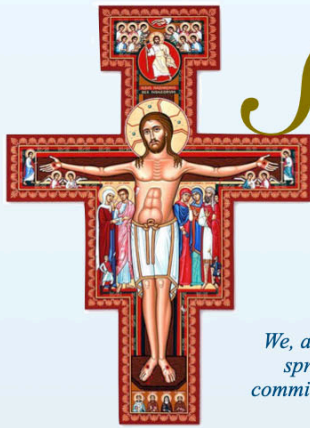


APRIL 24TH, 2022 | SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY



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)



JESUS CAME AND STOOD
IN THEIR MIDST
AND SAID TO THEM,
"PEACE BE WITH YOU."

JOHN 20:19

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
(OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 24, 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>April 1st</u>	Robert Ramson
<u>April 3rd</u>	Ilda Ajanel Solis Elliott Frost Barbara Ramos Cedric Serio Camila Carranza
<u>April 4th</u>	Harris Perot Richard Hooper Bill Schodlatz
<u>April 5th</u>	Teresa Richard Teresa Buboltz Wade Watson Saul Salazar
<u>April 6th</u>	Marlene Nammour
<u>April 8th</u>	John Serio Emanuel Gomez
<u>April 12th</u>	Braydyn Lopez
<u>April 14th</u>	Hannah-Claire Bryan
<u>April 15th</u>	Jimmy Stuff Allie Wilson
<u>April 16th</u>	Tony Jurkus Ty Hickman Julia Guerrero
<u>April 18th</u>	Paige Denny Patricia Plata Julie Richard Sofia Carranza
<u>April 19th</u>	
<u>April 21st</u>	Keeva Conroy Margie Skipper Taylor Coulter
<u>April 22nd</u>	Jonathan Lopez
<u>April 23rd</u>	Sofia Ulloa Jorge Aguirre
<u>April 25th</u>	Sharon Pettijohn Lee VanderShaaf Taylor Fincher
<u>April 27th</u>	Carol Mercier
<u>April 28th</u>	Bailee Reger
<u>April 29th</u>	Mallory Taylor

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, April 24th**

9:30AM - Sunday Mass
1:30PM - Misa en Español
7:00PM - Sunday Mass

Monday, April 25th

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

Tuesday, April 26th

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

Wednesday, April 27th

9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open
7:00PM - Daily Mass

Thursday, April 28th

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

Friday, April 29th

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

Saturday, April 30th

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.

Flowers donated by David & Gale Cannon in honor of their Wedding Anniversary

Ministry Schedule

April 23rd, 2022

Lector: John Allen & Pamela Allen

April 24th, 2022

Lector: Stacey Denny & AJ Barbiero

Altar Servers: Charlie & Maggie Rogers, Hannah Bryan

Eucharistic Ministers: Rodney Manning & Alex St. Cyr

Lectores: Angel Ventura y Alfredo Morelos

April 30th, 2022

Lector: First Communion Children

May 1st, 2022

Lector: First Communion Children

Altar Servers: Brad Denny, Ava & Olivia Good

Eucharistic Ministers: Jim Martin & Mary Ghougkedze

Lectores: Luz Martinez & Rosy Jaramillo

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 April 24th Beatrice Eldridge +
(by Linda Viator)

Friday April 29th Gerard Eldridge +
(by Linda Viator)

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 April 9/ April 10

General Sunday Collection	\$8,034.00
Rice Bowl Collection.	\$1854.78
Catholic Life Center.	\$675.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

Thank you to those who graciously participated in the recent Joyful Discipleship planning study conducted by the Steier Group. Bishop Malone and diocesan leadership reviewed the results of the study and would like to share a summary of them with you. There will be a write-up of the findings and recommendations for the diocese in the May edition of the Catholic Connection. If you have any questions about the planning study or its findings, please contact the diocesan development office in the Catholic Center at 318-868-4441 extension 263.

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

HAPPY EASTER — FROM ACTS



EASTER MESSAGE FROM USCCB



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has issued the following Easter message.

My dear brothers and sisters: Christ is risen! This is the joy of Easter. And what a gift it is to hear these words in this time of the coronavirus. Jesus asked us to carry our cross with him during this long Lent. This has been a time when we confront the reality that our life is fragile. This has been a time for us to reflect on what really matters, and what makes life truly worth living. As we stand in the joyful light of Easter, we know that our world is still darkened by loss and despair. Jesus rises to tell us that his love is stronger than death! He has passed through the valley of the shadow of death. And there is no evil that we should fear. He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Christ is risen and we will rise with him! This is the promise of Easter. And God does not withdraw his promise, even when Easter comes during a pandemic. So, let us stay close to Jesus. And let us stay close to Mary our Blessed Mother. May she help us to always carry our cross with her Son, that we may be raised up with him and share in his Resurrection. May you and your families have a blessed Easter

SEASON. <https://www.usccb.org/news/2020/president-us-conference-catholic-bishops-releases-easter-message>

ACTS 25th ANNIVERSARY



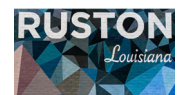
Alumni from all "ages" came to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the naming of ACTS. It was a great time for all of to reconnect with "old" friends and make new ones.

EASTER SEASON

Easter is a full 10 days longer than Lent, giving the Christian people 50 days to bask in the glory of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. What's interesting is how Christians created the season of Easter based on the number of days that led up to the Jewish feast of Pentecost. This is because the apostles received the gift of the Holy Spirit on that Jewish feast, as narrated in the Acts of the Apostles, "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place" (Acts 2:1). Pentecost is identified in the Bible as the conclusion of the Jewish harvest festival. The book of Leviticus explains how the celebration of this feast is to be counted, "And you shall count from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven full weeks shall they be, counting fifty days to the morrow after the seventh sabbath; then you shall present a cereal offering of new grain to the Lord" (Leviticus 23:15-16). As a result, the feast of Pentecost for Christians is held 50 days after Easter Sunday and marks the conclusion of the Easter season.

REACHING RUSTON +

From May 28 - June 3 the Association of Catholic Tech Students will be putting on their second annual Reaching Ruston + mission trip. This mission aims to provide community service for parishioners and the people of Ruston as well as bridge the gap between parishioner, student relations. If any parishioner has yard work and/or household chores that they need help with please call the number provided below. We aren't sure how many people will be able to help but if you call we will try our best to work you into the schedule. Funding for the mission will be provided, however, if you still want to get involved many parishioners in the past have been gracious enough to cook a meal for the team so if you would like to get involved in this way just let us know when you call. Association of Catholic Tech Students
E. Donn Piatt Catholic Student Center (318) 251-0793. Sincerely, Joe Long and Ethan Dowell.



Children's Liturgy Leaders - Spring Quarter

Easter Sunday No Children's Liturgy

April 24 Haley Perot

May 1 No Children's Liturgy

May 8 No Children's Liturgy

May 15 Melissa Jackson

May 22 Mindy Bryan

First Communion Song Practice

First Communion Song Practice

2nd Grade: April 24

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

SEEKERS: April 24

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

Important Dates:

April 24 Graduation Mass 9:30 am, reception to follow

April 27 First Communion Practice (2nd Grade) 5 pm in the church

April 30 SEEKERS First Communion Mass 5 pm, reception to follow

May 1 First Communion (2nd Grade) Mass 9:30 am, reception to follow

May 6 Confirmation Practices 6 pm (Ransom's Class) and 7 pm (Paula's Class)

May 7 Confirmation Mass 10 am (Ransom's Class) and 2 pm (Paula's Class)

May 8 May Crowning and Holy Rosary in the Garden

Confirmation Students: Reminder...Saints projects are due on April 24th. Please turn in your essay about your Saint to your catechist by April 24th.

High School Students: Be sure to turn in your senior bio form and senior picture to the PSR office or email those items to stthomaspsr430@gmail.com.

Check your email and texts to sign up for ways to help with receptions for each of these Masses. Thank you!

Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday

In the Gospel today, Jesus stands in the midst of us and says: "Peace be with you!" Indeed, the mercy of God centers our heart in peace.

In the month of April, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to help the poor celebrate the peace of Easter, by assisting 15 families, providing \$800 in food, and for utility and rent bills. Thank You!

Segundo Domingo de Pascua y Domingo de La Divina Misericordia:

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús se encuentra entre nosotros y dice "¡Que la Paz este con ustedes!". ...de verdad, la misericordia de Dios centra nuestros corazones en la Paz.

En el mes de Abril, por medio de tus regalos, la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul logró ayudar a familias pobres celebrar la Paz de Pascua, asistiendo 15 familias, proveyendo \$800 en alimentos, y para gastos de renta, luz y agua. ¡Muchísimas Gracias!



You're Invited!

Open House at Mary's House

On Give for Good Tuesday, May 3rd

11 am - 2 p.m.

See how you're making a difference for moms and babies! Come for a complimentary lunch catered by Silver Star Catering.

Mary's House, 906 Margaret Place, Shreveport.

We hope to see you Tuesday, May 3rd!

April 24, 2022**Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)****DIFFICULTY, SURVIVAL, AND GLORY**

In Revelation, John the Evangelist tells us what we can expect as followers of the risen Jesus: distress, endurance, and a kingdom. Although we are only eight days into our fifty-day Easter feasting, we cannot ignore the distress weighing down our daily lives. Jesus' resurrection does not erase individual suffering, but his glorious triumph over death cultivates endurance in our hearts. We remember that Jesus did not spare himself, and we ask for the strength to endure as he did. Imitating Christ helps us grow as members of God's royal family. As beloved citizens of the Kingdom of God, we recognize our kinship with all people. Peter demonstrates his care for others as he heals multitudes of broken, suffering people. In the Gospel, Thomas accepts his own spiritual healing when Jesus helps him to believe. In times of difficulty, survival, and glory, we borrow Thomas' declaration of faith: "My Lord and my God!"

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The apostles perform many signs and wonders among the people. Many are added to their numbers (Acts 5:12-16).

Psalms — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — John, caught up in the spirit, envisions the glorified Lord, the first and the last, the one who lives (Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK**Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

God of everlasting mercy,
 who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
 kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
 increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
 that all may grasp and rightly understand
 in what font they have been washed,
 by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
 by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
 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.

**Second Sunday of Easter
(or Sunday of Divine Mercy)****April 24, 2022**

Once I was dead,

but now I am alive forever and ever.

— *Revelation 1:18a***24 de abril de 2022****Segundo Domingo de Pascua (Domingo de la Divina Misericordia)****DIFICULTAD, SUPERVIVENCIA Y GLORIA**

En el Apocalipsis, el evangelista Juan nos dice lo que podemos esperar como seguidores de Jesús resucitado: sufrimiento, perseverancia y un reino. Aunque sólo llevamos ocho días de la celebración de nuestra cincuentena pascual, no podemos ignorar la angustia que pesa sobre nuestra vida cotidiana. La resurrección de Jesús no borra el sufrimiento propio, pero su glorioso triunfo sobre la muerte cultiva la resiliencia en nuestros corazones. Recordamos que Jesús no se escatimó a sí mismo, y pedimos por la fortaleza para resistir como él. Imitar a Cristo nos ayuda a crecer como miembros de la familia real de Dios. Como amados ciudadanos del Reino de Dios, reconocemos nuestro parentesco con todas las personas. Pedro demuestra su preocupación por los demás al curar a las multitudes de personas rotas y que sufren. En el Evangelio, Tomás acepta su propia curación espiritual cuando Jesús le ayuda a creer. En tiempos de dificultad, supervivencia y gloria, tomemos prestada la declaración de fe de Tomás: "¡Señor mío y Dios mío!"

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Los apóstoles hacen muchas señales y maravillas entre la gente. (Hch 5:12-16).

Salmo — Den gracias al Señor porque es bueno, porque es eterna su misericordia (Salmo 118 [117]).

Segunda lectura — Juan, contagiado por el Espíritu, tiene una visión del Señor glorificado (Apocalipsis 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

Evangelio — Jesús resucitado visita a los discípulos con su paz y con el Espíritu. Tomás, ausente, duda de

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA**Segundo Domingo de Pascua
(Domingo de la Divina Misericordia)**

Dios de eterna misericordia,
 que reanimas la fe de este pueblo a ti consagrado
 con la celebración anual de las fiestas pascales,
 aumenta en nosotros los dones de tu gracia,
 para que todos comprendamos mejor
 la excelencia del Bautismo que nos ha purificado,
 la grandeza del Espíritu que nos ha regenerado
 y el precio de la Sangre que nos ha redimido.
 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.

**Segundo Domingo de Pascua
(Domingo de la Divina Misericordia)****24 de abril de 2022**Estuve muerto y ahora, como ves,
estoy vivo por los siglos de los siglos.— *Apocalipsis 1:18a*



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!

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.

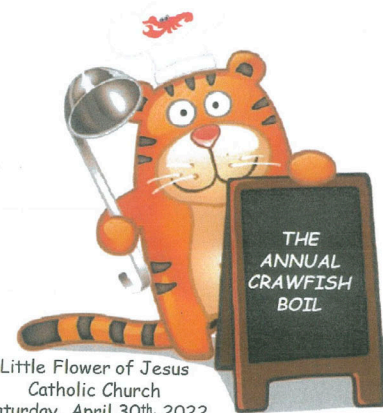


Little Flower of Jesus Catholic Church

23rd Annual Crawfish Boil

Family and Friends Day

11 am – 5 pm

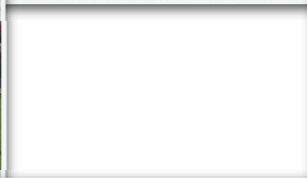
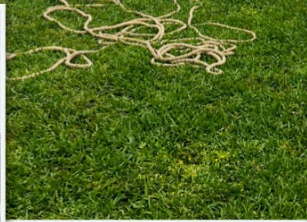


Little Flower of Jesus
Catholic Church
Saturday, April 30th, 2022

600 South 16th Street, Monroe La 71201

For more information: 318-322-1224

HOLY WEEK



200 for this week

ADD FILLER PAGE IF NEEDED

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270