OCTOBER 1ST, 2023 | 26TH 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 & 8:00PM

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

Monday-Thursday 7:30AM-8:00AM Friday 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Saturday: 3:30PM to 4:45PM

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

Deacon Robert Ransom

Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870

Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906

Matthew Bryan

President of Pastoral Council

Thurston Allen President of Pastoral Council

Chairman of Finance Council

St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090



hen John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him.

Matthew 21:32

Porque Juan vino a abrirles el camino derecho y ustedes no le creyeron, mientras que los publicanos y las prostitutas le creyeron. Ustedes fueron testigos, pero ni con esto se arrepintieron y le creyeron.

Mateo 21:32

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 | stthomasaguinasruston.com



October 1st Pat Gillum October 2nd Eric Sutherland Andres Mujica Mia Valley Jesus Castillo October 3rd Andre Ajanel October 5th Ileana Espinoza October 6th Selene Kennedy Octuber 7th Maria Hernandez Fitzgerald Anderson Alexander Anderson October 8th Virginia Lewis October 9th John Buske Denise Ramirez

October 11th Silvana Freeman John Denny October 12th **Brad Denny** October 13th

Delena Ashworth Ramona Adams Quincy Lewis

October 15th Ricky Meier Victoria Velazquez

October 17th Dylan Nash October 19th Jan Luffey October 20th Nina Cazenave

Paula Martin

October 21st Judi Lalla October 22nd Adolfo Garcia Norma Schodlatz

October 23rd Sutton Taylor Thalia Aguirre

Nadja Haynie

Lolita Baudoin

October 24th Kathie Cordaro Lander Smith

Flint Sibayan

Sandra Cannon

October 27th

October 28th Michael Villa Jesus Castillo

October 29th Barbara Lewis

Kevin Serio

McKenzie Oakley

October 31st Morgan Prarrie Jaime Watson

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, October 1st

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

Monday, October 2nd

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation 8:15 AM Daily Mass 9:00 AM - 4:00PM -Church Office Open 5:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

Tuesday, October 3rd

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

Wednesday, October 4th

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

Thursday, October 5th

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

Friday, October 6th

8:00 AM - 12:00PM Church Office Open 11:15 AM - 11:45AM Penance & Reconciliation 12:00 PM Daily Mass 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Adoration

Saturday, October 7th

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



Altar Flowers donated by Gary & Jan Luffey in loving memory of Roger Luffey



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 30th 2023

Lectors: Pam Allen, Samantha Groce
EMHC: Beth Buske, George Trevison
Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday October 1st, 2023

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Sarah Wilkerson

EMHC: Jim Martin, Tom Bishop, Emily Chartier, Paul Jackson

Altar Servers: Brad Denny
Saturday September 7th 2023

Lectors: Christie Weeks, Mary Carol Vidrine

EMHC: Slade Richard, Trish Carter

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio

Sunday October 8th, 2023

Lectors: AJ Barbiero, Paul Jackson

EMHC: Thomas Rogers, Joan Mullens, Gary Kennedy, Larry

Mullens

Altar Servers: Hannah 7 Brooklynn Bryan



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

Patti Hooper Allen Rueben Moreno Miriam Bishop Susan Morphew Jackie Bolden Cynthia Murry Frankie Career Katherine Ned Judy Darcey Don Olivier Laurie Duvall Matthew Reichert Sean Dwyer Tristen Roberts Becky Ferrell Pearline Robey Mary Lou French Laura Leigh Saleese Emmely Gay Jennie Schutte-Patrick Bernice Harrison Diane Singletary Harvey Haves Nicole Smith Maureen Hinton Polly Smith Tyler Sorrels Karl Johnson Magnolia Johnson Willie Tannerhill Jeffery Judice Karen Taylor Diane Theriot Chris Letendre Pam Turner Ken Martinez

Tobie McKown David & Kim St. John Claudia Michel Kathleen "Kathy" Walter

Leopoldo Michel Janice Williams

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY September 16/17

General Sunday Collection \$7,180.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel today is a great example of saying, "actions speak louder than words."

As you put your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's poor box, know that you are putting your faith into action.



Vigésimo-Sexto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

El Evangelio de hoy es un gran ejemplo de decir "acciones hablan más fuerte que palabras."

Cuando pongas tu regalo en la Caja Pobre de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, entiende que estás poniendo tu fe en acción.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday September 30th Mike & Paul Buske +

(by Bill & Jean Schodlatz)

Sunday October 1st Dennis Kennedy +

(by Gary & Selene Kennedy)

For the parishioners of St. Thomas

Aquinas

Monday October 2nd Diane Singletary

(by Rhonda Reed)

Tuesday October 3rd Mary Smith +

(by George & Carmen Trevison)

Wednesday October 4th Carmen de Denys

(by George & Carmen Trevison)

Deceased members of St. Vincent

de Paul

(by Tom & Becky Garza)

Thursday October 5th Dinicolomaria Franca Bruno +

(by Victor Langiulli)

Friday September 29th Mike Buske +

(by Bill & Jean Schodlatz)

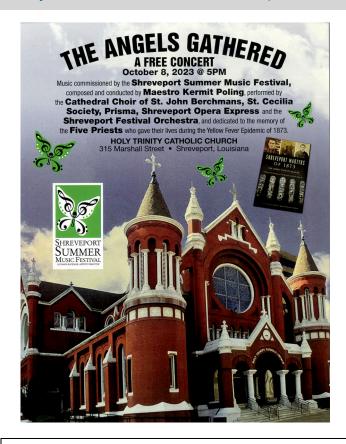
You may have Masses offered for your intentions, or for the intentions of your loved ones, both living and deceased. Please call the parish office for more information and available dates or you can now check our website https://stthomasaquinasruston.com/calendar/



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults - OCIA

OCIA meets Thursdays 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

If you are interested in joining the Catholic
Church or learning more about the
faith please gather with us. It is also for
Catholic adults who are may need
other sacramental formation. If you have any
questions you may contact
Dc. John Serio, email: jdser@bellsouth.net



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 personto-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 Women's Guild will meet at noon on Tuesday October 10th in the Luffey Center. Please join us for lunch and fellowship!



Burgers and Bingo sponsored by the Women's Guild and the Men's Club Saturday October 21st following the 5:00pm Mass



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!



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





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!

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.



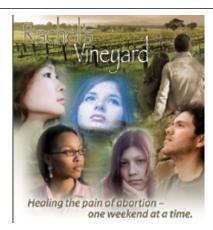


There is now a desktop computer station available in the Joe & Roger Luffey Youth Room that is designated for completing Virtus bulletins and Protecting God's Children online training. If you need internet access to complete your monthly Virtus bulletins, you are encouraged to use this computer station. 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.



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.



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.



Our year of youth ministry has begun!

https://www.dioshpt.org/youth-ministry-forms

If you child would like to participate in the youth group this year, please see the attached link. It also explains about the forms. A is required for youth and C for adults.

Also find attached a link to a google form which has sign-up volunteer opportunities and donations. There is host/hostess, main, drinks, dessert, small group helper, and games.....please consider filling in some spots if your child will be participating this year.

Please use the "comment" to sign up and I will put it in. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/

<u>1aYvlxHS8PPAt8Z4UzUduLX40K3haXYm94dE6Sh7B</u>48Y/edit?usp=sharing

Your youth team, Marina Bishop Karen Rogers Paula Martin



Parish School of Religion Schedule 2023 -2024

All Sunday classes will meet on Sundays at 10:45 am – 11:45 am according to this calendar.

PSR Reminders

-Pick-Up Procedures: We continue to have to turn people on foot away from picking up their children in the front of the St. Thomas School building. Even if the parent is on foot/on campus during PSR, ALL children should be picked up using the <u>carline</u> on the west side of the St. Thomas School building. <u>Please have the car tag visible</u> <u>when picking up children.</u>

–Update on Books: Family of Faith books should be distributed on Sunday, October 1st.

-October Adult Family of Faith Meeting: The adult Family of Faith meeting will be held in the Luffey Center on Sunday, October 22 at 10:45am. If your children are attending PSR and/or you are interested in this week's talk on the Importance of the Sacraments, please plan to attend.

-High School PSR: High school students in PSR, please meet in the ACTS library in the Student Center. If you enter through the back doors of the Student Center, the library is just to the right.

-October Schedule:

--Oct 1st: PSR Meeting – Grades pre-k – 12th

--Oct 8th: NO PSR due to Fall Break

--Oct 15th: PSR Meeting – Grades pre-k – 12th

--Oct 22nd: Adult Meeting in the Luffey Center / PSR Meeting – Grades pre-k – 12th

--Oct 29th: PSR Meeting – Grades pre-k – 12th

-Questions: Please reach out to Mindy Bryan at melinda@latech.edu or 318.525.4906

 ${\color{red} \textbf{Confirmation (1st year)} - Paula Martin, Jan Sibayan - AV room in the St. Thomas School Building } \\$

Confirmation (2nd year) – Deacon Robert Ransom, Courtney Reger - Joe and Roger Luffey/STAY room

First Communion (2nd graders)-Mallory Taylor, Erica White, Madison Stelly *Room 105 (St. Thomas School)*

Pre-K - Cindy Bimle & Nadja Haynie - Room 102 (St. Thomas School)

Kinder/1st Grade – Bridget Skinner & Jessica Johnson - Room 104 (St. Thomas School)

3rd/4th - Heidi Adams & Elise Reis -Room 106 (St. Thomas School)

5th - Marina Bishop & Niki St. Clair - Room 107 (St. Thomas School)

6th – Josh Adams & Melissa Jackson - Room 101 (St. Thomas School)

High School Small Group - ACTS Library





Students playing spike ball at the last home game tailgate!

Our ACTS leadership team and returning members alike have been thrilled to be meeting so many new people with the start of this new school year. We cannot wait to see what the rest of this year brings, and whatever it is, it's going to be wonderful! Be sure to follow the Instagram @latech_acts to stay up to date!

Weekly ACTS tivities

Monday:

- * Campus Rosary 12pm
- * Freshman Crossing 6pm

Wednesday:

- * Bible Study 6:30am
- * Dollar Lunch 11:30am
- * Guys & Girls Groups 6pm
- * Student Mass 8pm

Thursday:

* Campus Rosary 12pm

Friday:

* Adoration 6pm

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

9/21/2023 2:31 PM



2023 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Parish and Location	Parish ID	# of Parish Families	Participating 2023 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2023 Parish Goal		Amount Pledged 2023 (to date)	% Goal Pledged	Contributed 2023
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	145	24	17%	\$	-	\$4,153		\$3,328
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	125	30	24%	\$	19,439	\$5,850	30.1%	\$5,000
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	290	71	24%	\$	49,683	\$56,743	114.2%	\$53,653
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	419	77	18%	\$	53,360	\$20,719	38.8%	\$19,244
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,172	203	17%	\$	150,336	\$78,354	52.1%	\$73,041
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	85	50	59%	\$	17,498	\$11,145	63.7%	\$10,445
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	13	50%	\$	4,390	\$2,225	50.7%	\$1,850
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	45	18	40%	\$	21,822	\$7,910	36.2%	\$7,835
St. Margaret, Homer	34	24	18	75%	\$	8,305	\$9,777	117.7%	\$8,717
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	15	30%	\$	16,777	\$6,300	37.6%	\$6,150
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	115	52	45%	\$	36,237	\$62,210	171.7%	\$57,995
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	173	33	19%	ş	35,854	\$13,842	38.6%	\$12,542
St. Terence	45	62	12	19%	\$	9,704	\$4,701	48.4%	\$4,601
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	21	10	48%	\$	5,393	\$1,927	35.7%	\$1,927
St. Paul - Minden	47	121	28	23%	\$	21,349	\$9,917	46.5%	\$9,092
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	748	127	17%	\$	127,530	\$57,125	44.8%	\$54,678
Little Flower of Jesus	49	156	37	24%	\$	30,852	\$4,030	13.1%	\$3,900
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	48	26%	\$	26,152	\$21,955	84.0%	\$21,130
St. Matthew	52	341	63	18%	\$	76,913	\$28,030	36.4%	\$23,805
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	47	9	19%	\$	9,920	\$1,374	13.9%	\$1,374
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%	\$8,795
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	39	14	36%	\$	15,320	\$4,275	27.9%	\$4,215
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	300	48	16%	ş	69,415	\$24,328	35.0%	\$23,933
Holy Trinity	68	562	94	17%	\$	64,240	\$60,538	94.2%	\$57,018
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	150	22	15%	\$	28,311	\$7,295	25.8%	\$6,110
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	230	43	19%	\$	25,934	\$9,126	35.2%	\$7,341
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	980	167	17%	\$	153,207	\$158,168	103.2%	\$145,360
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	852	211	25%	\$	225,045	\$180,424	80.2%	\$169,559
St. Mary of the Pines	74	813	125	15%	\$	72,534	\$40,310	55.6%	\$36,120
St. Pius X	75	175	70	40%	\$	44,035	\$26,600	60.4%	\$23,945
St. Clement - Vivian	82	58	27	47%	ş	9,710	\$8,100	83.4%	\$7,110
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	370	122	33%	\$	79,994	\$43,585	54.5%	\$41,533
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	611	135	22%	\$	86,060	\$65,237	75.8%	\$59,747
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	14	19%	\$	11,082	\$1,995	18.0%	\$1,995
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	159	24	15%	\$	6,573	\$5,041	76.7%	\$4,341
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	747	231	31%	\$	147,657	\$153,550	104.0%	\$145,210
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	120	43	36%	s	26,010	\$12,170	46.8%	\$11.125



