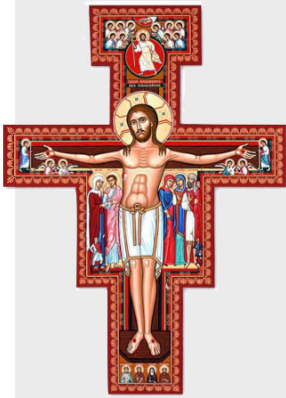


MARCH 19TH, 2023 | 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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

FOURTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY • CUARTO MISTERIO DOLOROSO



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT • CUARTO DOMINGO DE GUARESMA

The Carrying of the Cross • Jesús con la Cruz a Cuestas

©Diocesan / The Way to Calvary - Domenichino, 1610

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



<u>March 2nd</u>	Lorraine Freeman
<u>March 4th</u>	Bailey Keys
<u>March 5th</u>	Juan Alvarez Melanie Hernandez Flores Christopher DeCerbo
<u>March 6th</u>	Ana Laura Gonzalez Rather
<u>March 7th</u>	Leah Sutherland Edward Mercier Pauline Phi
<u>March 8th</u>	Suzy Broussard Maria French
<u>March 9th</u>	Brenda Berg
<u>March 10th</u>	Yesi Francisco Josiah Atilano
<u>March 11th</u>	Gerardo Guerrero
<u>March 12th</u>	Anderson Lainez Adelyn Haynie
<u>March 13th</u>	Nancy Lainez Connie Stuckey
<u>March 15th</u>	Kevin Watson
<u>March 17th</u>	Patricia Rodriguez
<u>March 18th</u>	Gary Kennedy
<u>March 21st</u>	Cathy Barron
<u>March 22nd</u>	Gabriel Perez
<u>March 23rd</u>	Tyrette Cowan Amanda Sutherland
<u>March 26th</u>	Chris Kennedy Eli Watson
<u>March 27th</u>	Sofia Hernandez
<u>March 28th</u>	Alan Ulloa
<u>March 29th</u>	Benjamin Grafton Oscar Ramirez
<u>March 30th</u>	Jennifer Pangilinan
<u>March 31st</u>	Candy Gerace

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 19th

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

Monday, March 20th

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

Tuesday, March 21st

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, March 22nd

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

Thursday, March 23rd

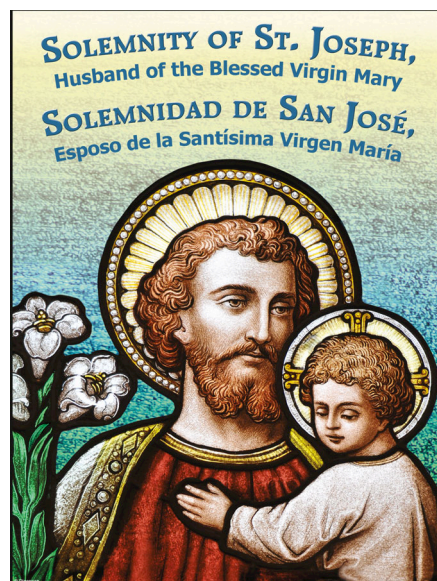
7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM - Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 4:00PM - Church Office Open

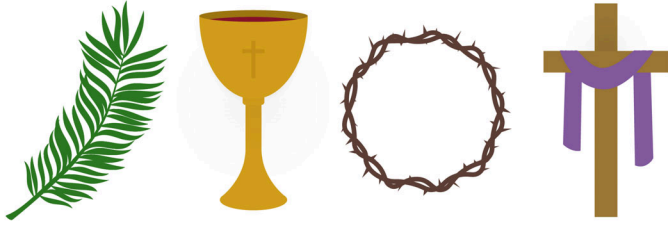
Friday, March 24th

9:00 AM - 1:00PM - Church Office Open
7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM - Daily Mass
6:00 PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 25th

3:30PM - 4:45AM Penance & Reconciliation
5:00 PM - Vigil Mass





THE SEASON OF LENT

Ministry Schedule

Saturday March 18th 2023

Lectors: Christie Weeks and Mary Carol Vidrine

EMHC: Slade Richard, Diane Singletary

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie and Julie Groce

Saturday March 19th, 2023

Lectors: Stacey Denny and Paul Jackson

EMHC: Larry Mullens, Gary Kennedy, Jim Martin, Tom Bishop

Altar Servers: Brad and Paige Denny

Saturday March 25th 2023

Lectors: George Trevison & Dolly Hurtig

EMHC: John Ryan Serio, Mary Carol Vidrine

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

Sunday March 26th, 2023

Lectors: AJ Barbiero and Bruce Hampton

EMHC: Rodney Manning, Thomas Rogers, Mary Ghongkedze, Gary Kennedy

Altar Servers: Hannah & Brooklynn Bryan

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

General Sunday Collection \$7,659.00 Mar 4/5

Thank you for continued and generous support!

**WHILE I AM
IN THE WORLD,
I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD**

JOHN 9:5



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

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

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



Saturday March 18th

Herman Manuel +
(by Terry Buboltz)

Sunday March 19th

Bobby Ortego +
(by Karen Ortego)

For the Parishioners of
St. Thomas

Tuesday March 21st

Herman Manuel
(by Diane Taylor)

Wednesday March 22nd

Herman Manuel
(by John & Beth Buske)

Thursday March 23rd

Mary Manuel
(by John & Beth Buske)

Friday March 24th

Mary Manuel
(by George & Carmen Trevison)

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

March 19: Modified Breakout Sunday, Spring Break

No sacrament classes or youth small group. Please ask your adult small group leaders for more details about meeting schedules.

March 26 Breakout Week: All classes and adult groups will resume normal meetings.

April 2 Palm Sunday, No Classes

A video lecture will be sent out for Family of Faith this month. No Formation Sunday due to Holy Week.

All Easter Egg pre-filled with candy are due. Children in 2nd grade and younger will be able to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt next week immediately after the Easter morning Mass.

Rice bowls also need to be returned *no later* than Palm Sunday.

April 9 Easter Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt for children 2nd grade and below, No Classes

April 16 Breakout Sunday

April 23 Breakout Sunday

April 30 Breakout Sunday

May 7 Closing Lecture and Share for Family of Faith

MORE RESOURCES FOR YOU

FAMILY OF FAITH

Remember to check your email the Monday following Formation Sunday for a recap video of the monthly lecture and the parent pacing guide for the month.

Want to add Liturgical Resources to you Family of Faith home experience?

Subscribe for free to receive full month of activities to go with the Sunday readings.

<https://sophiateachers.org/elesson-category/teaching-the-liturgical-year/> or, view weekly readings online at <https://sophiateachers.org/liturgical/>.

Family of Faith Volunteers Needed!

Catechists and security team members are needed weekly for the Family of Faith Sunday morning lessons. Please sign up on the Google form if you would like to volunteer on a rotational basis. Thank you!



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.

There are still 5 openings for any youth who want to attend this retreat. Please call the PSR office to get retreat registration forms and to pay for the event. \$40 reg. fee for ropes course. Lunch and activities provided FREE.

Stations of the Cross

Confirmation A (Deacon Ransom and Ms. Courtney Reger's class) will lead the Way of the Cross on **Friday, March 24 @ 6:00 pm** in the church. This class will discuss this devotion and practice during class on Sundays.

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VBS Committee Needed

If you are interested in being a part of the planning committee for VBS, please contact the PSR office. 318-310-4009 or DRE@StThomasAquinasCatholicC877.onmicrosoft.com.





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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our next Women's ACTS Retreat is scheduled for April 13-16, 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/923ce9a3-e716-834c-60c7-f3302e7d7f37/Women_s_April_Registration_2023.pdf

Note: All registration forms must be mailed to the address listed on the form. The registration deadline is Sunday, March 5, 2023.

Grace and Peace in Christ,
CORE

ACTS of NELA



LA TEMPORADA DE CUARESMA

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.



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!



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.



MIENTRAS ESTÉ
EN EL MUNDO,
YO SOY LA LUZ
DEL MUNDO

Juan 9, 5



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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent:

In today’s Gospel, as Jesus gives sight to the blind man. Through grace we are also transformed from not seeing to seeing and then Jesus sends us to help others see and to believe. **Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brings joy, peace, forgiveness, mercy and kindness to the hurting hearts of the poor.**



Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma:

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús cura al hombre ciego. Y por medo de esa gracia nosotros también somos transformados de no ver a ver. Luego el Señor nos envía a todos a ayudar ver a otros y creer. Tu regalo a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl trae júbilo, paz, misericordia y bondad a los corazones heridos de los pobres.

Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 19, 2023

“...if someone is God-fearing and does His will, He listens to him.” Are you being called to do the deeds of Christ as a priest or in the consecrated life, proclaiming the reign of the loving mercy of God our Father? Contact Fr. Peter in the Office of Vocations: fathermangum@yahoo.com

Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma – 19 de marzo de 2023

“...si alguien es temeroso de Dios y hace su voluntad, él lo escucha”. ¿Estas llamado a hacer las obras de Cristo como sacerdote o en la vida consagrada, proclamando el reino de la amorosa misericordia de Dios nuestro Padre? Comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones: fathermangum@yahoo.com



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.

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ’s love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief



Esta semana realizaremos The Catholic Relief Services Collection para revelar el amor de Cristo a nuestras hermanas y hermanos más necesitados. Esta colecta ayuda a seis agencias católicas a proporcionar asistencia y apoyo a las comunidades que luchan por salir adelante y a trabajar por la paz y la reconciliación entre nuestras hermanas y hermanos marginados aquí y alrededor del mundo. Por favor, en oración, consideren la manera de apoyar a la colecta. Infórmense más acerca de la colecta en www.usccb.org/catholic-relief

Diocese of Shreveport



CAMP LITTLE FLOWER

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!

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.





BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

Final Days before Spring Retreat



This year's retreat leadership team broke off into groups to work on individual elements.

With the start of spring quarter, the annual ACTS spring retreat is quickly approaching. This year's retreat leadership team has been hard at work all through winter quarter to make sure the retreat is the best it can be.

This is the final stretch of retreat prep as the retreat weekend draws nearer.

Weekly ACTS Activities

Tuesday

- * BLT meeting

Wednesday:

- * Bible Study 6:30am
- * Dollar Lunch
- * Birthday Bash

Thursday:

- * Bible Study 7:00pm

Friday-Sunday:

- * Spring Retreat

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the Lord rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — My shepherd is the Lord; I shall not want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Samuel ungió a David para ser rey (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Salmo — Mi pastor es el Señor; nada necesitaré (Salmo 23 [22]).

Segunda lectura — Levántense de entre los muertos, hijos de la luz (Efesios 5:8-14).

Evangelio — De esto estoy seguro: Yo era ciego pero ahora puedo ver (Juan 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a o Lc 2:41-51a
 Martes: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Sal 46 (45):2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
 Miércoles: Is 49:8-15; Sal 145 (144):8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
 Jueves: Ex 32:7-14; Sal 106 (105):19-23; Jn 5:31-47
 Viernes: Sab 2:1a, 12-22; Sal 34 (33):17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Sábado: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Sal 40 (39):7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lc 1:26-38
 Domingo: Ez 37:12-14; Sal 130 (129):1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]