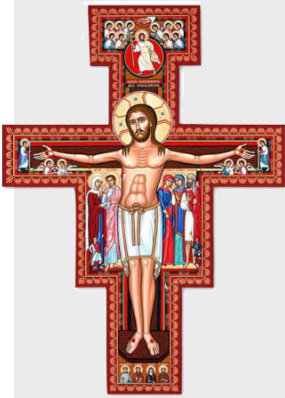


DECEMBER 10TH, 2023 | 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

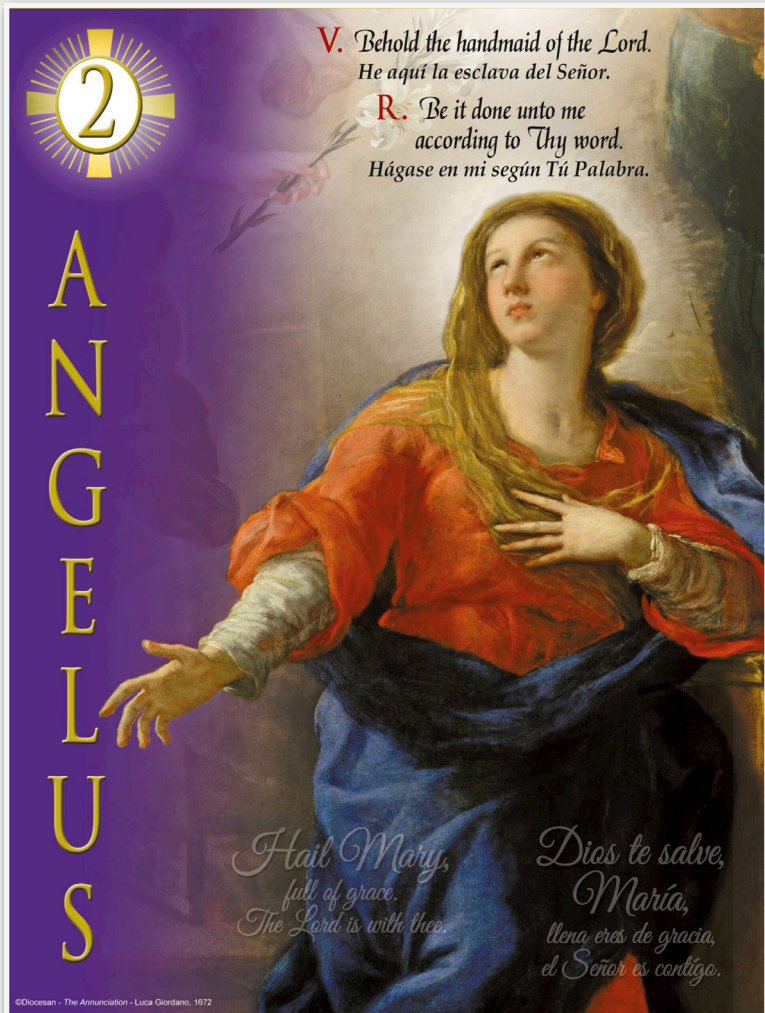
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

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 **Pastor**
Fr. Charles Ssennyondo **Parroquial Vicar**
Deacon John Serio
Deacon Robert Ransom
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 **Business Manager**
Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906 **Interim PSR Director**
Matthew Bryan **President of Pastoral Council**
Thurston Allen **Chairman of Finance Council**
St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090



V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
He aquí la esclava del Señor.
R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word.
Hágase en mí según Tú Palabra.

ANGELUS

Hail Mary,
full of grace.
The Lord is with thee.

Dios te salve,
María,
llena eres de gracia,
el Señor es contigo.

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

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 10th

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

Monday, December 11th

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

Tuesday, December 12th

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

Wednesday, December 13th

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

Thursday, December 14th

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

Friday, December 15th

7:00 AM	Mass
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, December 16th

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

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.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday December 9th 2023

Lectors: Mary Carol Vidrine, Sarah Wilkerson

EMHC: Slade Richard, George Trevison

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday November 10th, 2023

Lectors: Josie Bishop, Charlotte Wilkerson

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

Altar Servers: Hannah & Brooklynn Bryan

Saturday December 16th 2023

Lectors: George Trevison, Dolly Hurtig

EMHC: Beth Buske, John Ryan Serio

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio

Sunday December 17th, 2023

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Mary Ann Hooper

EMHC: Tom Bishop, Emily Chartier, Mary Ghongkedze, Paul Jackson

Altar Servers: Brennan & Matthew Jackson



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

December 2/3

General Sunday Collection \$9,285.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!

Second Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.



Segundo Domingo de Adviento

En el Evangelio de hoy, Juan Bautista nos urge: "Preparen el Camino del Señor." Somos llamados a ayudar a prepararle al Señor su camino haciendo del significado real de la Navidad vivir en nuestros propios corazones, en Nuestras familias y de dar la mano a aquellos que tienen poco. ¿Acaso habrá alguna familia que tu conoces quien necesite asistencia? Favor de llamar a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul para que juntos podamos ayudar a los que sufren y son pobres, a celebrar la Navidad.



Mass Intentions

Saturday December 9th Mary Jane & Art Trevison +
(by Charles & Cathy Barron)

Sunday December 10th Leigh A Stephens +
(by Phyllis Lampo)

For the parishioners of St.
Thomas Aquinas

Monday December 11th Ola Grimm +
(by Michelle McCumber)

Tuesday December 12th Eddie Tolbert
(by Barbara Lewis)

Thursday December 13th Bernadette Bennett +
(by Pamela Torres)

Friday December 14th Noble Kennedy
(by Gary & Selene Kennedy)

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
- Procesión 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, manténnos en el abrazo de tus brazos, ayúdanos a conocer siempre el amor de tu Hijo, Jesús. Amén.

Mass times for December 24th & 25th

December 24th

Advent:

9:30 am 4th Sunday of Advent
1:30 pm 4th Sunday of Advent
(Spanish/ Español)

Christmas Eve:

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass
Midnight Christmas Eve Mass

December 25th

9:30 am Christmas Day Mass
1:30 pm Christmas Mass
(Spanish/ Español)

** Everyone is obliged to attend one Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent and one for the Solemnity of Christmas.

Advent Angels



Our 2023 Advent Angels project will begin on Dec. 2-3. Please remember to return your wrapped gift, with the tag visible on the outside no later than December 17th.

If you have questions, please contact Jessica Johnson at 770-861-5078.



All women of St. Thomas Aquinas are invited to the Women's Guild meeting at noon on **Tuesday December 12, 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!

Parish School of Religion Schedule 2023 -2024

December PSR Schedule

- 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 24 th: NO PSR due to Christmas Break
- Dec 31st: NO PSR due to Christmas Break
- Jan 7th: PSR grades pre-k through 12th will resume


Past & Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines

- Past: Confirmandis' should have already chosen a Sponsor & asked their sponsor to sponsor them.
- December 10, 2023 (today): 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.

Mindy Bryan, Interim PSR Direction can be reached at melinda@latech.edu or 318.525.4906.



*please join us
after Mass for
the*

Nativity Play

DECEMBER 17 10:45AM

**ST. THOMAS
LUFFEY CENTER**

The Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows



INVITE YOU TO

Come and See

JANUARY 13, 11:00 AM - JANUARY 14, 3:00 PM

Ladies ages 16-23 of the Diocese of Shreveport, you are invited to a weekend filled with prayer, reflection, and sisterhood. Local religious, including the Sisters of the Destitute, will participate in the weekend's activities and discussion panel.

To register scan the QR Code or contact Sister AnnaMaria at annamariampda@yahoo.it or vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org



9894 Norris Ferry Rd, Shreveport, LA 71106

STAY

6-12 TH GRADES, MEETINGS 6-7:30
DINNER INCLUDED

DEC

13

SERVICE
PROJECT:
ADVENT ANGELS

DEC

20

SMALL GROUP
TOPICS

JAN

10

REGULAR YOUTH
MEETING

QUESTIONS? 504-940-8997 MARINA BISHOP



**Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows
Vocations Retreat Weekend
January 13 & 14, 2024
9894 Norris Ferry Road
Shreveport, La**

The Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows invite you to attend a discernment retreat! Religious sisters from surrounding communities will assist, give talks, lead small groups, and share their testimony by providing joyful witness of what it means to them to be a religious sister.

If the thought of religious life has crossed your mind or if you want to learn more about the life of a religious sister, join us! This weekend is for you!

Meals are provided. There is no cost to attend this retreat, you are our guest! This retreat is open to women ages 16-23 throughout the Diocese of Shreveport.

The retreat will begin at 11 am Saturday, January 13th and end at 3 pm Sunday January 14th

If you have any questions, contact Sister AnnaMaria at annamariampda@yahoo.it or vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org



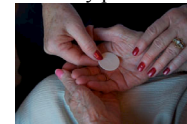
Are you looking for something to do where you make a difference in people's lives? Volunteer at Mary's House – Friday mornings 8:30 – 12:30 as our receptionist. You'll be the first smiling face our patients meet, and you'll work with a great team of ladies on the same mission – to make a difference for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



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.



11/30/2023

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	29	20%	\$ -	\$5,963		\$5,328
St. Joseph, Batrop	8	125	34	27%	\$ 19,439	\$6,025	31.0%	\$5,325
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	290	74	26%	\$ 49,683	\$58,708	118.2%	\$57,869
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	419	83	20%	\$ 53,360	\$22,154	41.5%	\$21,714
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,172	209	18%	\$ 150,336	\$83,499	55.5%	\$82,068
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	85	51	60%	\$ 17,498	\$11,180	63.9%	\$11,080
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	13	50%	\$ 4,390	\$2,225	50.7%	\$2,125
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	45	18	40%	\$ 21,822	\$7,910	36.2%	\$7,885
St. Margaret, Homer	34	24	18	75%	\$ 8,305	\$9,777	117.7%	\$9,477
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	16	32%	\$ 16,777	\$6,325	37.7%	\$6,325
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	115	52	45%	\$ 36,237	\$62,960	173.7%	\$61,725
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	173	34	20%	\$ 35,854	\$14,167	39.5%	\$13,767
St. Terence	45	62	12	19%	\$ 9,704	\$4,776	49.2%	\$4,751
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	21	10	48%	\$ 5,393	\$1,927	35.7%	\$1,927
St. Paul - Minden	47	121	29	24%	\$ 21,349	\$9,967	46.7%	\$9,592
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	748	129	17%	\$ 127,530	\$57,800	45.3%	\$56,978
Little Flower of Jesus	49	156	38	24%	\$ 30,852	\$4,140	13.4%	\$4,020
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	49	27%	\$ 26,152	\$22,105	84.5%	\$22,080
St. Matthew	52	341	65	19%	\$ 76,913	\$30,520	39.7%	\$26,720
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%	\$8,895
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	39	14	36%	\$ 15,320	\$4,275	27.9%	\$4,255
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	300	48	16%	\$ 69,415	\$24,712	35.6%	\$24,617
Holy Trinity	68	562	101	18%	\$ 64,240	\$65,158	101.4%	\$64,238
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	150	23	15%	\$ 28,311	\$7,395	26.1%	\$7,140
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	230	45	20%	\$ 25,934	\$9,276	35.8%	\$7,621
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	980	170	17%	\$ 153,207	\$159,928	104.4%	\$150,767
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	852	233	27%	\$ 225,045	\$193,403	85.9%	\$188,798
St. Mary of the Pines	74	813	129	16%	\$ 72,534	\$42,810	59.0%	\$40,550
St. Pius X	75	175	70	40%	\$ 44,035	\$27,490	62.4%	\$26,445
St. Clement - Vivian	82	58	27	47%	\$ 9,710	\$9,100	93.7%	\$9,050
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	370	127	34%	\$ 79,994	\$44,355	55.4%	\$43,664
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	611	143	23%	\$ 86,060	\$67,282	78.2%	\$65,782
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%	\$4,491
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	747	234	31%	\$ 147,657	\$155,405	105.2%	\$150,135
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	120	43	36%	\$ 26,010	\$12,170	46.8%	\$11,880
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		10,642	2,435	23%	\$ 1,800,000	\$1,264,191	70.2%	\$1,224,353

WE ARE HIRING!

JOIN OUR TEAM AT THE CATHOLIC CENTER

- ✓ GENERAL LEDGER/PAYROLL ACCOUNTANT
- ✓ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN
- ✓ DIRECTOR OF MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE
- ✓ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

SUBMIT YOUR RESUME TO: DEAGON MICHAEL STRAUB
MSTRAUB@DIOSHPT.ORG



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

Winter Quarter Begins!



A highlight from our recent Homecoming tailgate, where students and Fr. Kevin play an expert game of Spikeball.

You might have noticed an increase in traffic in Ruston, and that is due to students arriving back for Winter Quarter!

The Spirit of Advent is present not only for the ACTS students as they await for Christ's coming in the Christmas season, but all students at LA Tech are excitedly waiting for Christmas Break.

We wish you a fruitful Advent season!

Weekly ACTStivities

Sunday 12/10

* Student mass 7pm

Wednesday 12/13

* Dollar Lunch 11:30 am

Friday 12/1


* Adoration 6pm

Saturday 12/2

* Winter Social 6pm

For more information, please visit:

stac-acts.com



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

