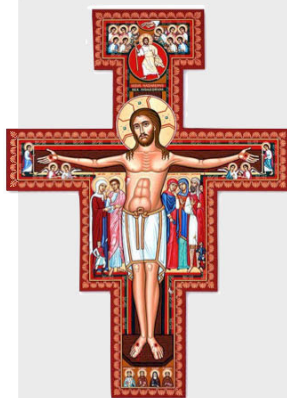


JULY 16TH, 2023 | 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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**
Matthew Bryan **President of Pastoral Council**
Thurston Allen **Chairman of Finance Council**
St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
in Ordinary Time



*T*his is why I speak to them in parables, because 'they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.'

Matthew 13:13

*P*or eso les hablo en parábolas, porque miran, y no ven; oyen, pero no escuchan ni entienden.

Mateo 13:13

© Diocesan

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>July 1st</u>	Isabella Cortez Abel Lainez
<u>July 2nd</u>	Camille Mhire
<u>July 3rd</u>	Freddy Mujica
<u>July 4th</u>	Marilyn Priego America Hernandez Dulce Aviles-Vazquez Jose Villa
<u>July 5th</u>	Ava Good
<u>July 7th</u>	Joshua Ramachandran Roseanne Skapura Sophia Reis Juana Tomas
<u>July 9th</u>	Cecil Crawford Amalia Perez Lopez Leslie Garcia
<u>July 10th</u>	Mallary Adams
<u>July 12th</u>	Michael Nammour Victor Velazquez
<u>July 13th</u>	Brooklynn Bryan Dennis Lopez
<u>July 14th</u>	Samantha McCumber
<u>July 16th</u>	Pat Crawford
<u>July 17th</u>	John Gass Tom Bishop Axel Garcia
<u>July 18th</u>	Mary Virginia Adams Steven Groce Eimy Lainez Luka Lopez Arnulfo Perez Kerry Viator
<u>July 19th</u>	Joseph Luffey
<u>July 20th</u>	Deborah Abraham Mia Morpheu
<u>July 21st</u>	Matthew Jackson Yasmin Torres Lometa Rorie Kathleen Brucia Charlotte Rust
<u>July 22nd</u>	Marissa Gonzalez Cruz Morales
<u>July 23rd</u>	James Cregut Margaret Rogers Juan Ramirez
<u>July 25th</u>	Charles Menzina
<u>July 26th</u>	Sharon Kelly
<u>July 27th</u>	Hector Medrano Kim Traina
<u>July 28th</u>	David Manuel
<u>July 29th</u>	Stacey Denny Lonnie Fauchaux
<u>July 31st</u>	Justin Szymanski

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

<u>Sunday, July 16th</u>	9:30 AM 1:30 PM	Sunday Mass Misa en Español
<u>Monday, July 17th</u>	9:00 AM - 4:00PM - 5:30 PM	Church Office Open Chaplet of Divine Mercy
<u>Tuesday, July 18th</u>	7:30 AM - 8:00AM 8:15 AM 9:00 AM - 4:00PM - 10:00 AM	Penance & Reconciliation Daily Mass Church Office Open Lectio Divina
<u>Wednesday, July 19th</u>	7:30 AM - 8:00AM 8:15 AM 9:00 AM - 4:00PM	Penance & Reconciliation Daily Mass Church Office Open
<u>Thursday, July 20th</u>	7:30 AM - 8:00AM 8:15 AM 9:00 AM - 4:00PM	Penance & Reconciliation Daily Mass Church Office Open
<u>Friday, July 21st</u>	8:00 AM - 12:00PM 11:15 AM - 11:45AM 12:00 PM	Church Office Open Penance & Reconciliation Daily Mass
<u>Saturday, July 22nd</u>	3:30PM - 4:45AM 5:00 PM	Penance & Reconciliation Vigil Mass



Altar Flowers donated by Patrick & Connie Stuckey in loving memory of Jack Naquin



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.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday July 15th 2023

Lectors: Christie Weeks, Mary Carol Vidrine

EMHC: Slade Richard, John Ryan Serio

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin & Peter Serio

Sunday July 16th, 2023

Lectors: Carmen Bishop, Paul Jackson

EMHC: Jim Martin, Mary Ghongkedze, Rodney Manning, Thomas Rogers

Altar Servers: Maggie & Georgia Rogers

Saturday July 22nd 2023

Lectors: George Trevison, Dolly Hurtig

EMHC: John Ryan Serio & Mary Carol Vidrine

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday July 23rd, 2023

Lectors: Stacey Denny, Bruce Hampton

EMHC: Thomas Rogers, Elaine Johnson, Tom Bishop, Paul Jackson

Altar Servers: Brad Denny



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

Miriam Bishop
Frankie Career
Judy Darcey
Sean Dwyer
Becky Ferrell
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
Matthew Reichert
Tristen Roberts
Pearline Robey
Laura Leigh Saleese
Jennie Schutte-Patrick
Diane Singletary
Jo Mary Smith
Nicole Smith
Polly Smith
Tyler Sorrels
Holly Hollis Star
Willie Tannerhill
Karen Taylor
Diane Theriot
Pam Turner
Kathleen "Kathy" Walter
Janice Williams

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

July 1 / 2

General Sunday Collection \$7,084.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

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.



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, we hear the story of the sower and we know that "some seed fell on rich soil, and produce fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty fold." This week by putting a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that together they will produce fruit a hundred-fold.



Décimo Quinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

En el Evangelio de hoy, escuchamos la historia del sembrador y sabemos que "algunas de las semillas cayeron en tierra buena y estas representan a aquel que oye la Palabra y la comprende. Este ciertamente dará fruto y producirá cien, sesenta o treinta veces más." Esta semana, cuando pongas tu regalo en la Caja Pobre de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, sabrás que juntos producirémos fruto cien veces más para los pobres.



Saturday July 15th

John Smith +
(by George & Carmen Trevison)

Sunday July 16th

Bobby Ortego +
(by Karen Ortego)

Por los feligreses de la
Parroquia de Santo Tomas
Aquino

Friday July 21st

Roger Luffey +
(by Gary & Jan Luffey)

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/>



Are you looking for something to do where you make a difference in people's lives? Volunteer at Mary's House – Friday mornings 8:30 – 12:30 as our receptionist. You'll be the first smiling face our patients meet, and you'll work with a great team of ladies on the same mission – to make a difference for moms and babies. Call L'Anne at Mary's House to find out more – 318-220-8009.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! It's time to celebrate with Bingo on the Bayou once again. Catholic Charities of North Louisiana announces our 7th Annual Fundraiser, "Bingo on the Bayou". Our fundraising event will be held at East Ridge Country Club on FRIDAY, August 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Since 2016, Bingo on the Bayou has been something to look forward to and this sellout event brings together people who love to have fun while benefiting the Family Strengthening programs of CCNLA. Table sponsorships begin at \$1500, and tickets are \$60 each

CCA SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

**108 SOUTH BONNER
RUSTON, LA**

Bring any school supply item K-12 on lincolnschools.org web site to CCA between 9am-12pm M-F We will bag them and help our clients' children have a great start to the school year!
Accepting donations
July 10-August 10, 2023
christiancommunityactionlp.org



Dollar Lunch

The St. Thomas Aquinas Parish \$Lunch Program has wrapped up another successful year of feeding & serving our LA Tech Students! Thank you to all the teams that cooked & the countless volunteers that donated food, sent desserts & served in any way. With over 1700 meals served, we couldn't do it without you! We will be back again in the fall to continue this wonderful ministry! If you are interested in helping and would like to volunteer, please contact Christi Faulkner at 318-278-4904.

HELP WANTED

MTJ SMITH
PROPERTIES, LLC IS
NEEDING A PART TIME
EMPLOYEE TO HELP
WITH MAINTENANCE
FOR THEIR RENTAL
PROPERTY. PLEASE
CALL 318-513-2200 IF
INTERESTED.



Piano Lessons

Evan Simon
(985)789-0623
epsimon3652@gmail.com



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.



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.



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.

Eucharistic Revival and Eucharistic Congress



For additional faith resources as we continue into this year of the Eucharistic Revival, please visit our Eucharistic Revival page on our website by <https://www.dioshpt.org/eucharistic-revival>

And to register for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, please <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/>



Novena for Corpus Cristi

The novena starts on June 2. Pick up a guide for the novena in the church vestibule. These are available in both English and Spanish.

Sophia Institute for Teachers – Summer Activities

A ready-to-use Sunday Gospel resource for June, July, and August. Link: <https://sophiainstituteforteachers.org/lesson/teaching-the-liturgical-year>

If you are looking for summer religious education activities for your family, download the free resources that go along with the weekly readings and liturgical year.

Adult Education

The group will continue to view the Angels video on June 4. Father Kevin will lead the *Book of Revelation from A Catholic Perspective* starting Sunday, June 11. The group will meet in the E. Donn Piatt Student Center at 10:45 am – 11:45 am on Sundays throughout the summer.

Women's Small Group

The Women's Small Group is still meeting periodically throughout the summer months. They are using the Scripture study Keeping in Balance by Walking with Purpose. Please call Bridget Skinner if you are interested in joining this small group. 318-243-3081



Saint of the Week

Santa María Magdalena 22 de julio

Aunque sus transgresiones pueden haber sido muchas, igual de abundante fue su amor por su Señor. Tal vez una de las más grandes historias de conversión del Nuevo Testamento, María Magdalena fue una mujer de la que habían sido expulsados siete demonios, una mujer atormentada. Vivió su propio tipo de infierno en la tierra, hasta que un día Jesús se cruzó en su camino. Ella aparece por primera vez en la Biblia acompañándolo mientras viajaba de un pueblo a otro “predicando y anunciando la buena nueva del reino de Dios”. Su gratitud la llevó a seguir y servir a su Señor incansablemente, hasta el pie de la cruz. Ella no lo abandonó ante la dificultad, ni lo negó a pesar de la dura crueldad que la rodeaba. Ella fue una de las pocas que lo acompañó, mirando su rostro golpeado y desgarrado mientras tomaba su último respiro. Jesús recompensó esta devoción amorosa ya que ella es conocida en el relato de Marcos como la primera en verlo después de la Resurrección (Marcos 16,9). Que sigamos el ejemplo de Santa María Magdalena en nuestra inquebrantable entrega a Dios, para que al final de nuestros días también podamos declarar: “¡He visto al Señor!”

—Tami Urcia

Saint Mary Magdalene July 22

Though her transgressions may have been many, just as abundant was her love for her Lord. Perhaps one of the greatest conversion stories of the New Testament, Mary Magdalene was one from whom seven demons had been expelled, a woman plagued by turmoil. She lived her own type of hell on earth, that is, until Jesus crossed her path one day. She first appears in the Bible accompanying him as he journeyed from one town to the other “preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God”. Her gratitude led her to follow and serve her Lord tirelessly, all the way up to the foot of the cross. She did not abandon him in the face of difficulty, nor did she deny him despite the harsh cruelty all around her. She was one of the few to accompany him, gazing upon his beaten and torn countenance as he took his final breath. Jesus rewarded this loving devotion as she is known in Mark’s account to be the first one to see him after the Resurrection (Mark 16:9). May we follow the example of Saint Mary Magdalene in our unwavering dedication to God, so that at the end of our days we may also declare, “I have seen the Lord!”

—Tami Urcia



2023 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Parish and Location	Parish ID	# of Parish Families	# of Families Participating 2023 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2023 Parish Goal	Amount Pledged 2023 (to date)	% Goal Pledged	Amount Contributed 2023
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	145	21	14%	\$ -	\$3,753		\$2,703
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	125	25	20%	\$ 19,439	\$5,480	28.2%	\$3,980
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	290	71	24%	\$ 49,683	\$54,993	110.7%	\$49,109
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	419	65	16%	\$ 53,360	\$18,616	34.9%	\$15,886
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,172	194	17%	\$ 150,336	\$75,107	50.0%	\$64,196
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	85	45	53%	\$ 17,498	\$10,460	59.8%	\$8,275
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	11	42%	\$ 4,390	\$1,675	38.2%	\$1,175
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	45	16	36%	\$ 21,822	\$7,600	34.8%	\$6,950
St. Margaret, Homer	34	24	16	67%	\$ 8,305	\$7,147	86.1%	\$5,397
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	14	28%	\$ 16,777	\$6,200	37.0%	\$5,900
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	115	47	41%	\$ 36,237	\$30,625	84.5%	\$22,690
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	173	31	18%	\$ 35,854	\$13,067	36.4%	\$11,317
St. Terence	45	62	12	19%	\$ 9,704	\$4,701	48.4%	\$4,431
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	21	9	43%	\$ 5,393	\$1,897	35.2%	\$1,897
St. Paul - Minden	47	121	26	21%	\$ 21,349	\$9,367	43.9%	\$8,017
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	748	117	16%	\$ 127,530	\$55,380	43.4%	\$49,463
Little Flower of Jesus	49	156	34	22%	\$ 30,852	\$3,610	11.7%	\$3,100
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	47	26%	\$ 26,152	\$20,855	79.7%	\$18,905
St. Matthew	52	341	59	17%	\$ 76,913	\$25,905	33.7%	\$21,330
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	47	7	15%	\$ 9,920	\$1,074	10.8%	\$1,074
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	22	4	18%	\$ 6,534	\$1,600	24.5%	\$1,600
St. George, Coushatta	62	32	13	41%	\$ 6,825	\$8,645	126.7%	\$8,425
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	39	13	33%	\$ 15,320	\$3,275	21.4%	\$3,155
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	300	48	16%	\$ 69,415	\$23,677	34.1%	\$22,732
Holy Trinity	68	562	89	16%	\$ 64,240	\$58,458	91.0%	\$52,768
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	150	21	14%	\$ 28,311	\$7,170	25.3%	\$4,885
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	230	40	17%	\$ 25,934	\$8,933	34.4%	\$6,503
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	980	149	15%	\$ 153,207	\$144,728	94.5%	\$130,413
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	852	197	23%	\$ 225,045	\$172,508	76.7%	\$152,778
St. Mary of the Pines	74	813	121	15%	\$ 72,534	\$38,160	52.6%	\$31,175
St. Plus X	75	175	69	39%	\$ 44,035	\$25,305	57.5%	\$20,545
St. Clement - Vivian	82	58	26	45%	\$ 9,710	\$7,575	78.0%	\$5,560
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	370	112	30%	\$ 79,994	\$39,642	49.6%	\$36,564
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	611	121	20%	\$ 86,060	\$50,922	59.2%	\$38,953
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	12	16%	\$ 11,082	\$1,650	14.9%	\$1,605
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	159	23	14%	\$ 6,573	\$4,920	74.9%	\$3,920
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	747	210	28%	\$ 147,657	\$146,230	99.0%	\$132,020
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	120	41	34%	\$ 26,010	\$11,670	44.9%	\$9,720
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		10,642	2,176	20%	\$ 1,800,000	\$1,112,580	61.8%	\$969,116



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University



School's Out for Summer!



Mary Garden blooming in the spring to send off our students!

School is out for the summer! ACTS members will be going their own ways until we can meet up again in the fall. From Utah to Mississippi, we will have members working and living all over the U.S! We are sad to see our wonderful seniors leaving us this year but are hopeful for their futures and the chance to see them again soon!

Summer ACTStivities

Everyday:
* Summer Vacation

Orientation Sessions:

- * June 7-9
- * June 21-23
- * July 12-14
- * July 26-28

Back to School Events:

- * 9/3 – College Mass
- * 9/7 – Classes Begin

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

Job Openings

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

- Catholic School Principal
- Director of Marriage & Family Life
- Information Technology "IT" Technician
- Administrative Assistant for Director of Multicultural Ministries

For more information, follow the link:
<https://www.dioshpt.org/job-opportunities>

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

Or email Deacon Michael Straub at mstraub@dioshpt.org

The Diocese of Shreveport Child Nutrition Program is accepting applications for school foodservice workers. If you interested in applying for a position as a full-time cafeteria worker at JGS, please pick up an application at Jesus the Good Shepherd School's office, 900 Good Shepherd Drive, Monroe, LA or contact Sr. Ann Middlebrooks, SEC, at (318) 219-7297 or email amiddlebrooks@dioshpt.org

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH DIRECTOR

The Parish of St. Mary of the Pines is in the process of hiring a Youth Director. The Youth Group currently meets each Wednesday evening. In addition to these weekly youth group meetings I would also like the Youth Group to participate in fun trips away from the parish, Mission Trips and diocesan programing. Qualifications include experience and ability in working with High School students. The youth group leader will also form a parent support group to assist him/her in implementing the program. There will be a stipend paid every two weeks. Please send a resume to mwatson@stmaryshreveport.org. Please call the St. Mary of the Pines Church office at (318) 687-5121 in order to schedule an interview.

JOIN OUR TEAM

St. Joseph Catholic School is hiring

To apply, visit
sjsfalcons.org/employment-form

Academic Excellence
Surrounded by Faith



WE ARE HIRING! JOIN THE SJB FAMILY!

2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

- DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY
- MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHER
- 4TH & 5TH GRADE READING/LANGUAGE ARTS/ SOCIAL STUDIES
- 3RD GRADE TEACHER
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHER



Catholic of St. John Berchmans

APPLY NOW

sjbcathedralschool.org/employment

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT FR. RANEY
RJOHNSON@SJBCTHEDRAL.ORG