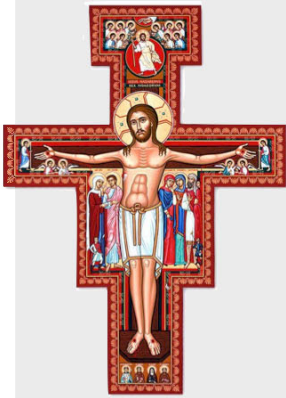


JANUARY 7TH, 2024 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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

Monday: 8:15AM
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 Ssenyondo

Parroquial Vicar

Deacon John Serio

Deacon Robert Ransom

Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870

Business Manager

Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906

Interim PSR Director

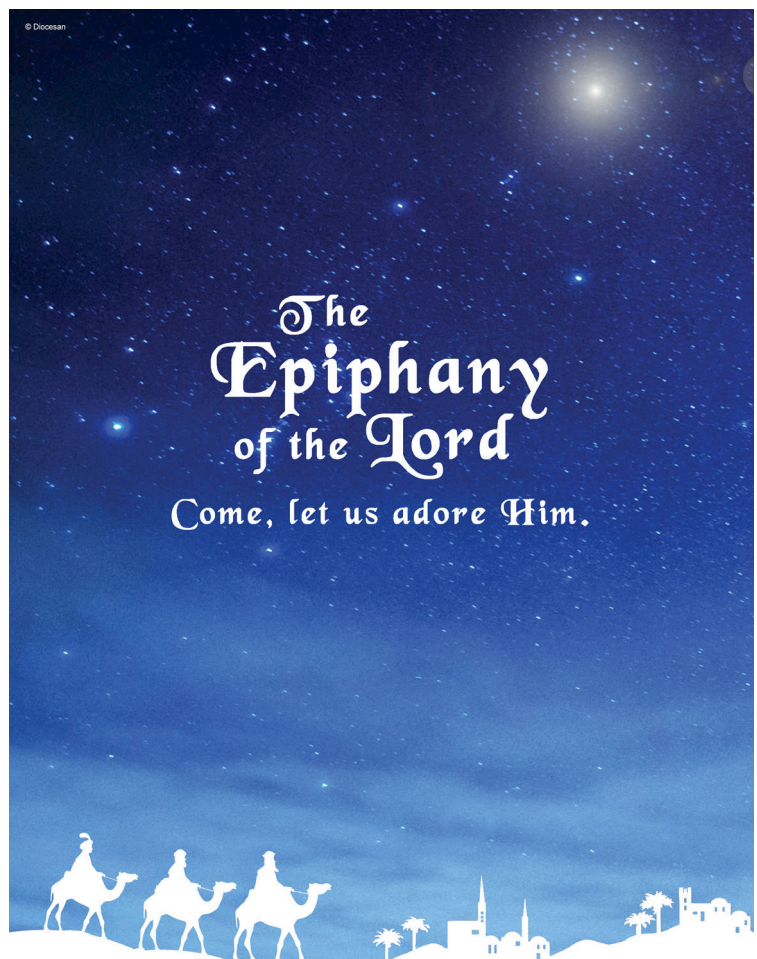
Matthew Bryan

President of Pastoral Council

Thurston Allen

Chairman of Finance Council

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



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>January 1st</u>	Wayne Skipper - Victor Langiulli Dolly Garcia
<u>January 2nd</u>	Carmen Trevison Ethan Moreno
<u>January 3rd</u>	Atilano Garcia Martinez - Stephanie Martinez - Darlene Menzina
<u>January 4th</u>	Oscar Hannibal
<u>January 5th</u>	Ramona Bishop - Juana Melendez
<u>January 7th</u>	Josie Bishop - Janice Holbron Ashley Michelle Landaverde
<u>January 10th</u>	Yanney Hernandez
<u>January 11th</u>	Olivia Roger
<u>January 12th</u>	David Broussard - Melissa Jackson Kaitlin Corcia - Harryn Lopez
<u>January 13th</u>	Joseph Lanning
<u>January 14th</u>	Brennan Jackson - Marcie Tucker
<u>January 15th</u>	Sandy Freeman
<u>January 16th</u>	Juana Maria Leon - Jaiden Langiulli
<u>January 17th</u>	Paul Kabbes - Jerry Berg, II
<u>January 18th</u>	Linda Oakley
<u>January 20th</u>	Christine Hanna - Matthew Montgomery
<u>January 21st</u>	Rose Kitishian - John Mark Adams Jose Maria Garcia
<u>January 22nd</u>	Benjamin Denny - Edgar Nunez
<u>January 24th</u>	Cindy Bimle
<u>January 25th</u>	Fr. Kevin Mues
<u>January 26th</u>	Ryan Corcia
<u>January 27th</u>	Riley Oakley
<u>January 28th</u>	William Slusher - Zane Morris
<u>January 31st</u>	Pedro Derosa

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

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 7th

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

Monday, January 8th

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

Tuesday, January 9th

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

Wednesday, January 10th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 12:00PM Church Office Open
8:00 PM Mass

Thursday, January 11th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM Daily Mass
9:00 AM - 12:00PM Church Office Open

Friday, January 12th

9:00 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, January 13th

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

Epiphany of the Lord:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.



La Epifanía del Señor:

Hoy celebramos La Epifanía del Señor, cuando los Reyes Magos se encuentran con el recién nacido. Rey y le ofrecen regalos de Oro, Incienso y Mirra. En el espíritu de los Magos, favor de poner su regalo en La Caja Pobre de La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul para que consolación y paz sean, de nuevo, dados a un niño recién nacido.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday January 6th 2024

Deacon Robert Ransom

Lectors: Samantha Groce, Sarah Wilkerson

EMHC: George Trevison, Bob Rorie

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin and Peter Serio

Sunday January 7th, 2024

Lectors: Charlotte Wilkerson, Mary Carol Vidrine

EMHC: Elaine Johnson, Gary Kennedy, Tom Bishop, Emily Chartier

Altar Servers: Hannah & Brooklynn Bryan

Saturday January 13th 2024

Deacon John Serio

Lectors: Tom Garza, John Allen

EMHC: Slade Richard, John Ryan Serio

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday January 14th, 2024

Lectors: Josie Bishop, Thomas Rogers

EMHC: Jim Martin, Mary Ghongkedze, Paul Jackson, Todd Wasson

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
Charles Jacobs
Karl Johnson
Magnolia Johnson
Jeffery Judice
Chris Letendre
Ken Martinez
Tobie McKown
Claudia Michel

Leopoldo Michel
Larry Miller
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 \$44,891.00 Dec 23/24
General Sunday Collection \$17,960.99 Dec 30/31

Thank you for continued and generous support!



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.



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!



Mass Intentions

Saturday January 6th

Bernadette Bennett +
(by Pamela Torres)

Sunday January 7th

Bobby Ortego +
(by Karen Ortego)

Por los feligreses de la parroquia Santo Tomas de Aquino

Tuesday January 9th

Kenny Holbron +
(by Janice Holbron)

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/>

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

- **January 7th:** PSR resumes for ALL grades (pre-k - high school).
- **January 14th:** Family of Faith Adult Meeting in the Luffey/ PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- **January 21st:** PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- **January 28th:** NO PSR / Community Gathering for the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas

Past & Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines

- **Past:** Confirmandies should have already chosen a Sponsor & asked their sponsor to sponsor them and be working on their saint paper, which should be turned into PSR teacher or DRE upon return from Christmas break / Jan 7th.
- **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.

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



All women of St. Thomas Aquinas are invited to the Women's Guild meetings 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.

Upcoming meetings January 9th, 2024 and February 13th, 2024!



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.

ST THOMAS YOUTH NIGHT

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND FAITH

Join us for dinner, conversation, topics and games on Wednesdays, 6-7:30 PM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 504-940-8997, MARINA BISHOP

6TH-12TH GRADES

MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm, at the Luffey.

If you have any questions contact Joshua Adams (318)548-6686.

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.

STAY

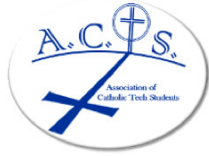
6-12 TH GRADES, MEETINGS 6-7:30
DINNER INCLUDED

JAN 10	DINNER, SPECIAL TOPIC
JAN 17	GAME NIGHT
JAN 24	DINNER, PREP FOR GUMBO MEAL
JAN 28	GUMBO MEAL, FEAST DAY
JAN 31	SMALL GROUP TOPICS
FEB 7	SPECIAL TOPICS
FEB 14	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
FEB 28	EUCHARIST TALK
MAR 2	DIOCESAN YOUTH SUMMIT

QUESTIONS? 504-940-8997 MARINA BISHOP

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN

If you're enjoying the new bulletin, but want to see more, advertise for your company in the back. The more advertisements we have, the more space they will give us at no charge.



BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

Merry Christmas from ACTS!



Everyone showing off their gifts at the White Elephant party on St Nicholas's Feast Day!

The students will be back in Ruston to start classes on January 3rd. Many students will have exams when they come back, so we need your prayers!

ACTS wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas!

Weekly ACTStivities

Thursday 1/4

* Campus Rosary
12:00p

Friday 1/5

* Sports in the Quad 3:30p

* Adoration 6p

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

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

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

DIACONATE**FORMATION PROGRAM**

I am excited to share that the Diocese of Shreveport is kicking off another round of our Diaconate Formation program. I encourage all of our parishioners to prayerfully consider if you or someone you know could be a good deacon for the Church. There will be an informational meeting in our deanery on

Wednesday, January 17th at 6 PM

in the Moore Hall of Jesus the Good Shepherd Church, Monroe. I ask you to prayerfully consider attending this meeting to learn more about how you can take a more involved role in our parish and the Mass.

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS****The Epiphany -- January 7, 2024**

“For out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd My people.” Is Christ calling you forth out of your comfort zone to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, or priest?

Talk to your priest or contact Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org

La Epifanía - 7 de enero de 2024

“Porque de ti saldrá un gobernante que pastoreará a mi pueblo”. ¿Cristo te está llamando a salir de tu zona de comodidad para servirle en los demás como hermana, hermano o sacerdote?

Hable con su sacerdote o comuníquese con la Father Raney Johnson Oficina de Vocaciones al por correo electrónico: rjohnson@sjbcathedral.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.

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: DEACON MICHAEL STRAUB
MSTRAUB@DIOSHPT.ORG



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