

# 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

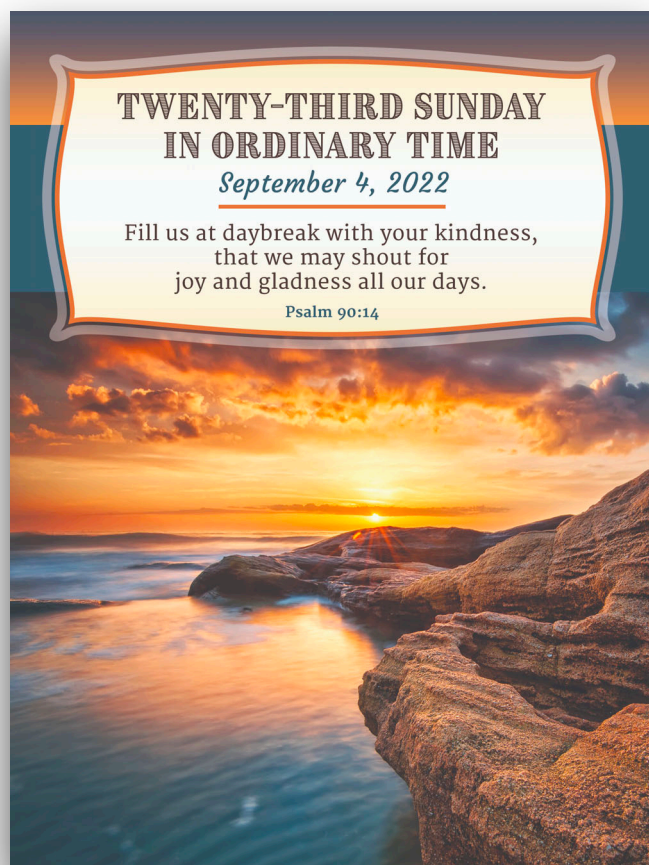
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

## 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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 4, 2022

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,  
that we may shout for  
joy and gladness all our days.

Psalm 90:14

## 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.

**PARISHIONERS BIRTHDAYS**

<u>September 1<sup>st</sup></u>	Jessie Groce Julie Groce
<u>September 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	Becky McConnell
<u>September 3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Dawn Ransom Jack White Lizet Martinez
<u>September 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Abraham Ajanel
<u>September 6<sup>th</sup></u>	Tracy Oakley Sam Williams Connie Kozar
<u>September 7<sup>th</sup></u>	Carter Lewis
<u>September 8<sup>th</sup></u>	Karla Buenrostro Valle
<u>September 9<sup>th</sup></u>	Rodney Manning Nora Morphew
<u>September 9<sup>th</sup></u>	Alyssa Langiulli Anahi Melendez Laisha Mendez Tomas de la Rosa
<u>September 10<sup>th</sup></u>	Gabi Burton
<u>September 11<sup>th</sup></u>	Tonya Slusher Erskine Lindsey Angela Luffey Norberto Turrubiarres Allie DeLeo-Allen Gabriela Ramirez
<u>September 14<sup>th</sup></u>	Margo Budds Gary Luffey
<u>September 17<sup>th</sup></u>	Sergio Hernandez Flores Nicolle Mujica Juan Monjaras
<u>September 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Deezy Williams Joan Mullens
<u>September 20<sup>th</sup></u>	Laia Texcanua David Cannon
<u>September 21<sup>st</sup></u>	Rosa Mujica Sonia Francisco Anna Langiulli Nathan DeCerbo
<u>September 23<sup>rd</sup></u>	Haley Perot Luke White Rebecca Ferrell
<u>September 24<sup>th</sup></u>	Tammy Schilling
<u>September 25<sup>th</sup></u>	Mia Rabb Maria Candelaria Ramirez
<u>September 26<sup>th</sup></u>	Jose Hernandez Cindy Hampton Olivia Bryan Dustin Frost Rhonda Reed
<u>September 27<sup>th</sup></u>	Marc Kozar Hilda Perez
<u>September 28<sup>th</sup></u>	Gabriel Mhire Liam Taylor
<u>September 30<sup>th</sup></u>	Sergio Hernandez Flores Dayanny Langiulli

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, September 4<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</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, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Saturday, September 10<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 Mary Carol & Clyde  
Vidrine in memory of Jackie  
Vidrine and Gwen Hartman*



**Ministry Schedule****September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022****Lectors:** Jim Martin & Larry Mullens**Eucharistic Ministers:** Diane Singletary & George Trevison**September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022****Lectors:** Bruce Hampton & AJ Barbiero**Altar Servers:** Josie, Ramona Bishop & Bailey Reger**Eucharistic Ministers:** Emily Chartier, Elaine Johnson, Gary Kennedy & Thomas Rogers**Lectores:** Rosa Ramirez y Sergio Ruiz**September 10<sup>th</sup> 2022****Lectors:** Samantha Groce & Christie Weeks**Eucharistic Ministers:** Slade Richard & John Ryan Serio**Altar Servers:** Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio**September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022****Lectors:** Thomas Rogers & Carmen Bishop**Altar Servers:** Brennan and Matthew Jackson, Kaejha Stewart**Eucharistic Ministers:** Joan Mullens, Larry Mullens, Colby Piatt and Rodney Manning**Lectores:** Gemela Lopez**ST. THOMAS' PRAYER LIST**

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

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

**STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY***Weekend of August 20/ August 21*

General Sunday Collection    \$8,607.00

*Thank you for continued and generous support!***MASS INTENTIONS**Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup>    Bobby Ortego +  
(by Karen Ortego)Gwen Hartman +  
(by Terry Buboltz)

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.

**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.
3. Tuesday October 4th, 7pm. Tinseltown Theater, West Monroe.  
"Mother Teresa: No Greater Love"

**Family of Faith**

Family of Faith sessions will begin on September 11 @ 10:45 am.

**Instructions for the First Day of PSR**

Adults and children will come to the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center at 10:45 am. Catechists will introduce themselves and describe the grade level that they will facilitate on the monthly Family of Faith Formation Sundays. This first day, parents and children will stay in the Luffey for the introductory lecture. This will be an ideal time for families to explore the Parent Guide and Activity Book together.

**What will we 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 Classes**

**Registration for First Communion and Confirmation Preparation is now closed.** If you registered your child for one of these classes, please provide a copy of your child's baptism to the PSR office by September 30. If your child is enrolled in Confirmation A, be sure to provide a baptism certificate and proof of First Communion.

The Parish School of Religion office is 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

Instructions for the First Day of PSR – September 11th

Parents, please go to the Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center to sign in your child on the class roster and to meet your child's First Communion or Confirmation catechists. For pickup, you will need to go to the entrance of your child's designated building to sign out.

**Classroom Locations**

First Communion (2 <sup>nd</sup> grade)	St. Thomas School Building (AV Room)
SEEKERS First Communion (older students)	St. Thomas School Building (Room 101)
Confirmation A	Joe and Roger Luffey Catholic Life Center
Confirmation B	E. Donn Piatt Catholic Student Center

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite (soon to be The Order) of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process for those interested in discovering the Catholic faith. The discussions take place on Thursday evenings. The initial stage goes into many of the teachings of the faith. Later, we delve deeper into our faith and the Holy Sacraments. If baptized adult Catholics are wishing to be confirmed, they are welcome to join this discussion group also. If any parishioner seeks to refresh knowledge of the faith, he or she is welcome to attend.

## Children's Liturgy of the Word!

Children ages 2-12 are invited to come explore the Sunday readings. Children's Liturgy of the Word is now being offered on BREAKOUT SUNDAYS from 10:45 am – 11:45 am. Parents, you are welcome to attend with your child if you do not have another class or small group that you are attending during the hour. For parents interested in learning more about how to implement the Family of Faith lessons at home, our Children's Liturgy team will also be sharing an activity from Family of Faith at the end of each of these Bible sessions. Contact Mindy Bryan [melinda@latech.edu](mailto:melinda@latech.edu) at or Haley Perot [haleyperot5@gmail.com](mailto:haleyperot5@gmail.com) for more information.

Location: St. Thomas Aquinas School Building Rooms 106 and 107

Dates: See Fall Catechesis Master Calendar for dates.

## High School Small Group

### First Day of PSR – September 11

High school teens interested in high school small group will have the chance to meet the small group facilitators. After signing in at the Luffey, high school participants will go to the E. Donn Piatt Catholic Student Center Library for an introduction to small group sessions. Teens will hear about the Ignite topics and the current event topics for this year. No registration fee or application is needed. Teens, all are welcome!

Want to know more? Please contact the PSR office at 318-310-4009 or Slade Richard at 318-514-8060 for more information.

## 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 groups at the September Family of Faith Community Gathering on September 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information for each group, please contact the listed leaders. All 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)

Interested in starting your own small group? Please call the PSR office at 318-310-4009.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
1210 ANNISTON AVE.  
SJSFALCONS.ORG

# FALCON FEST 2022

**HUNDREDS** OCTOBER 8  
5-8 PM

**EVEN MORE FUN**  
INFLATABLES  
FACEPAINT  
EVEN MORE RIDES  
FALCON JAIL  
TIGERS ON THE BIG SCREEN  
YARD GAMES

**LIVE MUSIC**  
*Professor Porkchop and the Dukes*

**YUMMY GOODIES**  
DILLAS  
HOT DAWG HUT  
SWEETPORT  
ICE CREAM  
COTTON CANDY  
CRUSH

**JOIN US!**

**18** T-SHIRT  
SMALL, MEDIUM OR LARGE

**25** KIDS  
ALL YOU CAN PLAY  
2 AND UNDER FREE

**FREE** ADULTS



Pay online [www.SJSfalcons.org](http://www.SJSfalcons.org)



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

We have just completed week seven of the Annual Diocesan Stewardship Appeal: To Know, Love and Serve. As of this last week, 10.5% of our families have participated in this year's appeal. We are grateful for everyone who has pledged or made a one-time gift thus far. Thank you.

Our goal is to improve our family participation over last year which was 13.2%. I am asking everyone who hasn't made a pledge or gift to pick up a pledge card and return envelope and make your gift as soon as you can and send it in. The ministries the appeal supports need our help. 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.

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

The Diocese has created an electronic newsletter for news and events around the diocese, as well as educational content about our Catholic faith. Please subscribe to it by scanning the QR code in the bulletin or by visiting the diocesan website.

Join our Diocesan Email Newsletter Today



Scan the QR code or go to [dioshpt.org](http://dioshpt.org) to sign up!

### Religious Emblems Workshop

A Religious Emblems Workshop sponsored by the Catholic Committee on Scouting will be held for any Scout, boy or girl, interested in earning a religious scouting emblem on **Saturday, October 1, 2022**, at Christ the King Catholic Church in Bossier City from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. The cost of \$15 covers all materials and lunch. Please register in advance so that materials are available to all participants.

Contact Mr. Richard Buchanan at: 318-564-7865 or [rbuchan5@bellsouth.net](mailto:rbuchan5@bellsouth.net) to register or ask questions.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### Clothing Room Volunteer Opportunity

- Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
- Intake, sorting, and client assistance

#### Kitchen Volunteer Opportunity

- Wednesday or Thursday 9 am – 12 pm
- intake, shelving, moving inventory from storage, and packing bags for clients

#### Food Bank Driver

- Will work around volunteer's schedule
- Requires truck and ability to lift 50 lbs

#### Client Phone Interviewer

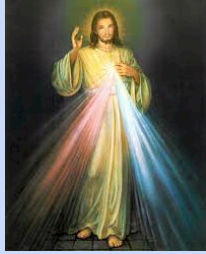
- Will work around volunteer's schedule
- Interview clients over the phone for utility assistance



### 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.



**In marriage, communication is more than just talking. At some point, did you stop sharing about the things that were important to you? Did your spouse?**

Improving a marriage takes time and a conscious effort to learn about your spouse. Growing closer in a marriage does not happen automatically.

Retrouvaille is a marriage program dedicated to helping couples grow closer and develop a stronger bond. You give your heart and soul to everything you do, between your work and your family. Are you giving your heart and soul to your marriage? Sometimes the distance between a husband and a wife can seem so wide that it cannot be repaired.

Retrouvaille is a marriage program designed to bring couples closer together. 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**

### 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**