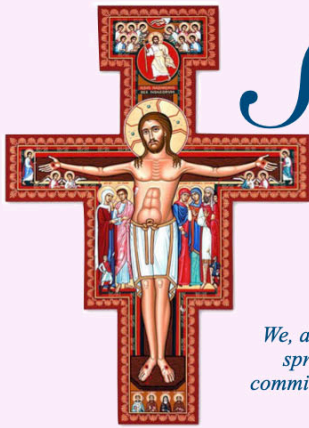


MARCH 6TH, 2022 | 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



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

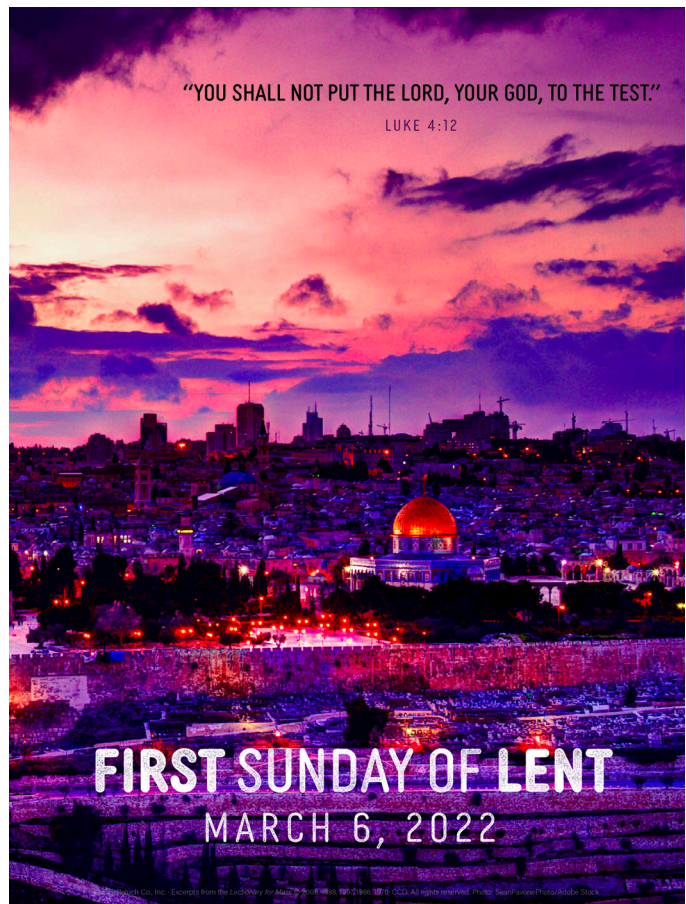
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS
in advance to schedule

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>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 Morphew
<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, March 6th**

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

Monday, March 7th

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

Tuesday, March 8th

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

Wednesday, March 9th

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

Thursday, March 10th

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

Friday, March 11th

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

Saturday, March 12th

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.

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.

**”Lord, Make Me an Instrument
of Your Peace”
“Quiero Ser, Señor Instrumento de tu Paz”**

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Mission
Ejercicios Espirituales
March 13-16, 2022
Father Ed Shea/*Padre Lalo OFM*

*Domingo, 13 de Marzo 13, 1:30 pm Misa con Charla
“El Hijo Pródigo”*

Monday, March 14, 7:00 pm
“Where there is Doubt... Faith”

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 pm
“Where there is Injury... Pardon”

Wednesday/Miercoles, March 16, 7:00 pm Bilingual Mass
“Where there is Despair... Esperanza



Father Ed Shea OFM is the last of a long line of Franciscan Pastors here at St. Thomas. A Franciscan who loves to sing and tell stories, FrEd rejoices most in celebrating the sacraments of our Church.

El Padre Lalo es nuestro Párroco.

Le gusta cantar y contar historias de su vida, después de 30 años como Padre Franciscano, y más que nada a él le encanta celebrar las grandezas del Señor



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 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.

BISHOP MALONE'S VISIT

Bishop Francis Malone, the bishop of Shreveport visit ACTS members on Saturday, February 20 and celebrated the 7 pm with the community. Representatives of the current leadership team and the "new" team spoke with the bishop for about 1.5 hours before the Mass. Students expressed concerns about the future of ACTS and the church community since the friars are leaving. The bishop said that a new pastor will be announced in April. The students and Br. Mike gave a short history of the parish to give the bishop and idea of the rich tradition that we share here. As tokens of our appreciation, the team gave the bishop an ACTS water bottle, an ACTS sweatshirt and framed photos of the two leadership teams with the students' signatures.



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

ACTS HISTORY



In December, 2011, while leading a pilgrimage for high school children in Assisi, Italy, Br. Mike and Fr. Michael Dellapenna discussed the possibility of sending college students to Guatemala to minister to the children of the Valley of the Angels. In February 2012, four brave ACTS members planned to make that idea a reality. In August of 2012, those four students began what is now an annual mission trip to Guatemala.

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, Mayor Ronnie Walker, and Fr. Tom Nair, 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 MATTHEW



Congratulations to Senior, Matthew Aguillard and the Tech Estimating Team for winning first place in the Heavy Civil Division at the TEXO/ Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region 5 estimating competition held in Irving, TX. Matthew is a Construction Engineering Technology major, and is one of the student workers for St. Thomas.

PANCAKE DINNER



MARCH - SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS YOUTH (STAY) EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			5:30-7:30 PM Ash Wednesday			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups			5:30-7:30 PM Practice for Stations of the Cross			STAY Day at the Park
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups			No STAY	St. Patrick's Paintball	6:00 PM Stations of the Cross Led by STAY	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups			5:30-7:30 PM Wednesday Night			Babysitting for ACTS
27	28	29	30	31		
6:00-6:45 PM Ignite Small Groups			5:30-7:30 PM Wednesday Night			



- Lincoln Parish Park Pavilion L-5
- Pray Hike Bike and Archery Range
- \$5 EXTRA for the day if you plan to do archery. Bring your own gear for the archery range.
- \$3 per person for front gate entry.
- Lunch will be provided by the church

March 6, 2022 First Sunday of Lent

IN THE DESERT

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, and then the devil tested him. Moses and the Israelites had been in the desert for forty years before being led to the land of milk and honey. There were times when they called out to God, sure that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” We sometimes spend time in the desert as well. Not a literal desert most of the time, but a desert in which it seems difficult to perceive God’s presence, times when we face difficulty and are tempted to leave God’s ways behind. On this First Sunday of Lent, Jesus shows us what to do in these moments: stand firm and trust in God.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites show their faith by offering the Lord first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

First Sunday of Lent

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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 Lenten observances do I intend to keep this year?

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart.

— Romans 10:8

6 de marzo de 2022 Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

EN EL DESIERTO

El Espíritu guió a Jesús al desierto durante cuarenta días, y luego el diablo le puso tentaciones. Moisés y los israelitas habían estado en el desierto por cuarenta años antes de ser guiados a la tierra que mana leche y miel. Hubo momentos cuando invocaron a Dios, seguros de que, como san Pablo escribe a los romanos “todo el que invoque el nombre del Señor se salvará”. Algunas veces también nosotros pasamos tiempo en el desierto. Literalmente no es un desierto muchas de las veces, sino un desierto en el que parece difícil percibir la presencia de Dios, momentos en los que nos enfrentamos a la dificultad y somos tentados a dejar atrás los caminos de Dios. En este Primer Domingo de Cuaresma, Jesús nos muestra qué hacer en esos momentos: mantenernos firmes y confiar en Dios.

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Libres de los egipcios opresores, los israelitas muestran su fe ofreciendo al Señor los primeros frutos de su nueva tierra (Deuteronomio 26:4-10).

Salmo — Está conmigo, Señor, en la tribulación (Salmo 91 [90]).

Segunda lectura — Todos los que expresan su fe en Jesús resucitado y confiesan que él es el Señor, se salvarán (Romanos 10:8-13).

Evangelio — Jesús fue conducido por el Espíritu al desierto y allí fue tentado (Lucas 4:1-13).

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

Concédenos, Dios todopoderoso,
que por las prácticas anuales de esta celebración
cuaresmal,
progresems en el conocimiento del misterio de Cristo,
y traduzcamos su efecto en una conducta irreprochable.
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 prácticas cuaresmales pienso hacer este año?

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

6 de marzo de 2022

Muy a tu alcance,

en tu boca y en tu corazón,

se encuentra la salvación.

— Romanos 10:8

First Sunday of Lent -- March 6, 2022

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.” Jesus the Eternal Word continues to call many to lives of holiness as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life. Could you be one of them? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma - 6 de Marzo de 2022

“Cerca de ti está la palabra, en tus labios y en tu corazón.” Jesús, el Verbo Eterno, sigue llamando a muchos a una vida de santidad como sacerdotes, diáconos y en la vida consagrada. Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

First Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.**

**Ministry to the Homebound**

Please contact the church office or Dc. John Serio (318-278-3600) if you need communion brought to your home. If you are aware of someone that needs communion brought to them please contact us. We do have a team of parishioners ready to assist.

If you are a Eucharistic Minister and would like to help with this ministry please contact Dc. John.



Greetings from the Welcome Committee! Saint Thomas Aquinas has always tried to be a welcoming church. Sometimes we are not as welcoming as we would like to be. For Lent 2022, let us recommit ourselves from be a welcoming church.

Some ideas are:

- meet people at the door,
- reach out to someone you don't know,
- pray for each other.





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!

What's your PLAN for Lent this year??

Prayer

Fasting

Almsgiving

Here's a crazy idea: Don't just "give up" something for Lent this year! This year, make a plan for how you want to live all three of the traditional Lenten practices:

PRAYER -- Let us pray for each other and for an end to the war in Ukraine

FASTING -- Let's make some significant sacrifices this year

ALMSGIVING -- How about a big push for filling up those rice bowls??

St. Thomas is READY to celebrate this great season of repentance... Let's do it together!

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!

Ministry Schedule

March 5th, 2022

Lector: John Allen and Christie Weeks

Altar Servers:

March 6th, 2022

Lector: Marina & Carmen Bishop

Altar Servers: Mac, Keeva & Doc Conroy

Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Mercier and Thomas Rogers

Lectores: Imelda Ramirez e Ilda Solis

March 12th, 2022

Lector: Dolly Hurtig and Ed Jacobs

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

March 13th, 2022

Lector: Ryan & Lorelei Feeling

Altar Servers: Brad Denny, Ava & Olivia Good

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ghougkedze and Lee Smith

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

Tuesday March 8th Huckaby 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 19/ February 20

General Sunday Collection	\$5,600.00
Catholic Life Center	\$190.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

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.



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.



FIRST COMMUNION SONG PRACTICE

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.

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.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

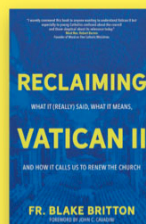
These SEEKERS students received their First Reconciliation this past Sunday. Please continue to pray for these children as they continue to prepare for their First Communion.

**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.

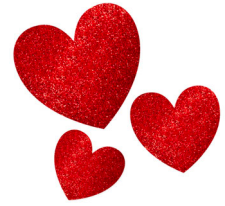
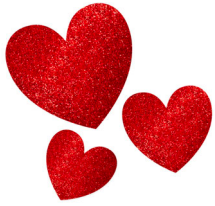
Reclaiming Vatican II

Reclaiming Vatican II — Attention all STA Parishioners! It was nearly 60 years ago when Pope John XXIII invited the Church to renewal and revitalization called Vatican II. There are still a lot of questions people have about what happened back then and what is still happening in our Church today. During Lent this year, we will be talking about this book by **Father Blake Britton**, and everyone is welcome to attend. We will gather every Sunday morning after the 9:30 am Mass in the Luffey Center.. All people (and opinions) are welcome!



Daddy Daughter Dance

The first annual dance was a success!!! A big thanks goes out to all who volunteered with this event, especially Leah Sutherland who did photography, Crumbs Catering who sponsored the meal, and LG Dance who provided dance instruction.



200 for this week

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270