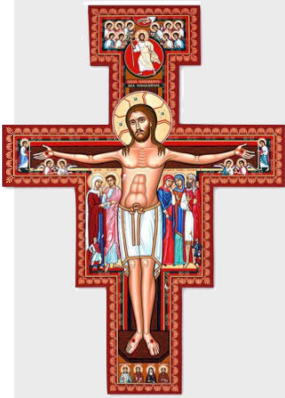


SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023 | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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**
Fr. Charles Ssenyondo **Parroquial Vicar**
Deacon John Serio
Deacon Robert Ransom
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 **Business Manager**
Matthew Bryan **President of Pastoral Council**
Thurston Allen **Chairman of Finance Council**
St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Matthew 16:24

22^o Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Dijo Jesús a sus discípulos: "El que quiera seguirme, que renuncie a sí mismo, cargue con su cruz y me siga."

Mateo 16, 24

Jesus Discourses with His Disciples by James Tissot, circa 1890 and 1894 © 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



September 1st

Jessie Groce
Julie Groce

September 2nd

Becky McConnell

September 3rd

Dawn Ransom
Jack White
Lizet Martinez

September 4th

Abraham Ajanel
Douglas Gerace

September 6th

Tracy Oakley
Sam Williams
Connie Kozar

September 7th

Carter Lewis
Karla Buenostro Valle

September 8th

Rodney Manning
Nora Morphew

September 9th

Alyssa Langiulli
Anahi Melendez
Laisha Mendez
Tomas de la Rosa

September 10th

Gabi Burton

September 11th

Tonya Slusher
Erskine Lindsey
Angela Luffey
Norberto Turrubiarces
Allie DeLeo-Allen
Gabriella Ramirez

September 14th

Margo Budds
Gary Luffey

September 17th

Sergio Hernandez Flores
Nicolle Mujica
Juan Monjaras

September 19th

Deezy Williams
Joan Mullens

September 20th

Laia Texcanua
David Cannon

September 21st

Rosa Mujica
Sonia Francisco
Anna Langiulli
Nathan Decerbo

September 23rd

Luke White
Rebecca Ferrell

September 24th

Tammy Schilling

September 25th

Mia Rabb
Maria Candelaria Ramirez

September 26th

Cindy Hampton
Olivia Bryan
Dustin Frost
Rhonda Reed

September 27th

Marc Kozar
Hilda Perez

September 29th

Gabriel Mhire
Liam Taylor

September 30th

Sergio Hernandez Flores
Dayanny Langiulli

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 3rd

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

Monday, September 4th

9:00 AM - 4:00PM -	Church Office CLOSED
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Tuesday, September 5th

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

Wednesday, September 6th

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

Thursday, September 7th

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

Friday, September 8th

8:00 AM - 12:00PM	Church Office Open
11:15 AM - 11:45AM	Penance & Reconciliation
12:00 PM	Daily Mass

Saturday, September 9th

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



Altar Flowers donated Cynthia Murry in honor of Joe & Ruby Aillet's birthdays



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 September 2nd 2023

Lectors: Pam Allen, Samantha Groce

EMHC: George Trevison, Mary Carol Vidrine

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday September 3rd, 2023

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Larry Mullens

EMHC: Carol Mercier, Paul Jackson, Todd Wasson, Thomas Rogers

Altar Servers: Brad Denny

Saturday September 9th 2023

Lectors: Christie Weeks, Mary Carol Vidrine

EMHC: John Ryan Serio, Beth Buske

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio

Sunday September 10th, 2023

Lectors: Stacey Denny, Paul Jackson

EMHC: Gary Kennedy, Larry Mullens, Joan Mullens, Elaine Johnson

Altar Servers: Hannah & Brooklynn Bryan



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
Chris Letendre
Ken Martinez
Tobie McKown
Claudia Michel
Leopoldo Michel
Rueben Moreno
Susan Morphew

Cynthia Murry
Katherine Ned
Don Olivier
Matthew Reichert
Tristen Roberts
Pearline Robey
Laura Leigh Saleese
Jennie Schutte-Patrick
Diane Singletary
Nicole Smith
Polly Smith
Tyler Sorrels
Willie Tannerhill
Karen Taylor
Diane Theriot
Pam Turner
David & Kim St. John
Kathleen "Kathy" Walter
Janice Williams

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

August 19/ 20

General Sunday Collection \$8,248.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today, we hear Jesus say to us, "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." The challenge is to let go so God can lead us. This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul enabled the poor to experience Jesus' presence by assisting families, providing food, or utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!



Vigésimo Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Hoy, en el Evangelio, escuchamos a Jesús dirigirse a nosotros mismos: "Pues el que quiera asegurar su vida la perderá, pero el que sacrifique su vida por causa mía, la hallará. El reto, entonces, es de entregarnos para que Dios nos guíe. Este mes de Septiembre, por medio de tus regalos a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, nos permitió ayudar a familias, proveyendo en comestibles y para gastos de luz, gas, agua, renta. ¡Que Dios se los pague. Muchísimas Gracias!



Saturday August 2nd

Clelie Welch +
(by Diane Taylor)

Sunday September 3rd

Dennis C. Kennedy +
(by Gary & Selene Kennedy)

Por los feligreses de la parroquia
Santo Tomas de Aquino

Thursday September 7th

TJ Mullen +
(by Gene Cosentino)

Friday September 8th

Mike Buske +
(by Bill & Jean Schodlatz)

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/>



Registration is now open for the Women's ACTS Retreat, October 3-5, 2023. If there is one spiritual gift you give yourself this year that lasts for a lifetime, this would be it.

What you receive in return is doubled and what you are able to give to others afterward is immeasurable.

Cost is \$200 and do not let this prevent you from going. Financial assistance may be available. There aren't too many places you can go for a weekend, for \$200, that includes your meals, activities, and transportation. You will meet women of all ages, walks-of-life, and cultures – so there is no excuse that you are too young or old, etc. to attend. Seven (7) women from St. Thomas Aquinas attended this past Spring ...the highest number we've ever had. Let's get this number again – or higher!

Registration forms are available in the church vestibule, church office or you can contact

Retreat Director: Laura Maclin 318-348-2956

Space is limited – Registration deadline is Aug. 28



Family of Faith/PSR registration is now open!
Please register by completing a registration form in the back of the Church.

Registration will close on Tuesday, September 5th, and Family of Faith/PSR classes will begin Sunday, September 10th. Cost is \$30 per child. For more information or questions, please contact Melinda Bryan at 318-525-4906 or melinda@latech.edu

Please Help your Neighbors in Lincoln Parish through SVDP



Requests for food, utility, and housing assistance is high this summer due to record high temperatures, children at home, and inflation.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization inspired by Gospel values to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering.

Please help us in this mission of charity by making a donation today. You can either place your donation in the poor box at the back of the church or by mail: Saint Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box 2462, Ruston LA 71273-2462. Checks payable to Saint Vincent de Paul.



The Dollar Lunch Program will be offered once again for the 2023-2024 academic year! This program is a ministry of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. We offer all LA Tech students a hot lunch & dessert throughout the year for a donation of \$1.00. This ministry has been in place for over 20 years and gives the students a place to come and enjoy a meal and meet with friends. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve and provide desserts. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Christi Faulkner 318-278-4904 (chair) or Diana May 318-573-0388 (dessert chair). We are looking forward to another year of meeting and serving our LA Tech students!



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



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat: If you or someone you love is hurting from an abortion, please call the dedicated line: 318-588-1064 for information, or visit the website at www.rachelsvineyard.org. Absolute confidentiality is maintained by team members and participants prior to, during, and following the Rachel's Vineyard Retreats.

The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be October 20-22, 2023.

If you have any questions, or to register, please contact the Rachel's Vineyard confidential line at 318-588-1064.



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.

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

Multicultural Ministries

Family Picnic

The Diocesan Multicultural Ministry invites all families to enjoy an afternoon filled with games, food, and fun!
Bring a blanket!

Saturday
OCT. 14, 2023
2PM-6PM

\$5 /Person

Catholic Center Parking Lot
3500 Fairfield Ave,
Shreveport, LA 71104

RESERVE YOUR TICKET BY EMAIL/CALL
kalvarez@dioshpt.org
(318)219-7265

Multicultural Ministries

Picnic Familiar

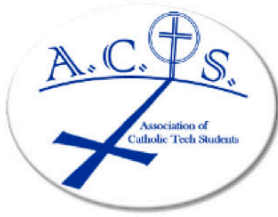
¡El Ministerio Multicultural Diocesano invita a todas las familias a disfrutar de una tarde con juegos, comida y diversión!
¡Trae una manta!

Sabado
14 DE OCTUBRE 2023
2PM-6PM

\$5 /Persona

Centro Catolico
3500 Fairfield Ave,
Shreveport, LA 71104

RESERVA TU LUGAR POR CORREO O LLAMADA
kalvarez@dioshpt.org
(318)219-7265



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

8/24/2023 5:13 PM

**COMMUNITY OF JESUS CRUCIFIED
CJC SISTER SERVANTS**

**COME & SEE
SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2023**

For young women 19-36 -years of age

"In my own body I fill up what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ for the sake of His body the Church." ~ Colossians 1:24

**COMUNITAS IESU CRUCIFIXI
CJC-PBS**

103 Railroad Ave
St. Martinville, LA 70582

Registration required, please
email: cjcpbsvocationsdirectress@gmail.com or call 337-394-6550



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	23	16%	\$ -	\$4,003		\$3,078
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	125	25	20%	\$ 19,439	\$5,480	28.2%	\$4,330
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	290	71	24%	\$ 49,683	\$55,918	112.5%	\$51,787
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	419	75	18%	\$ 53,360	\$20,109	37.7%	\$18,234
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,172	203	17%	\$ 150,336	\$77,518	51.6%	\$69,834
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	85	49	58%	\$ 17,498	\$11,120	63.6%	\$9,970
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	12	46%	\$ 4,390	\$1,725	39.3%	\$1,350
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	45	18	40%	\$ 21,822	\$7,910	36.2%	\$7,810
St. Margaret, Homer	34	24	18	75%	\$ 8,305	\$9,777	117.7%	\$8,337
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	15	30%	\$ 16,777	\$6,300	37.6%	\$6,100
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	115	50	43%	\$ 36,237	\$31,735	87.6%	\$26,180
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	173	33	19%	\$ 35,854	\$13,767	38.4%	\$12,117
St. Terence	45	62	12	19%	\$ 9,704	\$4,701	48.4%	\$4,516
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	21	10	48%	\$ 5,393	\$1,917	35.5%	\$1,917
St. Paul - Minden	47	121	28	23%	\$ 21,349	\$9,917	46.5%	\$8,917
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	748	124	17%	\$ 127,530	\$56,765	44.5%	\$53,035
Little Flower of Jesus	49	156	37	24%	\$ 30,852	\$4,030	13.1%	\$3,895
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	48	26%	\$ 26,152	\$21,855	83.6%	\$20,755
St. Matthew	52	341	62	18%	\$ 76,913	\$27,605	35.9%	\$23,455
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	47	8	17%	\$ 9,920	\$1,174	11.8%	\$1,174
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	22	5	23%	\$ 6,534	\$1,900	29.1%	\$1,900
St. George, Coushatta	62	32	13	41%	\$ 6,825	\$8,995	131.8%	\$8,745
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	39	14	36%	\$ 15,320	\$4,275	27.9%	\$4,195
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	300	48	16%	\$ 69,415	\$24,011	34.6%	\$23,331
Holy Trinity	68	562	92	16%	\$ 64,240	\$59,368	92.4%	\$55,203
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	150	22	15%	\$ 28,311	\$7,295	25.8%	\$5,670
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	230	42	18%	\$ 25,934	\$9,076	35.0%	\$7,226
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	980	166	17%	\$ 153,207	\$156,323	102.0%	\$141,659
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	852	208	24%	\$ 225,045	\$176,467	78.4%	\$162,962
St. Mary of the Pines	74	813	124	15%	\$ 72,534	\$39,710	54.7%	\$34,990
St. Pius X	75	175	70	40%	\$ 44,035	\$26,205	59.5%	\$23,025
St. Clement - Vivian	82	58	27	47%	\$ 9,710	\$8,100	83.4%	\$6,165
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	370	119	32%	\$ 79,994	\$42,985	53.7%	\$40,687
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	611	133	22%	\$ 86,060	\$58,987	68.5%	\$51,277
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	13	17%	\$ 11,082	\$1,725	15.6%	\$1,710
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	159	24	15%	\$ 6,573	\$5,020	76.4%	\$4,270
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	747	227	30%	\$ 147,657	\$150,995	102.3%	\$141,170
St. Ann, Stonevale	94	120	43	36%	\$ 26,010	\$12,170	46.8%	\$10,885
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		10,642	2,311	22%	\$ 1,800,000	\$1,166,932	64.8%	\$1,061,861