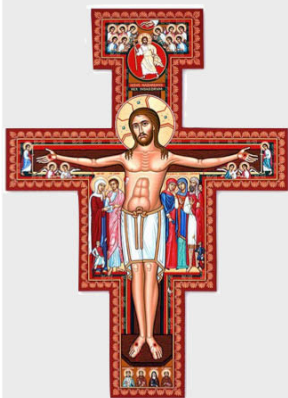


FEBRUARY 5TH, 2023 | 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

FIFTH Sunday
in Ordinary Time

February 5, 2023



**"Your light must shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your heavenly Father."**

Matthew 5:16

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>February 1st</u>	Michael Hinton
<u>February 2nd</u>	Libby Manning Aylmer Rainwater
<u>February 4th</u>	Wyatt Rust
<u>February 6th</u>	Iris Reis Kaejha Stewart
<u>February 7th</u>	Ralph Pettijohn Francisco Negrete
<u>February 8th</u>	Charlie Rogers
<u>February 9th</u>	Christi Faulker Martin Aviles
<u>February 12th</u>	Margaret Stanton Roan Sutherland Britney Aguirre Gail Lindsey
<u>February 13th</u>	Matthew Bryan
<u>February 15th</u>	Roland Baudoin
<u>February 17th</u>	Elizabeth Rodriguez
<u>February 18th</u>	Margie Strickler
<u>February 19th</u>	Melissa Hernandez
<u>February 20th</u>	Linda Viator Samantha Shuff Dusty Rust
<u>February 21st</u>	Jesus Salazar
<u>February 22nd</u>	Gwen Barron Michelle McCumber
<u>February 24th</u>	Cindy Bimle
<u>February 25th</u>	Cesario Gonzalez
<u>February 28th</u>	Adams Perot

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, February 5th**

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

Monday, February 6th

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

Tuesday, February 7th

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

Wednesday, February 8th

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

Thursday, February 9th

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

Friday, February 10th

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

Saturday, February 11th

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

February 4th 2023

Lectors: John Allen and Tom Garza

EMHC: Bob Rorie and George Trevison

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie and Julie Groce

February 5th, 2023

Lectors: Thomas Rogers and Carmen Bishop

EMHC: Tom Bishop, Emily Chartier, Rodney Manning and Mary Ghongkedze

Altar Servers: Maggie and Georgia Rogers

February 11th 2023

Lectors: Pam Allen and Samantha Groce

EMHC: John Ryan Serio and Mary Carol Vidrine

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

February 12th, 2023

Lectors: Ryan and Lorelei Freling

EMHC: Paul Jackson, Gary Kennedy, Elaine Johnson and Jim Martin

Altar Servers: Brad and Paige Denny



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

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Quintana Atkins | Claudia Michel |
| Miriam Bishop | Leopoldo Michel |
| Charles Bourgeois | Rueben Moreno |
| Frankie Career | Cynthia Murry |
| Judy Darcey | Katherine Ned |
| Sean Dwyer | Don Olivier |
| Becky Ferrell | Pearline Robey |
| Bobby French | Lometa Rorie |
| Mary Lou French | Gloria Saldana |
| Emmely Gay | Laura Leigh Saleese |
| Bernice Harrison | Jennie Schutte-Patrick |
| Harvey Hayes | Jo Mary Smith |
| Maureen Hinton | Nicole Smith |
| Johnnie Hogan | Polly Smith |
| Magnolia Johnson | Tyler Sorrels |
| Jeffery Judice | Holly Hollis Star |
| Roserita Lefevre | Willie Tannerhill |
| Chris Letendre | Diane Theriot |
| Herman Manuel | Pam Turner |
| Ken Martinez | Kathleen "Kathy" Walter |
| Tobie McKown | Janice Williams |



January 29th altar flowers donated by George & Carmen Trevison in loving memory of Gustavo Denys

February 5th altar flowers donated by Matthew & Mindy Bryan in loving memory of Mike Freyaldenhoven



- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>Saturday February 4th</u> | Bernadette Bennett +
(by Tom & Becky Garza) |
| <u>Sunday February 5th</u> | For the Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas |
| <u>Tuesday February 7th</u> | Sandra Gass
(by Terry Buboltz) |
| <u>Wednesday February 8th</u> | Maggi Bourne
(by Michelle McCumber) |

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of January 14/January 15 & 21/ 22

General Sunday Collection \$13,637.00 (14/15)
 General Sunday Collection \$3,977.00 (21/22)

Thank you for continued and generous support!

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 – February Faith Formation Schedule

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!

Youth Spring Retreat - March 25

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

OWL CENTER

All Confirmation B students, OCIA high school students, and High School Small Group students are invited to the Youth Spring Retreat. Bring your completed release forms and \$40 (cash or check) to the PSR office or to your catechist. Release forms and money are due by March 5th.



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



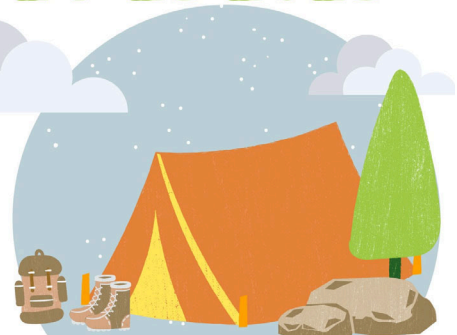
A full week of fun at Camp Bethany in Bethany, LA!

Register Now!

We invite all kids aged 8-13 years old to join the much-awaited
NEW summer camp by the Catholic Diocese of Shreveport!
FUN FILLED with swimming, canoeing, arts and crafts, and
more!

July 24-28 2023

Scan the QR code below to register!



Register for Camp online: www.dioshpt.org/camp-little-flower
Email us at camplittleflower@dioshpt.org OR
email Fr. Raney at rjohnson@stmaryshreveport.org for more information!



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

Trucking Along



The students at ACTS are trucking along, preparing for their upcoming finals.

We are also preparing for Mardi Gras and the season of Lent!

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

Weekly ACTStivities

- Monday
 - * Faith Formation 7pm
- Wednesday:
 - * Bible Study 6:30am
 - * Dollar Lunch 11:30am
- Thursday:
 - * Simple House Interest Meeting 6:30pm
 - * Bible Study 7pm
- Friday:
 - * Birthday Bash 7pm
 - * Praise & Worship 8pm
- Saturday:
 - * Social 7pm

Diocesan Youth Summit - March 4th

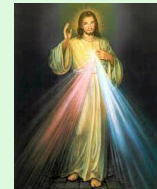
Any youth in grades 6th – 12th is invited to attend the diocesan youth event. Transportation will be picking up youth in Monroe and Ruston to send youth to the all-day event in Shreveport. Check your email for information about forms, cost, and chaperone recruitment information.

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.



February 5, 2023 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

The prophet Isaiah inspires us with these words: "Light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday." All of us celebrating the liturgy today praise God for these words of encouragement. Surely each of us knows the gloomy side of life, but today's readings propose a brilliant antidote to misery: the light of service. Isaiah focuses on physical suffering, telling us to provide food, clothing, housing, and equal opportunity to those with limited resources. Moving beyond material needs, Saint Paul demonstrates how to proceed humbly when attending to people's spiritual needs. Saint Matthew's Gospel stirs us to bold action: whatever gifts we have, we must put them at the service of our communities. As Christians, we

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — If you share your food with the hungry, provide housing for the homeless, then light shall break forth upon you (Isaiah 58:7-10).
Psalm — One who is just is a model for the righteous (Psalm 112).
Second Reading — My message to you, says Paul, was not clever words of wisdom but the proclamation of Christ crucified (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).
Gospel — You are the salt of the earth, the light of the world (Matthew 5:13-16).

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer in Time of Illness
Lord Jesus,
I believe that having passed through the gate of life
in baptism,
I will always have your protection and comfort.
Yet today the pains of my illness threaten
to overcome me
and cause me to forget all the good things
you have given me in this life.
I pray in confidence that you would
send forth your Spirit
to refresh and revive me as you have always done
in the past.
May I continue to witness to your goodness in this life
so that I may be with you at the heavenly banquet table
in eternity.
Amen. Alleluia.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Our Lady of Lourdes (February 11)
On February 11, 1858, fourteen-year-old Bernadette Soubirous, the oldest of nine children in a poor family from Lourdes, France, saw Our Lady in the first of eighteen apparitions. At the grotto of Massabielle, Bernadette saw "a small lady in white" who invited her to return each day. During the visions the Lady communicated a message of penance, instructed Bernadette to dig so that a spring of water began to flow, requested that a chapel be built there at the grotto, and eventually identified herself by saying "I am the Immaculate Conception." Throughout these apparitions, Our Lady addressed Bernadette in a formal way, treating the humble girl with dignity. In 1862 the authenticity of the apparitions was confirmed by Church authorities. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was recognized worldwide in 1907. Lourdes became a place of pilgrimage for thousands of the faithful; their faith and the faith of many others was revitalized through the story of a simple young girl from rural France.

GIVING

When you give, see that you give that which multiplies in giving.
—Raymond Lull

POPULARITY

Avoid popularity if you would have peace.
—Abraham Lincoln

5 de febrero de 2023 Quinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

LA LUZ DEL SERVICIO

El profeta Isaías nos inspira estas palabras: "En las tinieblas nacerá la luz para ustedes, y la oscuridad será para ustedes como el mediodía". Todos los que celebramos hoy la liturgia alabamos a Dios por estas palabras de aliento. Seguramente cada uno de nosotros conoce el lado sombrío de la vida, pero las lecturas de hoy proponen un brillante antidoto contra la miseria: la luz del servicio. Isaías se centra en el sufrimiento físico, diciéndonos que proporcionemos comida, ropa, vivienda e igualdad de oportunidades a los que tienen recursos limitados. Más allá de las necesidades materiales, san Pablo nos muestra cómo proceder con humildad al atender las necesidades espirituales de las personas. El Evangelio de san Mateo nos impulsa a actuar con valentía: sean cuales sean nuestros dones, debemos ponerlos al servicio de nuestras comunidades. Como cristianos, debemos comprometernos con los demás sin reprimarnos, dejando que nuestra luz brille ante todos.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Cuando compartas tu pan con el hambriento, y sacies la necesidad del humillado, entonces brillará tu luz en las tinieblas (Isaías 58:7-10).
Salmo — Aquel que es justo es un modelo para los justos (Salmo 112 [111]).
Segunda lectura — He anunciado a ustedes el misterio de Cristo crucificado (1 Corintios 2:1-5).
Evangelio — Que su luz brille ante los hombres, den gloria a su Padre, que está en los Cielos (Mateo 5:13-16).

LA ESQUINA DE ORACIÓN CATÓLICA

Oración en Tiempo de Enfermedad
Señor Jesús,
creo que, habiendo pasado por la puerta de la vida
en el bautismo,
siempre tendré tu protección y tu consuelo.
Sin embargo, hoy los dolores de mi enfermedad amenazan con vencerme y me hacen olvidar todo lo bueno que me has dado en esta vida.
Rezo con confianza para que envíes tu Espíritu para refrescarme y reanimarme como siempre lo has hecho en el pasado.
Que yo siga dando testimonio de tu bondad en esta vida para que pueda estar contigo en la mesa del banquete celestial en la eternidad.
Amén. Aleluya.

NUESTRA FASCINANTE FE

Nuestra Señora de Lourdes (11 de febrero)
El 11 de febrero de 1858, Bernadette Soubirous, de catorce años, la mayor de nueve hijos de una familia pobre de Lourdes (Francia), vio a la Virgen en la primera de dieciocho apariciones. En la gruta de Massabielle, Bernadette vio a "una pequeña dama vestida de blanco" que la invitaba a volver cada día. Durante las visiones, la Señora le comunicó un mensaje de penitencia, le indicó a Bernadette que cavara para que empezara a brotar un manantial de agua, le pidió que se construyera una capilla en la gruta, y finalmente se identificó diciendo "Yo soy la Inmaculada Concepción". A lo largo de estas apariciones, la Virgen se dirigió a Bernadette de manera formal, tratando a la humilde muchacha con dignidad. En 1862, la autenticidad de las apariciones fue confirmada por las autoridades eclesíásticas. La fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes fue reconocida mundialmente en 1907. Lourdes se convirtió en un lugar de peregrinación para miles de fieles; su fe y la de muchos otros fue revitalizada a través de la historia de una sencilla joven de la Francia rural.

DAR

Cuando des algo, procura que sea algo que al darlo se multiplique.
—Raymundo Lull

POPULARIDAD

Evita la popularidad, si quieres tener paz.
—Abraham Lincoln



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.



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today, Jesus says, "You are the light of the world," he is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. Be a "light" to those living in poverty and in a world of darkness by giving a donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Quinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario:

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús dice: "Vosotros sois la luz del mundo", nos está llamando a vivir nuestra vocación cristiana con palabras y obras. Sé una "luz" para aquellos que viven en la pobreza y en un mundo de oscuridad dando una donación a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 5, 2023

"Let your light shine before others" Shine your light on those closest to you, especially your spouse and family! Contact Fr. Peter in the Office of Vocations: fathermangum@yahoo.com

Quinto Domingo de Tiempo Ordinario – 5 de febrero de 2023 –

Jornada Mundial de la Vida Consagrada – 2 de febrero

"Deje que su luz brille para los demás" tal vez como un sacerdote o en la vida consagrada. Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones: 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