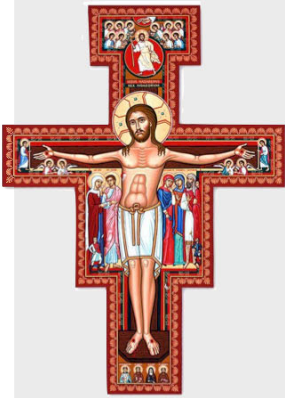


DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023 | 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



# 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.

Fr. Kevin Mues (318) 310-4007	<b>Pastor</b>
Fr. Charles Ssenyondo	<b>Parroquial Vicar</b>
Deacon John Serio	
Deacon Robert Ransom	
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870	<b>Business Manager</b>
Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906	<b>Interim PSR Director</b>
Matthew Bryan	<b>President of Pastoral Council</b>
Thurston Allen	<b>Chairman of Finance Council</b>
St. Vincent de Paul Society	(318)255-8090



## 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>December 1<sup>st</sup></u>	Brynn Reger - Luis Angel Garcia
<u>December 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	Rosaland Morris - Thomas Rogers
<u>December 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Becky Smith
<u>December 5<sup>th</sup></u>	Liliana Salazar
<u>December 6<sup>th</sup></u>	Gordon Reger
<u>December 7<sup>th</sup></u>	Christie Weeks - Bob Rorie Ximena Ruiz
<u>December 8<sup>th</sup></u>	Louis Reis - Lucas Haynie
<u>December 9<sup>th</sup></u>	Marilyn Rhodes
<u>December 10<sup>th</sup></u>	Camille Maier - Patrick Stuckey
<u>December 11<sup>th</sup></u>	John Thomas Colvin - Jack Smith Alice Spears - Rene Garcia
<u>December 12<sup>th</sup></u>	Danielle Nash - Jesus Torres
<u>December 13<sup>th</sup></u>	Sergio Ruiz
<u>December 14<sup>th</sup></u>	Elise Reis
<u>December 15<sup>th</sup></u>	Jed Denny
<u>December 16<sup>th</sup></u>	Frank Reger - Harold Cramer Mary Carol Vidrine
<u>December 17<sup>th</sup></u>	Karen Rogers - Jesus Gonzalez Sheila Montgomery
<u>December 18<sup>th</sup></u>	Paul Jackson - Barbara Aguirre
<u>December 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Anyi Garcia Solis - Susan Fauchaux Beatriz Hernandez - Francisco Morales Britney Perez
<u>December 22<sup>nd</sup></u>	John Serio
<u>December 24<sup>th</sup></u>	Cruz Medrano - Bryan Lopez
<u>December 25<sup>th</sup></u>	Beau Hickman - Clyde Vidrine
<u>December 26<sup>th</sup></u>	Pamela Allen
<u>December 27<sup>th</sup></u>	Ohan Kitishian - Jan Sibayan
<u>December 28<sup>th</sup></u>	Harry May - Robyn Kirkham Alondra Tapia - Steve Danna
<u>December 29<sup>th</sup></u>	Daniel Lindsey
<u>December 30<sup>th</sup></u>	Scott Martin - Leslie Mendez Christopher Montgomery
<u>December 31<sup>st</sup></u>	Kenneth Carter - James Martin Kimberly Landaverde - Erick Ramirez

If I've missed your birthday, please email me at [stacbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:stacbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com) so that I can add you to the master list

## THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

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

### Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

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, December 5<sup>th</sup>

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

### Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

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

### Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

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

### Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

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

### Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

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



December  
8th, 2023

Holy Day  
of  
Obligation  
Mass  
schedule:

7:00 am  
12 noon  
6:00 pm

## Ministry Schedule

### Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023

**Lectors:** Pam Allen, Samantha Groce

**EMHC:** Bob Rorie, Trish Carter

**Altar Servers:** Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio

### Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**Lectors:** Thomas Rogers, Stacey Denny

**EMHC:** Jim Martin, Mary Ghongkedze, Paul Jackson, Gary Kennedy

**Altar Servers:** Brad Denny

### Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Lectors:** Mary Carol Vidrine, Sarah Wilkerson

**EMHC:** Slade Richard, George Trevison

**Altar Servers:** Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

### Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Lectors:** Josie Bishop, Charlotte Wilkerson

**EMHC:** Todd Wasson, Thomas Rogers, Jim Martin, Tom Bishop

**Altar Servers:** Hannah & Brooklynn Bryan



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

Patti Hooper Allen  
Miriam Bishop  
Jackie Bolden  
Frankie Career  
Bruce Cowan  
Judy Darcey  
Laurie Duvall  
Sean Dwyer  
Becky Ferrell  
Mary Lou French  
Emmely Gay  
Bernice Harrison  
Harvey Hayes  
Maureen Hinton  
Karl Johnson  
Magnolia Johnson  
Jeffery Justice  
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  
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

General Sunday Collection \$6,390.00 Nov 18/19

General Sunday Collection \$3,271.00 Nov 25/26

*Thank you for continued and generous support!*

### First Sunday of Advent

As we begin Advent we are called to "Be watchful! Be alert" as we stand in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas.



### Primer Domingo de Adviento

En este inicio de Adviento, somos llamados a "¡Ser Vigilantes! ¡Estar Alertas!" permaneciendo jubilosos en anticipación de la Gracia de la Navidad, para de nuevo bendecir nuestras vidas. Tu regalo a la Caja Pobre de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl ayudará a los pobres celebrar la Gracia del amor de Dios en esta Navidad.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mary Jane & Art Trevison +  
(by Charles & Cathy Barron)

### Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Joseph Ghongkedze +  
(by Charles & Cathy Barron)

Por todos los feligreses de la parroquia Santo Tomás Aquino

### Friday December 1<sup>st</sup>

Herman & Mary Manuel +  
(by Barbara Lewis)

Mary Placidie  
(by Pauline Phi)

Mildred Gallot  
(by Barbara Lewis)

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/>





## Celebración a Nuestra Señora la Virgen de Guadalupe

- Las Mañanitas 6:00 am
- Proceión y Santo Rosario 6:00 pm
- Santa Misa 7:00 pm
- Celebración en el Luffey 8:00 pm: comida, rifa y música

*Acudimos a ti con confianza, sabiendo que realmente eres nuestra madre compasiva, la salud de los enfermos y la causa de nuestra alegría. Refúgiamos bajo el manto de tu protección, mantennos en el abrazo de tus brazos, ayúdanos a conocer siempre el amor de tu Hijo, Jesús. Amén.*

**St. Thomas Aquinas  
Ruston, Louisiana**

*Christmas Eve + Christmas  
Day Mass Schedule*

24 December 2023  
9:30 am, 6:00 pm & Midnight

25 December 2023  
9:30 am & 1:30 pm



All women of St. Thomas Aquinas are invited to the Women's Guild meeting at noon on Tuesday December 13, 2023 in the Luffey Center. Please join us for lunch and fellowship. If you are new to St. Thomas Aquinas parish, please know that we would love to meet you and welcome you to our church! For more information call or text Rhonda at 318.548.7127.

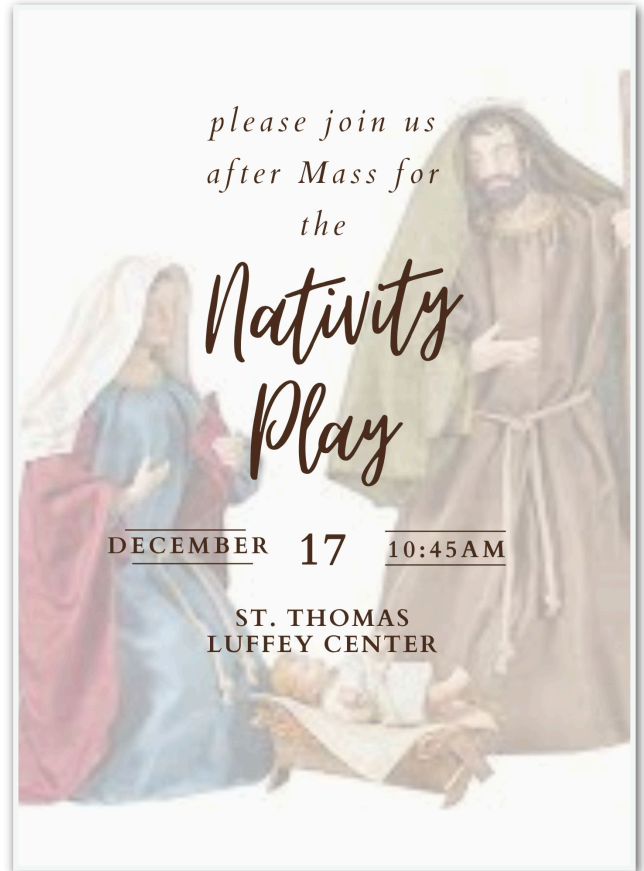
**We are decorating the church for Christmas after Spanish Mass December 24th, 2023 at 2:30 pm and will need all the help we can get!**



Save the Date  
for  
**CONFIRMATION**

MAY  
SATURDAY **11** 5:00 PM

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
813 CAREY AVE, RUSTON LA, 71270  
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



please join us  
after Mass for  
the  
**Nativity  
Play**

DECEMBER **17** 10:45AM

ST. THOMAS  
LUFFEY CENTER

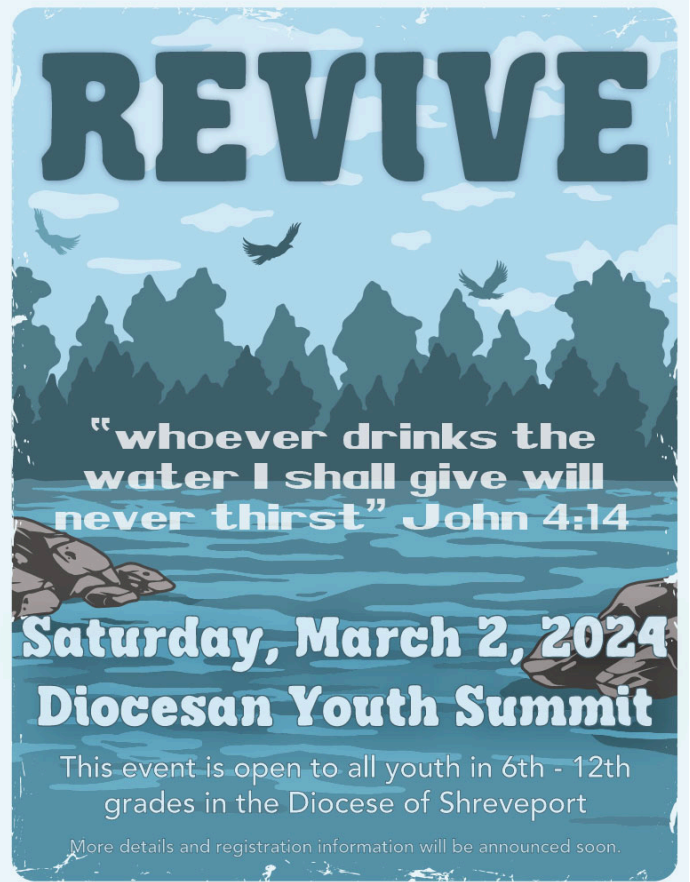


*First Holy  
Communion Mass*

**Save the Date**

Sunday, May 12, 2024  
during the 9:30 Mass\*  
\*Reception to Follow

**St. Thomas Catholic Church**  
813 Carey Ave, Ruston, LA 71270



**REVIVE**

"whoever drinks the  
water I shall give will  
never thirst" John 4:14

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**  
**Diocesan Youth Summit**

This event is open to all youth in 6th - 12th  
grades in the Diocese of Shreveport

More details and registration information will be announced soon.



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.



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.

**Parish School of Religion Schedule 2023 -2024**

**All Sunday classes will meet on Sundays at 10:45 am – 11:45 am**

**December PSR Schedule**

- Dec 3rd: PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade
- Dec 10th: Family of Faith Adult Meeting in the Luffey/ PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- Dec 17th: Parish Community Gathering in the Luffey Center -- featuring the Nativity Play by children in grades pre-k to 1st grade. All are welcome. NO PSR due to Community Gathering.
- Dec 24th: NO PSR due to Christmas Break
- Dec 31st: NO PSR due to Christmas Break

**Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines**

- December 3, 2023: Choose your Sponsor, & ask them to sponsor you.
- December 10, 2023: Saint paper completed, and turned into PSR teacher.
- January 14, 2024: All documents for sponsor turned into PSR teacher or Mindy Bryan.
- February 4, 2024: Letter to the Bishop due to PSR Teacher or Mindy Bryan.

**Upcoming First Communion Deadlines**

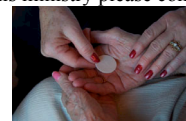
- December 17, 2024: Turn in First Communion registration form, and request original Baptismal certificate from Parish where child was baptized.



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.

**Ministry to the Homebound**

Please contact the church office or Dr. 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 Dr. John.





### STAY BONFIRE



Sunday  
December 3, 4-6 pm  
905 Frazier Road  
questions: Joshua Adams  
+13185486686

Rain date: December 17

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS  
6-12 TO 12TH GRADES**

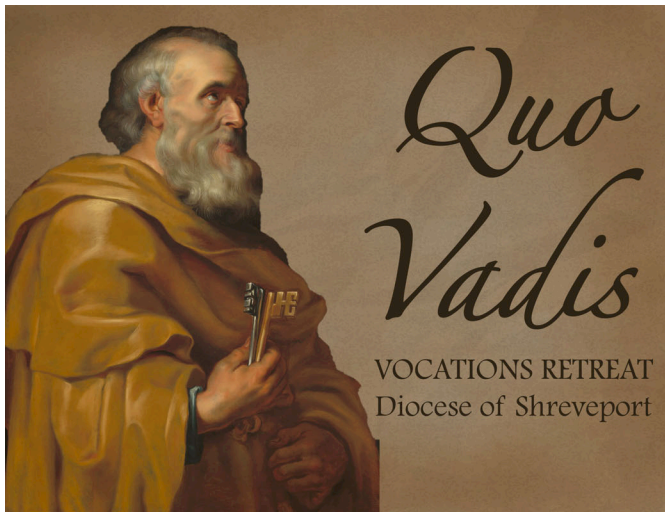
## Please Help your Neighbors in Lincoln Parish through SVDP



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.



# Quo Vadis

VOCATIONS RETREAT  
Diocese of Shreveport

**DECEMBER 9TH AND 10TH, 2023**

2PM SATURDAY TO 4PM SUNDAY  
CATHOLIC CENTER, FAIRFIELD AVE, SHREVEPORT, LA

Open to all young men currently enrolled in high school in the Diocese of Shreveport.  
Space for this retreat will be limited to 15 attendees.

For more information please contact Vocations Director,  
Reverend Rane C. Johnson  
rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org or  
vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org

To register please scan the QR Code here:




DIOCESE OF SHREVEPORT

# SEMINARIAN

## ALL-STAR BASKETBALL GAME

**DECEMBER 16 | 10 AM - 12 PM**  
@ LOYOLA COLLEGE PREP GYM

ADMISSION IS \$5 FOR ADULTS AND FREE FOR CHILDREN 10 YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER.  
CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE. ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT THE DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS.

BUY YOUR TICKETS HERE: 

SPONSORED BY  
*The Knights of Columbus*