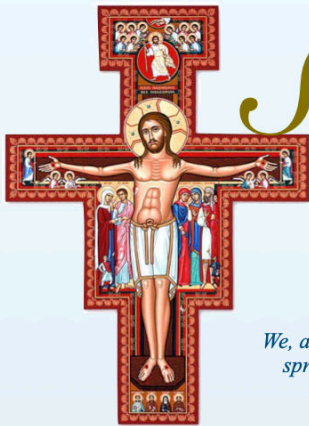


AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2022 | 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



# 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 Christ.

## SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00PM Vigil  
Sunday: 9:30AM  
1:30PM (Spanish)  
7:00PM (Sept. - May)

## DAILY MASSES

Tuesday: 8:15AM  
Wednesday: 8:15AM  
Thursday: 8:15AM  
Friday: 12:00PM

## BAPTISM

Please call the Church Office to schedule

## MARRIAGE

Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

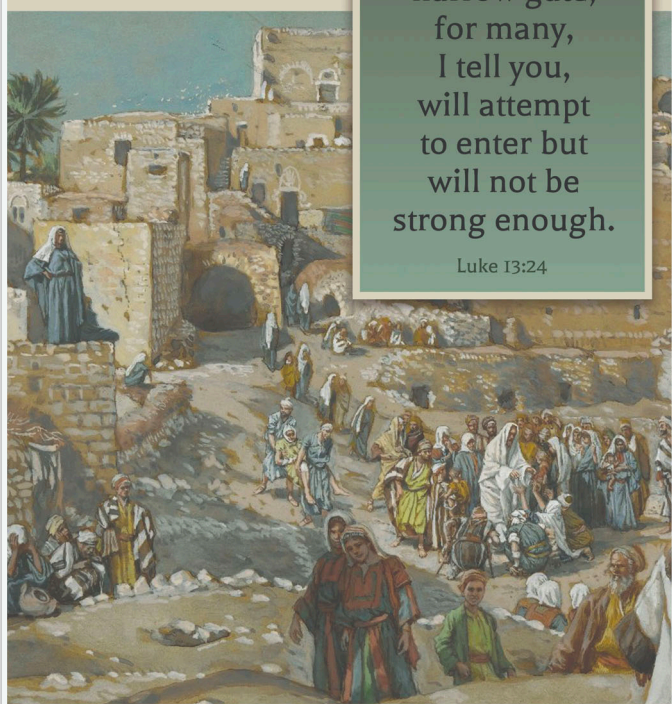
## PENANCE & RECONCILIATION

Tuesday-Thursday 7:30AM-8:00AM  
Friday 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM  
Saturday: 3:30PM to 4:45PM

## STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

Fr. Kevin Mues (318) 310-4007 *Pastor*  
Deacon John Serio  
Deacon Robert Ransom  
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 *Business Manager*  
Elise Reis (318) 310-4009 *Religious Education Director*  
Elaine Johnson *President of Pastoral Council*  
Thurston Allen *Chairman of Finance Council*  
St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.

Luke 13:24

AUGUST 21, 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>August 1<sup>st</sup></u>	Nora Ramachandran
	Adolfo Leon
<u>August 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	Paola Torres
<u>August 3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Danny Nash
<u>August 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Anna Kate Jackson
	Heidi Morphey
<u>August 7<sup>th</sup></u>	Damian Nash
	Javier Ramirez
<u>August 8<sup>th</sup></u>	Landry Tucker
	Gerardo Turrubiarres
<u>August 9<sup>th</sup></u>	Eric David Alvarado Garro
<u>August 10<sup>th</sup></u>	Maria Elena Mendez
<u>August 11<sup>th</sup></u>	George Smith
	Stephanie Viator
<u>August 12<sup>th</sup></u>	Beth Buske
	Nicolas Reyes
<u>August 13<sup>th</sup></u>	Esma Smith
<u>August 15<sup>th</sup></u>	Almario Manlutac
<u>August 16<sup>th</sup></u>	Jonathan Roger
	Heather Jach
<u>August 17<sup>th</sup></u>	Jerry Drewett
<u>August 18<sup>th</sup></u>	Ginger Manuel
<u>August 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Ed Jacobs
	Karen Jacobs
<u>August 20<sup>th</sup></u>	Cristina Mariano
	Fredy Lopez
<u>August 21<sup>st</sup></u>	Allie Jo Martin
<u>August 24<sup>th</sup></u>	Trisha Pangilinan
<u>August 25<sup>th</sup></u>	Trisha Pangilinan
	Jose Hernandez
<u>August 25<sup>th</sup></u>	Traci Maier
	Frank Cordaro
<u>August 26<sup>th</sup></u>	Bill Tubre
	Carmen Bishop
	Kadie Frost
	Donna Serio
<u>August 27<sup>th</sup></u>	Gene Mariano
	Larry Gomez
	Adriana Avilez Vazquez
<u>August 28<sup>th</sup></u>	Kelly DeCerbo
	Eliza Rust
<u>August 29<sup>th</sup></u>	Camila Derosa
	Lizeth Ramirez
	Thomas Hanna
<u>August 31<sup>st</sup></u>	Ronald Barron
	Diana May

If I've missed your birthday, please email me at [stacbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:stacbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com) so that I can add you to the master list.

**THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE****Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**

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

**Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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

**Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

7:30AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation  
8:15AM - Daily Mass  
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open  
10:00AM - Lectio Divina  
6:30 PM. - El Manto de Maria

**Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:30AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation  
8:15AM - Daily Mass  
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

**Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

7:30AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation  
8:15AM - Daily Mass  
9:00AM - 3:00PM - Church Office Open

**Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**

9:00AM - 1:00PM - Church Office Open  
11:15AM - 11:45AM Penance & Reconciliation  
12:00PM - Daily Mass

**Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**

3:30PM - 4:45AM Penance & Reconciliation  
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.

**Altar Flowers**

Donated by Paula Martin in loving memory of Marty Doiron.

**Ministry Schedule****August 20<sup>th</sup> 2022****Lectors:** Jim Martin & John Allen**Eucharistic Ministers:** John Ryan Serio & Bob Rorie**August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022****Lectors:** Ryan Freling & Lorelei Freling**Altar Servers:** Brennan and Matthew Jackson, Kaejha Stewart**Eucharistic Ministers:** Larry Mullens, Elaine Johnson, Joan Mullens and Paul Jackson**Lectores:** Petra Salazar y Angel Ventura**August 27<sup>th</sup> 2022****Lectors:** George Trevison & Dolly Hurtig**Altar Servers:** Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio**Eucharistic Ministers:** Diane Singletary & Slade Richard**August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022****Lectors:** Paul Jackson & Marina Bishop**Altar Servers:** Maggie Rogers & Marie Adams**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rodney Manning, Tom Bishop, Mary Ghougkedze & Emily Chartier**Lectores:** Pablo Tepole y Marichuy Torres**MASS INTENTIONS**Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup> Bobby Ortego +  
(by Karen Ortego)

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.

**ST. THOMAS' PRAYER LIST**

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

Miriam Bishop	Cynthia Murry
Charles Bourgeois	Katherine Ned
Bill Buske	Don Olivier
John Buske	Pearline Robey
Frankie Career	Lometa Rorie
Judy Darcey	Mary Russo
Layten Davis	Gloria Saldana
Sean Dwyer	Laura Leigh Saleese
Emmely Gay	Jennie Schutte-Patrick
Bernice Harrison	Jo Mary Smith
Harvey Hayes	Nicole Smith
Magnolia Johnson	Tyler Sorrels
Jeffery Judice	Holly Hollis Star
Chris Letendre	Willie Tannerhill
Ken Martinez	Kathleen "Kathy"
Tobie McKown	Walter
Rueben Moreno	Stephen Webre
Kelly Morgan	Janice Williams

**STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY***Weekend of August 6/ August 7*

General Sunday Collection	\$8,205.00
Catholic Life Center.	\$680.00

*Thank you for continued and generous support!***Women's Guild Update**

1. Tuesday September 13th-noon. Lunch meeting at the Luffey Center.
2. Friday September 23rd-11:30 AM. Life Choices banquet and fundraiser. Please RSVP (318-548-7127) for tickets.



**How will Family of Faith look?**

We will use this parallel model which is the suggested approach for parishes transitioning from a classroom model.

- Leader presents once per month to parents who then engage in small-group discussion and activities to deepen their understanding
- Children participate in lessons with catechists using activities from *A Family of Faith*
- Parents reinforce the learning at home through select, family-based lessons and activities, preparing them for a more independent experience next year

**Who is this for?** What if we don't have children or our kids are grown? The at-home lessons are geared for kids in grades K-6...but all parishioners are most welcome to get involved. Teen siblings and all other adults can come and benefit from the teaching during the parent sessions, and those without their own children might consider volunteering to accompany and mentor another family that could use a helping hand.

**Intergenerational Connections**

Adults who no longer have children in the home are also encouraged to come to the adult meetings and community meetings. Your presence will help mentor parents who are actively forming their children. You will enjoy the adult formation lectures and small group discussions, too!

**What if I have small children with me?**

Parents with babies and small children are encouraged to bring them to the adult meetings. During adult meetings, children in PreK- 6th grades will be with catechists during the session. During community meetings, families will stay together in one location to share and build community. Think of community meetings as more creative and social; but these meetings will

**What will be learning the first year of Family of Faith?**

Year One: The Creed

- September: The Role of Parents in Education
- October: What is Faith, Who is God
- November: Created in God's Image
- December: Annunciation, Immaculate Conception
- January: Who is Jesus
- February: Paschal Mystery
- March: The Holy Spirit
- April: Marks of the Church, Communion of Saints



Sign my family up for Family of Faith!



Family of Faith Registration QR Code

If you are a parent with children who have already passed 6<sup>th</sup> grade or an adult parishioner with no children in the home, please select **PAY LATER** on the registration form. You will not be required to pay the \$30 fee for parent resource books. Essay materials for the church meetings will be provided to you. Everyone should register using the same Family of Faith QR code above. Thank you!

**Sacrament Preparation – First Communion**

If your child is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, please register for sacrament preparation classes. These classes will be on Sundays at 10:45 am weekly. The first day of classes will be September 11, 2022. You must be registered by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Full payment for books will be due on September 30<sup>th</sup>.



First Holy Communion Registration QR Code

**Sacrament Preparation – First Communion for older children and youth**

If your child or teen has already passed 2<sup>nd</sup> grade but still needs preparation for First Holy Communion, please call the PSR office at 318-310-4009 for more information about our SEEKERS class.

**Sacrament Preparation – Confirmation**

If your youth is entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade, please register for Confirmation preparation.

If your youth has completed the first year of classes for Confirmation, please re-register for year two using the same form/QR code.



Confirmation Registration QR Code

If registering for First Holy Communion classes or for the first year of Confirmation preparation, please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate to the Parish School of Religion office now located in the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center. **Office Hours: Mon. – Thurs. 8 - 2**

If sending a copy by mail, please send to:

ATTN: Elise Reis, DRE

813 Carey Avenue

Ruston, LA 71270

**Small Groups and Prayer Groups**

This is a listing of the current small groups and prayer groups in our parish. You will be able to meet and greet with the leaders and members of these group at the September Family of Faith Community meeting. For more information, please contact the listed leaders. You are welcome!

**Adult Education Small Group** – Luffey gym, Sundays 10:45 am bi-monthly. Contact Delena Ashworth [delenaashworth@gmail.com](mailto:delenaashworth@gmail.com)

**Divine Mercy Chaplet** – chapel, meets Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. Contact Gerry Brucia [taedawood@yahoo.com](mailto:taedawood@yahoo.com)

**El Manto de Maria** – Luffey gym, meets Tuesdays, 7:00 pm. Contact Luz Martinez 318-224-0980

**High School Small Group** – ACTS library, E. Donn Piatt Student Center. Contact Slade Richard 318-514-8060, [slade@slacoindustrial.com](mailto:slade@slacoindustrial.com)

**Lectio Divina** – Luffey youth room, meets Tuesdays 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Contact Lee Smith 318-243-8307

**Men`s Small Group** – St. Vincent de Paul room, homes; Sundays, alt. dates. Contact Joshua Perot 318-243-0361, [josh.a.perot@gmail.com](mailto:josh.a.perot@gmail.com)

Please call the PSR office at 318-310-4009 or, call Deacon John Serio at 318-255-3788 for more information.

## **Our Parish Progress With the 2022 Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal**

As we approach the end of the first month of this year's Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal: To Know, Love and Serve, our parish has received 28 pledges in the amount of \$16,604.00.

While our parish doesn't have a financial goal for the appeal this year, we do have a goal to improve the percentage of family participation. Last year, 13.2% of our families participated in the appeal. As of this last week, we have 8.6% of our families participating in this year's appeal. No matter the size of your pledge or one-time gift, let's make it the goal of the parish that each and every family pledge to the appeal. We'll let the total amount we raise -as a parish - take care of itself. We're confident that with everyone's participation we will be blessed as a parish and surprised to see how well we have done financially.

Please, do not delay. Respond as generously as you can as God has been generous toward you and your family. Thank you.

### **Twenty- first Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to "strive to enter through the narrow gate." Our call to be disciples and to follow Jesus demands that we learn to live for the sake of others.

**In the months of June and July, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 30 families, providing \$5,310.45 in food, utilities and rent. Thank You!**

### **Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario:**

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús les dice a Sus discípulos: **"Esfuércense por entrar por la puerta angosta."**

Nuestro llamado a ser discípulos y a seguir a Jesús, nos exige aprender a vivir por el bien de otros.

**En el mes de Agosto, por medio de tus regalos, la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl logró asistir a 30 familias, proveyendo \$5,310.45 en alimentos, para gastos de luz, agua y renta. ¡Muchísimas Gracias!**



### **PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

*St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense  
against the wickedness  
and snares of the Devil.  
May God rebuke him,  
we humbly pray, and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

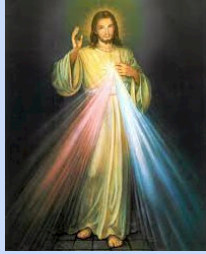


### **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**

If you or someone you love is hurting from an abortion, please call 318-588-1064 for information, or visit the website at [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org). Absolute confidentiality is maintained by team members and participants prior to, during, and following a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.

The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be September 23-25, 2022.





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. Some ideas are:

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



## RETRouvaille

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

**Matrimony: A calling to forgive! "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope."**

Retrouvaille offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope: hope that it is not too late, hope of a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, to forgive, to be reconciled and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored.

Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems/difficulties/crises. For more information about the upcoming local Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, **(September 16-18)** contact: Randall and Robin Bellard @ 225-271-4092 or visit our website: [HelpOurMarriage.org](http://HelpOurMarriage.org)

## DOLLAR LUNCH

The Wednesday (\$) Lunch program will be offered once again for the 2022-2023 LA Tech academic year. This is a ministry of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish to bring Tech students together to eat, relax & enjoy friends while sharing a meal. We are excited to continue this wonderful ministry of feeding & getting to know all the new & returning college students! If you are interested in helping and would like to volunteer to cook, serve or provide a dessert, please contact Christi Faulkner at 318-278-4904 or Diana May 318-573-0388(desserts).

The Diocese of Shreveport is looking to fill the following positions:

- Director of Development
- Director of Marriage & Family Life
- Information Technology "IT" support

Send resumes to:

Diocese of Shreveport  
Attn: Human Resources  
3500 Fairfield Ave  
Shreveport, LA 71104

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is looking for a parish secretary. Please send resumes to Fr. Rothell Price at St. Elizabeth's.

200 for this week

**MAIL TO:**  
**813 CAREY AVENUE**  
**RUSTON, LA 71270**