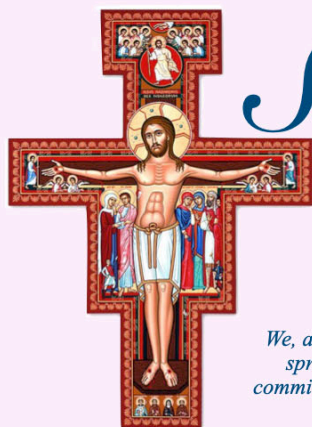


FEBRUARY 27TH, 2022 | 8TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



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)

As the test of what the potter molds
is in the furnace,
so in tribulation is the test of the just.

Sirach 27:5



Eighth
Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 27, 2022

Nocturne: Furnace
1879/80
James McNeill Whistler
American, 1834-1903
Art Institute of Chicago

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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>March 1st</u>	Bruce Cowan
<u>March 2nd</u>	Lorraine Freeman
<u>March 4th</u>	Bailey Keys
<u>March 5th</u>	Juan Alvarez Melanie Hernandez Flores Christopher DeCerbo
<u>March 6th</u>	Ana Laura Gonzalez Raythar
<u>March 7th</u>	Leah Sutherland Edward Mercier Pauline Phi Maria Vazques de Aviles Margarita Castillo
<u>March 8th</u>	Suzi Broussard
<u>March 9th</u>	Brenda Berg
<u>March 10^h</u>	Yesi Francisco
<u>March 12th</u>	Adelyn Haynie
<u>March 14th</u>	Jodie Morpew
<u>March 15th</u>	Kevin Watson
<u>March 17th</u>	Nikki Conroy Patricia Rodriguez
<u>March 18th</u>	Gary Kennedy
<u>March 22nd</u>	Gabriel Perez
<u>March 23rd</u>	Tyrette Cowan Amanda Sutherland
<u>March 26th</u>	Chris Kennedy Eli Watson
<u>March 27th</u>	Sofia Hernandez
<u>March 28th</u>	Alan Ulloa
<u>March 29th</u>	Benjamin Grafton Omar Ramirez
<u>March 30th</u>	Jennifer Pangilinan

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 27th**

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

Monday, February 28th

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

Tuesday, March 1st

8:00AM - Daily Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
10:00AM - Lectio Divina
12:00AM - 2:00PM Soup R Chili

Wednesday, March 2nd

8:00AM - Ash Wednesday Mass
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - STAY
7:00PM - Ash Wednesday Mass

Thursday, March 3rd

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

Friday, March 4th

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

Saturday, March 5th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers donated by The Nash Family in loving memory of Diego Nash



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 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

March 5th, 2022

Lector:

Altar Servers:

March 6th, 2022

Lector: Marina & Carmen Bishop

Altar Servers: Mac, Keeva & Doc Conroy

Eucharistic Ministers:

Lectores: Imelda Ramirez e Ilda Solis

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday February 27th Mr. & Mrs. Sanders
Margaret Oatis
Amelia Thompson
Daisy Williams
(by Barbara Lewis)

Tuesday March 1st Bernice & Howard Gregg
(by Cindy Horn)

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 12/ February 13

General Sunday Collection	\$11,027.00
Catholic Life Center	\$600.00

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 as 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 the 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 thing 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!



PAINTING TOGETHER



Painting has become an ACTS Girls Group tradition, and this quarter was no exception. Our local "Picassos" created their own masterpieces and had chance to catch up with each for a pleasant evening, free of worries.

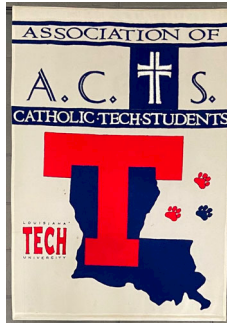
CONGRATULATIONS RENATA ROSE

On Saturday morning, February 12th, Jordan (Whaley) '16 and Hunter Boudreaux's '16 baby, Renata Rose was baptized by Br. Mike here at St. Thomas Aquinas Church and Student Center. The family currently resides in Birmingham and were in town for Zoe and Adam's wedding. God Bless Renata Rose.



NO 7PM SUNDAY MASS 2/27 & 3/6

ACTS HISTORY



In 2010, ACTS organized a mission trip to Kansas City to minister with the good folks of "A Simple House" over spring break. Since then, minus the COVID years, ACTS has sent a dozen students there each year. The team hopes to go this year if all goes well. Please pray for our young people as they head to Kansas City over spring break once again to build God's Kingdom right NOW!

ACTS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 3/26/21



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!!



CONGRATULATIONS ZOE AND ADAM



On Saturday, February 12th, Adam Ramachandran '18 and Zoe Martinez '16 celebrated their wedding here at St. Thomas Aquinas Church and Student Center. Celebrating with their family and friends were 36 ACTS alumni. The rehearsal dinner was held in the EDP and the wedding reception was held in the Luffey Building! It was a beautiful affair.



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

SEEKERS: March 27, April 3, April 24

The SEEKERS will practice during class at 3:00 pm in the church on the listed dates above.

FEBRUARY 27 FIRST RECONCILIATION 3pm

Please be in prayer for the following children who will be making their First Reconciliation this weekend:

Bryan Lopez Taylor Fincher Yeni Juan Francisco Marissa Gonzalez Yanney Jossy
Hernandez Yesi Juan Sonia Juan Emery Morris Zane Morris Gabriel Perez

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

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

FIRST COMMUNION SONG PRACTICES

2nd Grade: February 27, March 6, March 27, April 3, and April 24

The 2nd graders will practice immediately after the 9:30 am Mass on the above dates.

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 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WE ARE KNOWN BY OUR FRUIT

This week, Jesus tells us that we must examine our own inner selves, our attitudes and dispositions, virtues and faults, rather than judging others. What is in our hearts comes out in what and how we speak. If our hearts are filled with kindness and compassion, those qualities will be evident in our speaking, just as beautiful, wholesome fruit comes only from healthy trees. And vice-versa. The Wisdom writer Sirach in the first reading agrees with this concept—that we will be judged by our words. Paul reminds us that the reward of discipleship is eternal life. Today's psalm of thanksgiving and praise reminds us of God's kindness and faithfulness, which we are to emulate in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We are known, each of us, by our own fruit.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).

Psalms — Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).

Second Reading — We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).

Gospel — A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion.

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:

How can I help bring about God's peaceful reign?

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 27, 2022

Every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles.

— *Luke 6:44*

27 de febrero de 2022 Octavo

Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

SE NOS CONOCE POR NUESTROS FRUTOS

Esta semana, Jesús nos dice que deberíamos examinar nuestro interior, nuestras actitudes y temperamentos, virtudes y defectos, en lugar de juzgar a los demás. Lo que está en nuestros corazones se manifiesta en lo que hablamos y en cómo lo decimos. Si nuestros corazones están llenos con bondad y compasión, esas cualidades serán evidentes en nuestra forma de hablar, así como los frutos saludables y esplendidos solo se dan de árboles en buen estado. Y viceversa. Sirácides, el escritor del libro de la Sabiduría de la primera lectura está de acuerdo con este concepto, que seremos juzgados por nuestras palabras. Pablo nos recuerda que la recompensa del discipulado es la vida eterna. El salmo de acción de gracias y alabanza de hoy nos recuerda la bondad y fidelidad de Dios, que debemos imitar en nuestros pensamientos, palabras y obras. Cada uno de nosotros es conocido por el fruto que damos.

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — La palabra da a conocer los sentimientos de la persona. No alabes a nadie antes que haya hablado (Eclesiástico 27: 4-7).

Salmo — Es bueno darte gracias, Señor (Salmo 92 [91]).

Segunda lectura — Se nos ha dado la victoria sobre la muerte por medio de Jesús (1 Corintios 15:53-58).

Evangelio — Una persona buena produce lo bueno, una persona mala produce lo malo (Lucas 6:39-45).

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Concédenos, Señor, que tu poder pacificador dirija el curso de los acontecimientos del mundo y que tu Iglesia se regocije al poder servirte con tranquilidad.

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:

¿Cómo puedo ayudar a llevar a cabo el reinado pacífico de Dios?

Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

20 de febrero de 2022

Cada árbol se conoce por sus frutos. No se recogen higos de las zarzas, ni se cortan uvas de los espinos.

— *Lucas 6:44*

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 27, 2022

“Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.” Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest, deacon or through the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario - 27 de Febrero de 2022

"Brilla como luces en el mundo mientras te aferras a la palabra de vida." ¿Estás llamado a pertenecer solo a Cristo como sacerdote, diácono o por 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.

**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.

Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

In the Gospel today, Jesus uses images in speaking to his disciples: “Can a blind man act as guide to a blind man?...Why look at the speck in your brother’s eye when you miss the plank in your own?...A good tree does not produce decayed fruit...” **It is true that donations come to the Society because a good person produces goodness from the good in their heart.**

**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.



Help the Diocese of Shreveport shape its future!

We are in the midst of a comprehensive study for a discipleship initiative intended to address key financial needs that are central to discipleship and ministry in our diocese and, most importantly, examine what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and how we live out our discipleship in the generosity we return to the Lord.

Before we make any final decisions regarding a long-term plan for the diocese, we would like to hear from you.

By scanning the QR code below or going to www.dioshpt.org/initiative, you will find the Joyful Discipleship, A Vision for the Diocese of Shreveport fact sheet and a survey to share your thoughts about the initiative.



This process is extremely important. Every diocesan family is encouraged to participate. Your input is valuable as we plan for the future of the diocese. Thank you!



Grupo de hombres voluntarios del Ministerio Hispano. El miércoles pasado se unieron para preparar comida para el grupo de jóvenes de STAY. Invitamos a los hombres de nuestra parroquia a unirse al grupo y a servir a nuestra comunidad.



El comité de limpieza fue a la parroquia Sagrado Corazon de Jesus en Springhill a preparar el salon para los próximos retiros espirituales que se llevaran a cabo el 11 y 12 de marzo. El retiro para servidores de las 8 parroquias de la diócesis de Shreveport. Próximamente retiros Emaus hombres el 23 y 24 de abril y Emsus mujeres el 30 de abril y 1 de mayo. Para mas información con el Profe Alfredo 318-660-0951 para grupo de hombres y Luz Martinez 318-224-0980 para grupo de mujeres.

200 for this week

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270