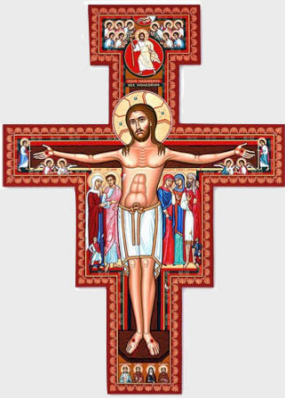


JANUARY 22ND, 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

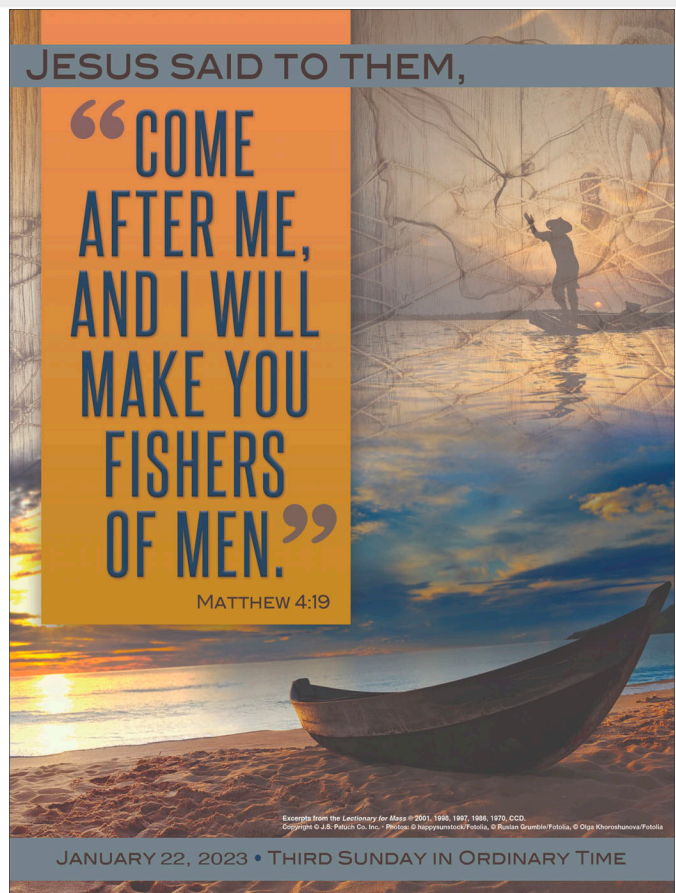
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

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



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>January 1st</u>	Wayne Skipper Michael Langiulli Dolly Garcia
<u>January 2nd</u>	Carmen Trevison Ethan Moreno
<u>January 3rd</u>	Atilano Garcia Martinez Stephanie Garcia
<u>January 4th</u>	Oscar Hannibal
<u>January 5th</u>	Ramona Bishop Juana Melendez
<u>January 7th</u>	Josie Bishop Ashley Michelle Landaverde
<u>January 10th</u>	Yanney Hernandez
<u>January 11th</u>	Olivia Roger
<u>January 12th</u>	David Broussard Melissa Jackson Kaitin Corcia Harryn Lopez
<u>January 13th</u>	J.M. Lanning
<u>January 14th</u>	Brennan Jackson Marcie Tucker
<u>January 15th</u>	Sandy Freeman
<u>January 16th</u>	Juana Maria Leon Jaiden Langiulli
<u>January 17th</u>	Paul Kabbes Jerry Berg
<u>January 18th</u>	Linda Oakley
<u>January 20th</u>	Christine Hanna
<u>January 21st</u>	Rose Kitishian John Mark Adams Jose Maria Garcia
<u>January 22nd</u>	Benjamin Denny Hayden Frost
<u>January 24th</u>	Cindy Bimle
<u>January 25th</u>	Fr. Kevin Mues
<u>January 26th</u>	Ryan Corcia
<u>January 27th</u>	Riley Oakley
<u>January 28th</u>	William Slusher Zane Morris
<u>January 31st</u>	Pedro Derosa

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**Sunday, January 22nd**

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

Monday, January 23rd

9:00 AM - 4:00PM - Church Office CLOSED
5:30 PM - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Tuesday, January 24th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM - Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 4:00PM - Church Office CLOSED
10:00 AM - Lectio Divina
6:30 PM - El Manto de Maria

Wednesday, January 25th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM - Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 4:00PM - Church Office CLOSED

Thursday, January 26th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM - Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 4:00PM - Church Office Open

Friday, January 27th

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

Saturday, January 28th

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.

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.



Ministry Schedule**January 21st 2022****Lectors:** George Trevison, Dolly Hurtig**EMHC:** Diane Singletary, Mary Carol Vidrine**Altar Servers:** Jack, Jessie and Julie Groce**January 22nd, 2022****Lectors:** Paul Jackson, Larry Mullens**EMHC:** Carol Mercier, Tom Bishop, Emily Chartier, Rodney Manning**Altar Servers:** Ava and Olivia Good**January 28th 2022****Lectors:** Samantha Groce, Pam Allen**EMHC:** Slade Richard, George Trevison**Altar Servers:** Kevin, Cedric and Peter Serio**January 29th, 2022****Lectors:** Bruce Hampton, AJ Barbiero**EMHC:** Mary Ghongkedze, Elaine Johnson, Gary Kennedy, Paul Jackson**Altar Servers:** Brennan & Matthew Jackson, Kaejha Stewart

January 15th altar flowers donated by Patrick and Connie Stuckey in memory of Dianne Stuckey on her birthday.

January 22nd altar flowers donated by Erskine and Gail Lindsey in loving memory of Jack Lindsey

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of January 7/January 8

General Sunday Collection \$17,128.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!



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

Quintana Atkins
Miriam Bishop
Charles Bourgeois
Frankie Career
Judy Darcey
Sean Dwyer
Becky Ferrell
Bobby French
Mary Lou French
Emmely Gay
Bernice Harrison
Harvey Hayes
Maureen Hinton
Magnolia Johnson
Jeffery Judice
Roserita Lefevre
Chris Letendre
Ken Martinez
Tobie McKown

Claudia Michel
Leopoldo Michel
Rueben Moreno
Cynthia Murry
Katherine Ned
Don Olivier
Pearline Robey
Lometa Rorie
Gloria Saldana
Laura Leigh Saleese
Jennie Schutte-Patrick
Jo Mary Smith
Nicole Smith
Tyler Sorrels
Holly Hollis Star
Willie Tannerhill
Diane Theriot
Pam Turner
Kathleen "Kathy" Walter
Janice Williams

MASS Intentions

Saturday January 21st

Lou & Ester Sanders +
(by Tom & Becky Garza)

Sunday January 22nd

Lou & Ester Sanders +
(by Tom & Becky Garza)

Por los feligreses de la
Parroquia de Santo Tomas

Bernadette Bennett +
(by Tom & Becky Garza)

Tuesday January 24th

Bobby Roberts
(by Karen Jacobs)

Thursday January 26th

Maggi Bourne
(by Michelle McCumber)

Friday January 27th

Sandra Gass +
(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 or you can now check our website <https://stthomasaquinasruston.com/calendar/>

SUNDAYS AT A GLANCE – January Faith Formation Schedule

Please remember to always stay up-to-date on your Protecting God's Children and Virtus bulletins. Any volunteer with minors in our diocese must have these requirements met.

Jan. 22 Breakout Sunday: Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion (2nd) - Adult Education Small Group - Family of Faith PreK, 1,3rd/4th, 5th/6th Clusters - High School Small Group - Men's Small Group - Women's Small Group

Jan. 29 Breakout Sunday: Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion (2nd) - SEEKERS - Adult Education Small Group - Family of Faith PreK, 1,3rd/4th, 5th/6th Clusters - High School Small Group - Men's Small Group - Women's Small Group

Feb. 5 Formation Sunday: (Adults will meet in the Luffey with Father Kevin. Children will meet with Formation Sunday catechists in the PSR building. Children need to be dropped off by a parent in the PSR building first. Carline dismissal as usual.)

Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion - SEEKERS - High School Small Group

Feb. 12 Breakout Sunday: Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion (2nd) - Adult Education Small Group - Family of Faith PreK, 1,3rd/4th, 5th/6th Clusters - High School Small Group - Men's Small Group - Women's Small Group

Feb. 19 Breakout Sunday (Faith formation will meet despite President's Day.)

Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion (2nd) - Adult Education Small Group - Family of Faith PreK, 1,3rd/4th, 5th/6th Clusters - High School Small Group - Men's Small Group - Women's Small Group

Feb. 26 Breakout Sunday: Confirmation A and Confirmation B - First Communion (2nd) - SEEKERS - Adult Education Small Group - Family of Faith PreK, 1,3rd/4th, 5th/6th Clusters - High School Small Group - Men's Small Group - Women's Small Group

Feb. 26 – Confirmation B Parent Meeting @ 11:45 am – 12:15 pm (AV Room)

Parents will hear about the upcoming retreat plan. Information about sponsors and appropriate documentation for students and sponsors will be discussed. Students will get information about writing letters to Bishop Malone to request Confirmation. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting!



The Annual appeal has a new name - **The Catholic Service Appeal**. It also has a new look... a new logo. You can see it in the bulletin today and will see it over the course of the year. United as the Catholic community of Northern Louisiana we have so much to offer.

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups and Prayer Groups

For more information for each group, please contact the listed leaders. All are welcome!

Adult Education Small Group – E. Donn Piatt Catholic Student Center, BREAKOUT SUNDAYS
Contact Delena Ashworth delenaashworth@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Chaplet – chapel, meets Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Contact Gerry Brucia 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
*This small group has a unique meeting schedule. Please request a schedule from your small group leader.

Lectio Divina – Luffey Youth Room, meets Tuesdays 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Contact Lee Smith 318-243-8307

Men's Small Group – E. Donn Piatt Catholic Student Center
Contact Joshua Perot 318-243-0361, josh.a.perot@gmail.com

Women's Small Group – SVDP Room, Luffey Building. Contact Bridget Skinner, bdw015@gmail.com

ST THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY JANUARY 28

Twenty-four hours of Adoration will be held starting after the noon Mass on Friday, January 27. Adoration will end at noon on Saturday, January 28th. Please sign up for an hour. A minimum of two people will be needed per hour. A paper sign-up sheet is posted in the church vestibule on the bulletin board. You can also sign up through a link to a form on Shelby Next Membership.



Blood Drive - The Lifeshare bus will be at St. Thomas Aquinas.



Parish Potluck - Please bring a potluck casserole to the Luffey. The meal will follow the 5 pm Vigil Mass.



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

Passing The Torch



The students have been working hard these past couple weeks!

This week ACTS is discerning its new leadership team! Please pray for them this week.

Lastly, ACTS students will be going to the March for Life in Shreveport on Saturday!

For more information, please visit: stac-acts.com

Weekly ACTStivities

Wednesday:

- * Bible Study 6:30a
- * Dollar Lunch 11:30a
- * Freshman Crossing 7p

Thursday:

- * Bible Study 7p

Friday:

- * Guys' & Girls' Groups 7p

Saturday:

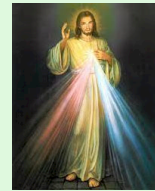
- * March for Life (Shreveport) 10a

BE LONG
DIOCESAN YOUTH SUMMIT
 SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH, 2023
 10 AM TO 5:30 PM

Open to grades 6-12

SPEAKERS:
 Katie Prejean McGrady
 Tommy McGrady

LOCATION: THE DIOCESE OF SHREVEPORT CATHOLIC CENTER
REGISTRATION: \$25 PER YOUTH REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH



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.



January 22, 2023 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOD'S LOVING CARE

Two readings today refer to the northeast region of ancient Israel: “the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali.” Upon hearing these names, some of us might consult maps and determine exactly where these regions lie. Others might let the unfamiliar names drift by unnoticed. If no maps are handy—but we don’t want to ignore the references completely—consider this: we might not know the latitude and longitude of Zebulun and Naphtali, but God does. We praise God for watching over every inch of land and sea, caring perfectly for each creature on the planet. While Isaiah celebrates the depth of God’s care with “abundant joy and great rejoicing,” Saint Paul begs us to remember how the Lord shows this loving care: through the cross. In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls Peter, James, and John to follow him. We follow too, confident that God accompanies us, wherever we are.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The burdens that were once laid upon the people have been vanquished (Isaiah 8:23 — 9:3).

Psalms — The Lord guides and saves me (Psalm 27).

Second Reading — Paul exhorts the believers at Corinth: As there is one Christ, so too must there be no divisions among you. (1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17).

Gospel — After calling his first disciples, Jesus goes throughout Galilee teaching, proclaiming the gospel, and curing the people (Matthew 4:12-23 [12-17]).

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Respect for Life Prayer

O God, our eyes behold the beauty of your creation,
and our ears catch the sounds of your power.

We hold our lives sacred because they are your gift.

Bring us to greater awareness of the sanctity of human life
and to sorrow for the times we have ignored or offended it.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Ordinary Time

Between the end of the Christmas season and the start of Lent, the liturgical year begins a period known as Ordinary Time. That season is interrupted by the seasons of Lent and Easter, and then resumes again after Pentecost. The English translation of the Latin name for this season has received much criticism because of our association of the word “ordinary” with something of lesser value, the opposite of something special. Critics point out that Sunday is the original feast day of the Church, that there is nothing at all “ordinary” about our weekly celebration of the Lord’s dying and rising. Translators explain that in this context the English word “ordinary” retains the root meaning of “ordinal,” something counted “in order,” and that the Sundays throughout the year are in fact named by their numerical order.

It is helpful to understand how all five of the “special” seasons of the liturgical year (Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter) fit together to unfold the single mystery of Christ. As we continue the year now with Ordinary Time, we are mindful that what we celebrate is indeed as “extraordinary” an experience of God’s grace as one could ever imagine.

EFFORTLESS

The only thing that comes to a person without effort is old age.

—Anonymous

HEART

In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart. —John Bunyan

22 de enero de 2023 Tercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

EL CUIDADO AMOROSO DE DIOS

Dos lecturas de hoy se refieren a la región noreste del antiguo Israel: “la tierra de Zabulón y la tierra de Neftalí”. Al escuchar estos nombres, algunos de nosotros podríamos consultar mapas y determinar exactamente dónde se encuentran estas regiones. Otros pueden dejar que los nombres desconocidos pasen desapercibidos. Si no tenemos mapas a mano, pero no queremos ignorar las referencias por completo, consideremos esto: puede que no conozcamos la latitud y la longitud de Zabulón y Neftalí, pero Dios sí. Alabamos a Dios por vigilar cada centímetro de tierra y mar, cuidando perfectamente de cada criatura del planeta. Aunque Isaías celebra la profundidad del cuidado de Dios con “abundante alegría y gran regocijo”, san Pablo nos ruega que recordemos cómo muestra el Señor este cuidado amoroso: a través de la cruz. En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús llama a Pedro, Santiago y Juan para que le sigan. Nosotros también le seguimos, seguros de que Dios nos acompaña, estemos donde estemos.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — El Señor glorificó el distrito de los gentiles (Isaías 8:23 — 9:3).

Salmo — El Señor me guía y me salva (Salmo 27).

Segunda lectura — Les ruego que se pongan de acuerdo, que no haya divisiones entre ustedes (1 Corintios 1:10-13, 17).

Evangelio — Cambien su vida y su corazón porque está cerca el reino de los Cielos (Mateo 4:12-23 [12-17]).

LA ESQUINA DE ORACIÓN CATÓLICA

Oración por el Respeto a la Vida

Oh, Dios, nuestros ojos contemplan la belleza
de tu creación,

y nuestros oídos captan los sonidos de tu poder.

Consideramos que nuestras vidas son sagradas
porque son tu regalo.

Haz que seamos más conscientes de la santidad
de la vida humana

y al dolor por las veces que la hemos ignorado u ofendido.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo nuestro Señor. Amén.

NESTRA FACINANTE FE

Tiempo Ordinario

Entre el final del tiempo de Navidad y el comienzo de la Cuaresma, el año litúrgico inicia un período conocido como Tiempo Ordinario. Este tiempo se interrumpe con los tiempos de Cuaresma y Pascua, y se reanuda después de Pentecostés. La traducción al español del nombre latino de este tiempo ha recibido muchas críticas debido a que asociamos la palabra “ordinario” con algo de menor valor, lo contrario de algo especial. Los críticos señalan que el domingo es la fiesta original de la Iglesia, que no hay nada de “ordinario” en nuestra celebración semanal de la muerte y resurrección del Señor. Los traductores explican que, en este contexto, la palabra en latín “ordinal” conserva el significado de su raíz, algo que se cuenta “en orden”, y que los domingos de todo el año se denominan, de hecho, por su orden numérico.

Resulta útil comprender cómo los cinco tiempos “especiales” del año litúrgico (Adviento, Navidad, Tiempo Ordinario, Cuaresma, Pascua) encajan para desplegar el único misterio de Cristo. Mientras continuamos el año con el Tiempo Ordinario, somos conscientes de que lo que celebramos es, en efecto, una experiencia tan “extraordinaria” de la gracia de Dios como se pueda imaginar.

UN ALTAR

En todo lugar, dondequiera que te encuentres, puedes erigir un altar a Dios en tu mente por medio de la oración.

—Relatos de un peregrino ruso

DÓBLELAS CON TIEMPO

Cuando usted se encuentre en medio de dificultades y contradicciones no trate de romperlas, más bien dóblelas con tiempo y suavidad.

—San Francis de Sales

ACTS

OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA

Adoration • Community • Theology • Service
Not just a retreat...a Way of Life!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our next **Men's ACTS Retreat is scheduled for February 16-19, 2023** at the Maryhill Renewal Center in Pineville, LA. Registration is open! The registration form can be found at the link below.

https://mcusercontent.com/0a05be742765a263d354d169b/files/9ac77371-3f03-3d9f-a68a-73e7cb653fc5/Men_s_February_Registration_2023.pdf

Note: All registration forms must be mailed to the address listed on the form. The registration deadline is December 20, 2022.

Grace and Peace in Christ,
CORE
ACTS of NELA



There is now a desktop computer station available in the Joe & Roger Luffey Youth Room that is designated for completing Virtus bulletins and Protecting God's Children online training. If you need internet access to complete your monthly Virtus bulletins, you are encouraged to use this computer station. Directions on how to set up your online account will be in a binder. All adults are highly encouraged to complete a Protecting God's Children session one time and then to stay up to date with the safe environment guidelines by completing a monthly bulletin through the online Virtus personal account.

Ahora hay una estación de computadora disponible en la Sala de Jóvenes Joe & Roger Luffey que está designada para completar los boletines de Virtus y la capacitación en línea de Proteger a los niños de Dios. Si necesita acceso a Internet para completar sus boletines mensuales de Virtus, le recomendamos que utilice esta estación informática. Las instrucciones sobre cómo configurar su cuenta en línea estarán en una carpeta. Se recomienda encarecidamente a todos los adultos que completen una sesión de Protección de los Hijos de Dios una vez y luego se mantengan al día con las pautas de ambiente seguro completando un boletín mensual a través de la cuenta personal en línea de Virtus.



The Catholic faith, rich with traditions and devotions, will embark on a three year Eucharistic Revival in the United States. The Diocese of Shreveport will offer events throughout 2022-2023 that will encourage growth in understanding and devotion to Christ in the Eucharist, complemented by online formation and resources that will raise up Eucharistic Missionaries at all levels of the Church. The first step is to increase our adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is through Eucharistic Adoration that we give thanksgiving to God for Christ's True Presence in our lives. Christ, in the Eucharist, is our very sustenance that we are reminded of in John 6:53 (NABRE): "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." To learn more about the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Revival, go to <https://www.dioshpt.org/eucharistic-revival> or scan the QR code below. Let's reenergize our faith and approach the throne of grace with clearer understanding of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Jesus, the Source and Summit of the faith, is calling each Catholic to come, adore, and experience his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist.



You Are Cordially Invited to Attend

Our 100th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, January 29, 2023 beginning with an 8:30 am Choir Performance
Our 9:00 am Holy Mass will be Concelebrated by
The Most Reverend Francis I. Malone and Reverend Duane C. Trombetta
Deacon Charles L. Thomas

A Celebration Reception will follow in the
Drexel Community Center - All are welcome!

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

1558 Buena Vista Street - Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Psalm 122:1

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 22, 2023

"Repent! The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Are you being called to proclaim the coming of the kingdom as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother? Contact Fr. Peter in the Office of Vocations: fathermangum@yahoo.com

Tercer Domingo de Tiempo Ordinario – 22 de enero de 2023

"¡Arrepentirse! El reino de cielo está a mano." ¿Está llamado a proclamar la venida del reino como un sacerdote, el diácono, hermana religiosa o hermano? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocations: fathermangum@yahoo.com

FÊTE FOR LIFE
BANQUET FOR MARY'S HOUSE

Featuring keynote speaker
Leah Darrow

TABLES AND TICKETS ON SALE NOW

FEBRUARY 7
Bossier Civic Center

200 for this week

MAIL TO:
813 CAREY AVENUE
RUSTON, LA 71270