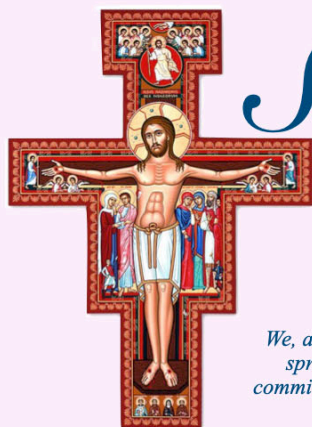


MARCH 20TH, 2022 | 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



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

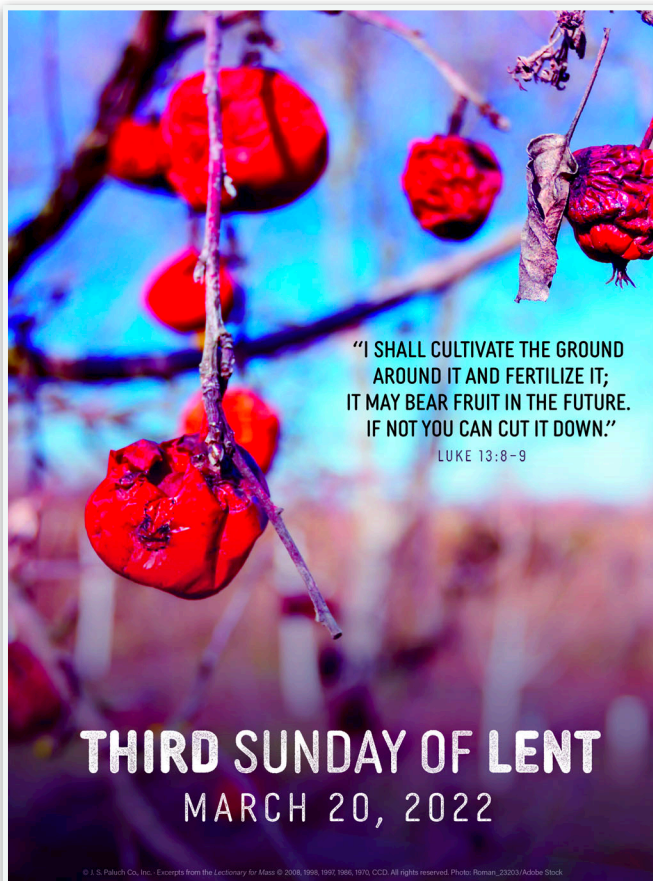
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS
in advance to schedule

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)



"I SHALL CULTIVATE THE GROUND
AROUND IT AND FERTILIZE IT;
IT MAY BEAR FRUIT IN THE FUTURE.
IF NOT YOU CAN CUT IT DOWN."

LUKE 13:8-9

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 20, 2022

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, March 20th**

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

Monday, March 21st

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

Tuesday, March 22nd

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

Wednesday, March 23rd

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

Thursday, March 24th

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

Friday, March 25th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
12:00PM - Daily Mass
6:00PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 26th

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.

Ministry Schedule

March 19th, 2022

Lector: Jim Martin & John Allen

Altar Servers:

March 20th, 2022

Lector: Paul Jackson & Bre Ausbon

Altar Servers: Kaehja Stewart, Brennan & Matthew Jackson

Eucharistic Ministers: Jim Martin & Emily Chartier

Lectores: Alfredo Morelos & Petra Salazar

March 26th, 2022

Lector: Pam Allen & Dolly Hurtig

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

March 27th, 2022

Lector: Bruce Hampton & AJ Barbiero

Altar Servers: Charlie & Maggie Rogers, Hannah Bryan

Eucharistic Ministers: Alex St. Cyr & Rodney Manning

Lectores: Dulce Aviles y Martin Aviles

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
Frankie Career	Pearline Robey
Tony Clark	Lometa Rorie
Judy Darcey	Mary Russo
Jill Denys	Gloria Saldana
Layten Davis	Laura Leigh Saleese
Adrien "Butch"	Ginger Schanks
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 March 20th Dominic Paternoster +
(by Michael Languilli)
 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.

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.



STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of March 5/ March 6

General Sunday Collection	\$11,361.00
Catholic Life Center	\$665.00

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. Or call our office (318) 255-2870 and make sure we have your email and phone number in our system!





BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University



stac-acts.com



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

LENT 2022



What is Lent About? It's about dying to yourself. The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it's about more than self-control — it's about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form. Bishop Ricken of Green Bay, WI.

ACTS HISTORY



In 2017 ACTS realized that more of our members wanted to participate in leadership roles. Rather than exclude anyone, ACTS expanded the leadership team to include everyone and at the same time spread out the workload. The current structure is a 5 person executive team with 16-18 committee chair persons. The entire team is called "The Big Leadership Team" or BLT. At the end of each

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED



Seven ACTS members wet to Kansas City over the break to minister with the folks at "A Simple House." ACTS spent 7 days visiting the poor, participating in service projects, and praying.

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 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!!



ONLINE RAFFLE — LOTS OF PRIZES

In conjunction with the 25th Anniversary, generous donors have made it possible for us to have a raffle! Take a picture of the QR code with your phone to purchase tickets. If you want to purchase tickets the "old fashioned way," call us at 318 251 0793.

For a chance to win one of these great prizes, access the QR code below for the online raffle!

RAFFLE

nutribullet
INSTANT POT

WELCOME FR. RUSSEL MURRAY, OFM



Fr. Russel Murray, OFM will be the guest speaker at the ACTS Spring Retreat this weekend. He will be celebrating the weekend Masses at St. Thomas. Fr. Russel is a native of North Jersey. He is a Franciscan priest. He holds advanced degrees in Catholic theology from The University of St. Michael's College and the Ecumenical Institute of St. Bernardine in Venice. He has taught theology at the Washington Theological Union, Franciscan School of Theology, and Christ the King Seminary. He has also served his Order in Rome, as Secretary for Evangelization and President of the Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue. He currently serves as the religious assistant for ten monasteries of Franciscan contemplative nuns and chaplain at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. He and Br. Michael met by being leaders with the Franciscan Pilgrimage Program

Stations of the Cross Practice

Children who are participating in leading Stations of the Cross on March 25th will have another practice this Sunday, March 20th directly after 9:30 am Mass. Please have your child meet in the church to practice.

Children's Liturgy Leaders - Spring Quarter

March 20 Melissa Jackson

March 27 Melissa Jackson

April 3 Haley Perot

Palm Sunday - No Children's Liturgy

Easter Sunday - No Children's Liturgy

April 24 Haley Perot

First Communion Song Practice

2nd Grade: 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.

Stations of the Cross

March 18th STAY will lead.

March 26th Children will lead. A second practice will be March 20th immediately after the 9:30 am Mass.

April 1 Led by ACTS

April 8 Led by Deacon John Serio

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.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual egg hunt will be at the church since there will be a Palm Sunday breakfast and blood drive that day. All PSR families with kids in grades 2nd grade and younger are asked to bring 12 pre-filled eggs by April 3.

Franciscan at Home

The Diocese of Shreveport has purchased a yearlong subscription to the Franciscan at Home online platform. If anyone is interested in new resources for faith formation, Franciscan at Home can be used independently or in group settings. Email Elise Reis at stthomaspsr430@gmail.com for a how-to flyer to sign up for a free account. Learning Tracks include: Catechist Track - Youth Ministry Track - RCIA Track - Parish Catechetical Leader Track - Catholic Schools Track - Hispanic Faith and Family Track - Ministry of Parenting Track - Pastoral Accompaniment Track - Campus Ministry Track - First Proclamation Track - Africa-American Faith and Family Track - Special Needs Track - Culture of Life Track - Diocesan Officials Track - Priestly Renewal Track - Sports Ministry Track - Music Ministry Track - Collegial Outreach Track - Franciscan Spirituality Track - The Sacrament of the Eucharist - Eucharistic Discipleship - Dealing with Crisis and Conflict from a Christian Perspective - An Introduction to Spiritual Combat - Sacramentals in the Life of the Church - In Spanish: Tres Modelos del proceso de RICA - In Spanish: Catequesis eficaz en la pastoral juvenil - In Spanish: Fundamentos filosóficos de la catequesis

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent

HOLY GROUND

Moses met God in a most astounding way in the bush that was burning but not consumed by fire. Moses clearly had a powerful encounter with the Lord. He even felt bold enough to ask God's name, something unheard of among his people at the time—God's name was unspeakable. Moses stood on holy ground. Do we not also stand on holy ground? As people who are created in God's image and drawn to Christ through the waters of Baptism, we have been filled with God's grace and goodness. The ground of our lives is holy. Lent is a time when we are called to open our minds and hearts to Christ, rely on God's patient mercy, and to grow as God's holy people.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord God appears to Moses and directs him to go and deliver the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15) *or Exodus 17:3-7*.

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103) *or Psalm 95*.

Second Reading — We are not to grumble like the people with Moses in the desert (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12) *or Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*.

Gospel — If you do not repent, you will all perish (Luke 13:1-9) *or John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Third Sunday of Lent

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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:

Undertake an examination of conscience this week and pray for God's loving mercy.

Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022

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

20 de marzo de 2022

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

SUELO SAGRADO

Moisés se encontró con Dios de la manera más asombrosa en una zarza que ardía pero que el fuego no la consumía. Sin lugar a duda, Moisés tuvo un impactante encuentro con el Señor. Incluso se sintió lo suficientemente valiente para preguntarle a Dios por su nombre, algo inaudito entre su pueblo en ese tiempo, no se pronunciaba el nombre de Dios. Moisés estaba en suelo sagrado. ¿Acaso nosotros no estamos también parados sobre suelo sagrado? Como personas que somos creadas a imagen de Dios y atraídas por Cristo a través de las aguas del bautismo, somos llenados con la gracia y bondad de Dios. El suelo de nuestras vidas es sagrado. La Cuaresma es un tiempo en el que somos llamados a abrir nuestras mentes y corazones a Cristo, a confiar en la misericordia paciente de Dios y a crecer como pueblo santo de Dios.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — El Señor se aparece a Moisés y le indica que vaya y libere a los israelitas de su opresión en Egipto (Éxodo 3:1-8a, 13-15) *o Exodo 17:3-7*.

Salmo — El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso (Salmo 103 [102]) *o Salmo 95 (94)*.

Segunda lectura — No nos quejemos. El que se sienta seguro deberá cuidarse para no caer (1 Corintios 10:1-6, 10-12) *o Romanos 5:1-2, 5-8*.

Evangelio — Si no se arrepienten, todos perecerán (Lucas 13:1-9) *o Juan 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

Señor Dios, fuente de misericordia y de toda bondad, que enseñaste que el remedio contra el pecado está en el ayuno, la oración y la limosna, mira con agrado nuestra humilde confesión, para que a quienes agobia la propia conciencia nos reconforte siempre tu misericordia. 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.

Reflexión:

Haz un examen de conciencia esta semana y ora por la amorosa misericordia de Dios.

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

20 de marzo de 2022

El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso,
lento para enojarse y generoso para perdonar.
— *Salmo 103 (102):8*

Third Sunday of Lent -- March 20, 2022

"I AM has sent me to you." Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at 318-868-4441 or email: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma - 20 de Marzo de 2022

"YO SOY me ha enviado a ti." ¿Podría el Señor estar llamándote a proclamar Su nombre como sacerdote, diácono o en la vida consagrada? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 868-4441 o envíe un correo electrónico a: FatherMangum@yahoo.com.

Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel Jesus is quite clear in his message: "bear fruit or be cut down." This Lent we are called to cultivate and fertilize our spiritual lives through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work; far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime, or quarter is multiplied by the coins placed by others in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.**

**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 to 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!

Lenten Opportunity

Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from differences; Feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from living in the dark; Feast on the reality of the Light.

Fast from thoughts of sickness; Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute; Feast on the phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; Feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; Feast on God's providence.

Fast from complaining; Feast on appreciation.

Fast from negativity; Feast on the positive.

Fast from stress; Feast on prayer.

Fast from hostility; Feast on cooperation.

Fast from self-concern. Feast on compassion.

Fast from anxiety; Feast on eternal truth.

Fast from discouragement; Feast on hope.

Fast from depression; Feast on delight.

Fast from laziness; Feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from suspicion; Feast on trust.

Fast from weakness; Feast on inspiration.

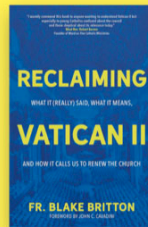
Fast from sorrow; Feast on contentment.

Fast from gossip; Feast on complimenting.

Fast from overwhelming problems; Feast on the Spirit.

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!



From Father Ed...

I had a wonderful conversation with a parishioner the other day that began when she said to me, “Father, I have to tell you that I am having a a great Lent!” I was so happy to hear that, and it made me ask myself, “What about other people... I wonder how their Lent is going.” My prayer is that your Lent is going well also, that you are finding yourself drawing closer to God and being drawn in by God’s love. I read something the other day by a great theologian named Ronald Rolheiser, OMI. He wrote an excellent book called “The Holy Longing” which invites us to reflect deeply on the belief we all have that God dwells within us and is always at work within us. And the reason why we fast and pray and give alms during Lent is so that we can remember that indwelling a little more clearly. Listen to this great quote: “Some mystics taught that the human soul comes from God and that the last thing that God does before putting a soul into the body is to kiss the soul. The soul then goes through life always dimly remembering that kiss, a kiss of perfect love, and the soul measures all of life’s loves and kisses against that primordial perfect kiss.”

May God bless you and everyone you love.

Father Ed

THANKS from Mary’s House!

We received a note last week from Mary’s House in Shreveport, thanking us for our donation to their ministry. Here is what Director L’Anne Sciba said: “Thank you and your parishioners for such generous support of Mary’s House. God has truly worked through you to show both men and women in unplanned pregnancies that He is good and loves them.”

Thank you, St. Thomas, for your generosity!

MEN’S CLUB

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

4/3/22
TRAIL
RUN



[HTTPS://RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/LA/RUSTON/THEOLDSCHOOL](https://runsignup.com/race/LA/RUSTON/THEOLDSCHOOL)

GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS WALK FOR JUSTICE

Presented by: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Join The Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the traditional Good Friday Way of the Cross in downtown Shreveport. As we prepare for Easter, this is a meaningful way to experience and contemplate the Passion of Christ. The stations are represented by agencies within our community that follow Christ's example of outreach to our neighbors in need. Invite others to join you.

WHEN: Good Friday, April 15, 2022

WHERE: Begins and ends behind First United Methodist Church of Shreveport at the Head of Texas Street. Parking is available.

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

In the event of rain, it will be held at Holy Trinity Church, 315 Marshall Street.

200 for this week

PLEASE ADD FILLER PAGE IF NEEDED

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270