josie & Ramona Bishop

Eucharistic Ministers: Jeremy Walkenford & Paul Jackson

Lectores: Pablo Tepole y Marichuy Torres

ST. THOMAS' PRAYER LIST

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

Mona 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
Emmely Gay	Marguerite Swannon
Bernice Harrison	Willie Tannerhill
Harvey Hayes	Joanne Thompson
Magnolia Johnson	Robin Thrasher
Jeffery Judice	Toni Troiano
Chris Letendre	Kathleen "Kathy"
Mary Manuel	Walter
Ken Martinez	Donna Venters
Tobie McKown	Stephen Webre
J. C. Meshell	Janice Williams
Rueben Moreno	
Kelly Morgan	

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 19th Estella Fratti
(by George & Carmen Trevison)

Tuesday February 22nd A.J. Trevison
(by George & Carmen Trevison)

Friday February 25th Denys Family
(by George & Carmen Trevison)

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 February 5/ February 6

General Sunday Collection	\$12,029.00
Catholic Life Center	\$185.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

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.





BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University



stac-acts.com



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 1Peter 4:10.

A STUDENT'S PRAYER



God of Light and Truth, thank you for giving me a mind that can know and a heart that can love. Help me to keep learning every day of my life, for all knowledge can lead me to You. Lead me to be aware of Your presence in all things and at all times. Encourage me when my studies are difficult and when I am tempted to give up. Give me confidence when my brain seems slow to understand and the way forward is filled with struggles and challenges.

Grant me the grace to fully express all the talents and gifts You have entrusted to me to explore the world You have created, certain that in Your love and goodness all will be well. I ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

SPRING RETREAT



The annual Spring Retreat will be March 18-20, this year. Cost is \$20. Scan the QR code here to sign up. Do it now, so you don't forget!



NIGHT PRAYER WITH ACTS



Every weekday at 10:00 pm, ACTS members pray together. We call this "Ten @ 10". We begin by giving words of thanks to God. With grateful hearts we present God with our needs and conclude with a prayer of praise. We can thank ACTS grad Alex Marquardt '13 for initiating this prayer time 8 years ago. The format is basically the letters T,A,P: Thanks, Ask, Praise. It is based off of the theology of the Franciscan friar St. Bonaventure. He emphasized the importance of the Trinity in Catholicism.

MARY GARDEN

Thanks to the ACTS seniors who braved the cold to get the Mary Garden ready for Spring so all can enjoy! Thanks to Sandi Adams for making the Chicken and Dumplings for lunch! ACTS began the Mary in Garden in 1997!

ACTS HISTORY



In 2004, ACTS member, Josh St. Cyr wrote, "I have such a heart for ACTS that I wanted to give back by coaching. The flag football team is a great outreach ministry because it lets students see how close the family of the ACTS team invites the opponents to join them in prayer." Kat Vandersteen wrote, "God has blessed me with the opportunity to play sports and it is awesome to get to play with the friends that I share my faith."

ACTS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2 26/21



ACTS became a university organization 25 years ago. To celebrate this momentous act there will be an all day celebration on Saturday, March 26, 2022, concluding with Mass and a banquet. Sr. Edith, Dr.

Guice, Bishop Malone, and Fr. Tom Nairn, OFM will be joining us. **ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED.** Scan the QR code, or call 318-251-0793 to RSVP. Come for any or all of the events! All are welcome!!



BISHOP MALONE'S VISIT



If all goes as planned, Bishop Malone will be with us Sunday, February 20. He will meet with the ACTS Leadership Team at 5:00 pm and celebrate the 7 pm Mass with us. Welcome Bishop Malone!

TOLIVER TAKEOVER

ACTS held its Saturday Social outside of Toliver last weekend. It was a great opportunity to "expose" ACTS members to the campus.



GRILLING WITH GOD



The chilling temperatures did not deter the Guys Group from "Grilling with God" on the back patio of the EDP. We are so thankful to have such a place to hang out

FEBRUARY - SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH (STAY) EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			5:30-7:30 Youth Council			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups			5:30-7:30 Game Night & Chicken with Dumplings			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
No Small Groups			5:30-7:30 Basketball & Food			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
No Small Groups			5:30-7:30 Bowling (Limbright at Tech)			
27	28					
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups						

PSR and SEEKERS SCHEDULE

Feb. 20 **No Morning PSR**, President's Day Holiday. **SEEKERS** will meet at 3:00 pm.

Feb. 27 PSR, SEEKERS' First Reconciliation at 3 pm

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE – PLEASE RSVP SOON!

The event will be on February 27th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the St. Thomas Aquinas Luffey Building.

Reminder...please RSVP to Karen Rogers at 985-320-2268 with daughter(s) names and number of guest attending the dance.

SAVE THE DATE - CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The Confirmation Retreat for 8th, 9th, and 10th + graders will be on April 2 from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm at the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center. Sponsors are also encouraged to attend!

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

March 6 – Girl Scout Sunday @ 9:30 am Mass

WILL YOU HELP WITH STATIONS OF THE CROSS?

Stations of the Cross will be led by children on March 25th. If your child is interested in participating, please email the PSR office at stthomaspsr430@gmail.com. The children will be using the painted canvases depicting the Stations. The canvases were lovingly created by the Jr. High PSR class last year during Lent.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT – SAVE THE DATE!!!

The date for the Confirmation Retreat is April 2, 2022. The retreat will be at the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. Students currently in SUNDAY Confirmation classes with Ms. Paula Martin or Deacon Ransom are expected to attend. The sponsor or a parent in place of the sponsor will be asked to attend a portion of the time as well.

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
LOVE AS GOD LOVES

Our Gospel today continues Jesus' Sermon on the Plain, in which we heard Luke's version of the Beatitudes. This week, Jesus gives us new "commandments," telling us how to live and act in the world as his disciples, rooted in the radical love of God for humanity. It reminds us of his later speech about loving one another as he loves us, in other words with a God-like love, the kind we see in today's psalm about God's mercy. How else could we do as Jesus tells us by loving our enemies, which seems impossible, until we remember that God gave us the example of Jesus, who is like God but also like us? David understands this merciful love when he spares the life of his enemy in the first reading. Finally, Paul tells us that we will become like Jesus if we act as he did, as God does.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — David found Saul in a deep sleep, but would not harm him (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — We shall bear the image of the heavenly Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

Gospel — Give to everyone who asks of you. Lend expecting nothing back (Luke 6:27-38).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is 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.

Reflection question:

What can I do this week that is pleasing to God?

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
— *Psalm 103:8*

20 de febrero de 2022 Séptimo
Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
AMAR COMO DIOS AMA

En nuestro Evangelio de hoy, Jesús continua el Sermón del Llano, en el que escuchamos la versión de Lucas de las Bienaventuranzas. Esta semana, Jesús nos da nuevos "mandamientos", diciéndonos cómo vivir y comportarnos en el mundo como sus discípulos, enraizados en el amor radical de Dios por la humanidad. Nos recuerda su discurso posterior sobre cómo amarse los unos a los otros, en otras palabras, con un amor semejante al de Dios, el que vemos en el salmo de hoy sobre la misericordia de Dios. ¿De qué otra manera podríamos hacer lo que Jesús nos dice acerca de amar a nuestros enemigos? Lo cual parece imposible, hasta que recordamos que Dios nos dio el ejemplo de Jesús, quien es Dios, pero también es como nosotros. En la primera lectura, David comprende este amor misericordioso cuando perdona la vida de sus enemigos. Por último, Pablo nos dice que seremos como Jesús si actuamos como él, como Dios.

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — David salvó la vida de Saúl porque él era ungido del Señor (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23).

Salmo — El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso (Salmo 103 [102]).

Segunda lectura — Así como llevamos la imagen del Adán terrenal, llevaremos la imagen del celestial, Jesús (1 Corintios 15:45-49).

Evangelio — Ama a tus enemigos, hazle el bien a los que te odian. Muestra misericordia y perdón (Lucas 6:27-38).

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Concédenos, Dios todopoderoso,
que la constante meditación de tus misterios
nos impulse a decir y hacer siempre
lo que sea de tu agrado.

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.

Pregunta de reflexión:

¿Qué puedo hacer esta semana que sea agradable a Dios?

Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

20 de febrero de 2022

El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso,
lento a la ira y rico en clemencia.

— *Salmo 103 (102):8*

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time -- February 20, 2022

“I give you a new commandment says the Lord: love one another as I have loved you.” Are you being called to strengthen His body through a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario - 20 de Febrero de 2022

“Les doy un mandamiento nuevo, dice el Señor: amaos unos a otros como yo los he amado.” ¿Estás llamado a fortalecer su cuerpo a través de la vocación al sacerdocio, al diaconado o a la vida consagrada? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Church Registration

Are you receiving church emails and texts? Scan this QR code and quickly register with our church to informed about Masses and events happening in our parish.



Men's Club Meeting

Men's Club meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 21, 2022 at 6:00 pm, Youth Room, Luffey Building. If you have any questions contact Joshua Adams (318)548-6686

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.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

In today's Gospel Jesus gives us the challenge to: “Love your enemies... Give to everyone who asks of you...Do to others as you would have them do to you...Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. **In the month of January, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 6 families, providing \$895.00 for food, utilities and rent. Thank You! As you may or may not be aware St. Thomas Aquinas Church is no longer supporting SVDP financially, so your donations will be greatly appreciated so we can continue serving the poor in our area. Our mailing address is: PO Box 2462, Ruston, LA, 71273-2462. Thank you for your continued support.**



Adult Education Possibilities

One of the complaints I have heard and witnessed among Catholics is that while Jesus spent his time teaching the adults and playing with the children, we do quite the opposite. We teach the children and play with the adults. Here are some very concrete ways we adults can study our Catholic faith:

Lectio Divina — On Tuesdays at 10:00 am some of us gather in the Youth Room in Luffey to prayerfully consider the following Sunday's Gospel. This prayer session ends around 11:00 am

Reclaiming Vatican II — Looking ahead to Lent (which starts on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2022), I have purchased 25 copies of a book called Reclaiming Vatican II which will help us to understand and study together the present situation of our Church. We will gather each Sunday after the 9:30 am Mass in Luffey for some conversation and hopefully some hearty discussion of what is happening in our own parish and in the Catholic Church throughout the world. Everyone is welcome!



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!

The Chosen

All are welcome to come to the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center on Sunday mornings from 10:45 - 11:45 for adult faith formation and fellowship.



Engaged Couples Weekend (ECW)

February 25/26, June 24/25, October 14/15, 2022

Contact: Dotye Stanford, dotstanford@sjbcathedral.org

Every couple is required to attend an Engaged Couples Weekend. This is a weekend retreat for couples engaged to be married in the Catholic church. It is led by a team of married couples and a priest who present on topics such as ambitions, goals, attitudes about God, sex, money, children, family, and your role in the Church and community. The members of the presenting team discuss these issues in the context of their own experience, sharing their personal stories. The main focus of the weekend, however, is to provide time for couples to privately reflect on and discuss these issues. The cost is \$175 to cover materials, food, and speakers. www.sjbcathedral.org/sacraments/marriage. On right side scroll down to Engaged Couples Weekend Register and click Use my donation to support: family life/marriage/engaged couples.

Engaged Couples Weekend – **Friday/Saturday**

Cathedral of St. John Berchmans

939 Jordan Street Shreveport LA 71101

Typical format:

We gather on **Friday, 6-9 pm, with supper beginning at 6 pm**. On **Saturday**, the weekend begins with a **continental breakfast at 9 am and end at 4 pm Mass. Lunch will be served on Saturday.**

Cost is \$175 covering food, speakers, and materials.

For info on Engaged Couples Weekends:

Dotye Sue Stanford, 318.221.5296 ext. 107, dotstanford@sjbcathedral.org

Register for the **February Engaged Couples Weekend Fee Online: \$175**. Go to www.sjbcathedral.org, click on **Sacraments/Marriage**. On right side scroll down to **Engaged Couples Weekend Register** and click on **“Use my donation to support: Family Life/Marriage/Engaged Couples.**

Future Engaged Couples Weekend will be June 24/25 and October 14/15.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

The 2nd graders celebrated First Reconciliation this past Sunday. Please continue to pray for these children as they continue to prepare for their First Communion.



Back Row: Paige Denny, Carson Perot, Sophia Reis, Olivia Bryan
Front Row: Sofia Carranza, Nicolle Mujica, Alexis Turrubiartes, Beau Hickman, Patrick Gillum

200 for this week

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270