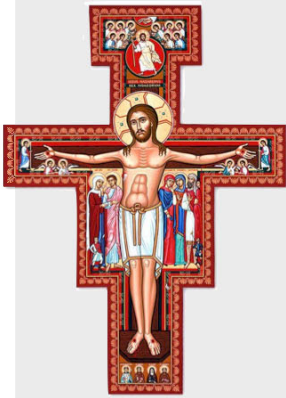


JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



# 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

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

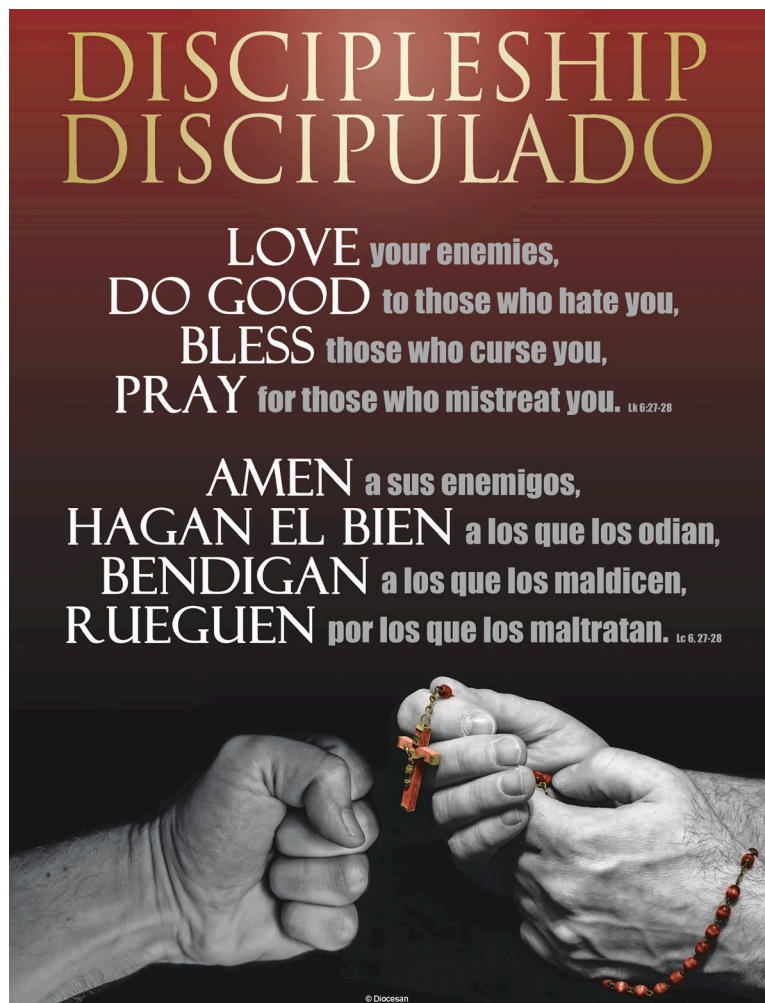
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

### 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



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

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, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

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 18<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

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 20<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In the Gospel today, Jesus asks "What are you looking for?" Often, we are looking for happiness in very selfish ways, but we find that when we look for ways to make others happy, it is then that we truly become happy. As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are a sign of God's love to those who are suffering, and you give them reason to believe and to trust.



### **Segundo Domingo en Tiempo Ordinario**

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús pregunta: "¿Que buscan?" Muy seguido buscamos la felicidad en una manera egoística para satisfacernos a nosotros mismos, pero después nos damos cuenta de que, si buscamos maneras de dar felicidad a otros, es entonces cuando nosotros mismos recibimos esa felicidad. Cuando pones tu regalo en La Caja Pobre de la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl, reconoce que eres un signo del amor de Dios a aquellos que están sufriendo, y tú les das razón para creer y confiar en otros.

## Ministry Schedule

### Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Deacon John Serio**

**Lectors:** Tom Garza, John Allen

**EMHC:** Slade Richard, John Ryan Serio

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

### Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Lectors:** Josie Bishop, Thomas Rogers

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

**Altar Servers:** Brennan & Matthew Jackson

### Saturday January 20<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Deacon Robert Ransom**

**Lectors:** George Trevison, Dolly Hurtig

**EMHC:** Bob Rorie, Mary Carol Vidrine

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

### Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Lectors:** Paul Jackson, Stacey Denny

**EMHC:** Thomas Rogers, Jim Martin, Gary Kennedy, Elaine Johnson

**Altar Servers:** Maggie & Georgia Rogers



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

January 6/7

General Sunday Collection TBA

*Thank you for continued and generous support!*



Altar Flowers donated by Roland & Pam Allen in loving memory of Kirk Beumel



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.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday January 13<sup>th</sup>

Theresa Robinson  
(by Mary Jane Allen)

### Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>

Bernadette Bennett  
(by Pamela Torres)

For the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

### Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup>

Maria Rodriguez & Michael Hinton  
(by Maria Rodriguez & Michael Hinton)

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 2024**

**January PSR Schedule**

- **Jan 14th:** Family of Faith Adult Meeting in the Luffey/ PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- **Jan 21st:** PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- **Jan 28th:** NO PSR / Community Gathering for the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas

**Past & Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines**

- **Past:** **Saint paper** should have been completed and turned into PSR teacher or PSR Director.
- **January 14, 2024:** All documents for sponsor and Confirmandi 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.



**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.



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 February 13th and March 12th, 2024!**

GUMBO LUNCH DONATIONS

# ST THOMAS FEAST DAY

please email, call, or text what you can do to bring or help for Sunday, January 28 gumbo parish lunch. Volunteers for set up, serving, cleanup also needed

**NEEDED ITEMS:**

- chickens
- Down Home sausage
- sams club potato salad
- rice
- cookies and brownies
- salad fixings
- volunteers

Jan 24 – bring Gumbo ingredients  
 Jan 27 – bring other food items  
 Jan 28 8:30 am – help



Contact Us:

☎ 504-940-8997

✉ bishopmg@gmail.com

FATHER/ DAUGHTER

## DANCE

Feb 4th

5-7

St Thomas Luffey Center



# REVIVE

## DIOCESAN YOUTH SUMMIT

Saturday, March 2, 2024  
10 AM - 6:30 PM, The Catholic Center

**BAND**



The Scally Brothers

**SPEAKER**



Ali Hoffman

Open to grades 7 - 12  
**REGISTRATION:** \$25 / youth  
register with your church parish

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**



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.



**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	<b>GUMBO MEAL, FEAST DAY</b>
JAN 31	SMALL GROUP TOPICS
FEB 7	SPECIAL TOPICS
FEB 14	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
FEB 28	EUCHARIST TALK
MAR 2	<b>DIOCESAN YOUTH SUMMIT</b>

QUESTIONS? 504-940-8997 MARINA BISHOP

*HACER TU VOLUNTAD;  
ESTO ES SEÑOR, LO QUE DESEO*

Salmo 39, 9

*I DELIGHT TO DO  
YOUR WILL, MY GOD*

Psalm 40:9



# BEING CATHOLIC

at Louisiana Tech University

## Back in Session!



This team won the "Most Accurate" painting at our recent Group Painting Competition!

The students are fully back at LA Tech now. A big group of ACTS students went to the annual SEEK Catholic Conference in St. Louis, Missouri over the break, as well!

ACTS wishes everyone a blessed week!

### Weekly ACTStivities

- Sunday 1/14
  - \* Mass 7p
- Monday 1/15
  - \* General Body Meeting 6p
- Tuesday 1/16
  - \* Cross Talk 6p
- Wednesday 1/17
  - \* Bible Study 6:30a
  - \* Dollar Lunch 11:30a-1p
  - \* Mass 8p
- Thursday 1/18
  - \* Campus Rosary 12p
- Friday 1/19
  - \* Adoration 6p
- Saturday 1/20
  - \* Shreveport March for Life

For more information, please visit: [stac-acts.com](http://stac-acts.com)



**Foundation**  
**FÊTE FOR LIFE**

BANQUET FOR MARY'S HOUSE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER  
Bossier Civic Center February 6, 2024



**With Special Guest Speaker Superbowl Champion Matt Birk**


**2024 Fête For Life Tickets & Tables On Sale Now**

- Platinum Sponsor \$5,000
- Gold Sponsor \$3,000
- Silver Sponsor \$2,000
- Friends & Family Table \$650
- General Admission \$60

Please send checks to Mary's House of Louisiana Inc. 906 Margaret Place, Shreveport, LA 71101 or use the QR code for online reservation and payment.



**March for Life in Shreveport!**




**LOUISIANA RIGHT TO LIFE**


**OPEN TO ALL!**  
**LIFE MARCH NORTHWEST**  
10am Saturday, January 20

Meet at the grassy area near the LA Boardwalk

**LaLifeMarch.com**  
**1-866-463-LIFE**



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Star Parker**



**DIOCESAN**  
Catholic Life Every Day

**Attention St Thomas Aquinas Community**

We are in need of bulletin Advertisers/Sponsors to help defray the cost of the weekly bulletin. If you have a business and would like to advertise in our weekly bulletin please contact our bulletin representative Christian Gambel at 337-781-5127 or email him at [cgambel@diocesan.com](mailto:cgambel@diocesan.com). If you do not have a business but want to help by sponsoring a space we have 2 options. Option 1, "Compliments of the Jones Family" and Option 2 is a memorial in memory of a loved one for example, "In Loving memory of John and Kim Dutton". Please call Christian if you have any questions.

## 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

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time -- January 14, 2024**

“Come, and you will see.” How are you being called to come and see how you can build up the kingdom of God as His co-worker? Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at [rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org](mailto:rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org)

**Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario -- 14 de enero de 2024**

“Ven y verás”. ¿Cómo estás siendo llamado a venir y ver cómo puedes edificar el reino de Dios como Su colaborador? Consideremos el generoso servicio del sacerdocio o de la vida consagrada. Hable con su sacerdote o comuníquese con la Father Raney Johnson Oficina de Vocaciones por correo electrónico: [rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org](mailto: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 STRAUD  
[MSTRAUD@DIOSRPT.ORG](mailto:MSTRAUD@DIOSRPT.ORG)



1/4/2024

### 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	31	21%	\$ -	\$6,648		\$5,803
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	125	36	29%	\$ 19,439	\$6,225	32.0%	\$5,575
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	290	74	26%	\$ 49,683	\$60,346	121.5%	\$60,255
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	419	87	21%	\$ 53,360	\$23,294	43.7%	\$23,194
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,172	220	19%	\$ 150,336	\$90,319	60.1%	\$90,009
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	85	52	61%	\$ 17,498	\$12,200	69.7%	\$12,200
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	13	50%	\$ 4,390	\$2,275	51.8%	\$2,175
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	45	18	40%	\$ 21,822	\$7,910	36.2%	\$7,910
St. Margaret, Homer	34	24	18	75%	\$ 8,305	\$9,877	118.9%	\$9,877
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	16	32%	\$ 16,777	\$6,675	39.8%	\$6,675
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	115	52	45%	\$ 36,237	\$63,535	175.3%	\$63,540
St. John the Baptist - Mary	44	173	37	21%	\$ 35,854	\$19,507	54.4%	\$19,407
St. Terence	45	62	13	21%	\$ 9,704	\$5,226	53.8%	\$5,226
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	21	10	48%	\$ 5,393	\$1,927	35.7%	\$1,927
St. Paul - Minden	47	121	30	25%	\$ 21,349	\$10,187	47.7%	\$9,987
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	748	135	18%	\$ 127,530	\$61,080	47.9%	\$60,980
Little Flower of Jesus	49	156	38	24%	\$ 30,852	\$4,165	13.5%	\$4,045
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	51	28%	\$ 26,152	\$22,415	85.7%	\$22,415
St. Matthew	52	341	65	19%	\$ 76,913	\$30,820	40.1%	\$29,120
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	47	10	21%	\$ 9,920	\$1,399	14.1%	\$1,399
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	22	5	23%	\$ 6,534	\$1,900	29.1%	\$1,900
St. George, Coushatta	62	32	13	41%	\$ 6,825	\$9,495	139.1%	\$9,445
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	39	15	38%	\$ 15,320	\$4,580	29.9%	\$4,580
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	300	50	17%	\$ 69,415	\$26,129	37.6%	\$26,129
Holy Trinity	68	562	106	19%	\$ 64,240	\$66,568	103.6%	\$65,873
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	150	26	17%	\$ 28,311	\$8,955	31.6%	\$8,855
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	230	46	20%	\$ 25,934	\$9,796	37.8%	\$9,385
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	980	175	18%	\$ 153,207	\$168,168	109.8%	\$167,068
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	852	241	28%	\$ 225,045	\$206,876	91.9%	\$206,555
St. Mary of the Pines	74	813	131	16%	\$ 72,534	\$45,620	62.9%	\$44,070
St. Pius X	75	175	71	41%	\$ 44,035	\$28,120	63.9%	\$27,380
St. Clement - Vivian	82	58	28	48%	\$ 9,710	\$9,385	96.7%	\$9,385
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	370	129	35%	\$ 79,994	\$44,855	56.1%	\$44,630
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	611	152	25%	\$ 86,060	\$71,392	83.0%	\$71,247
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	15	20%	\$ 11,082	\$2,295	20.7%	\$2,295
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	159	24	15%	\$ 6,573	\$5,091	77.5%	\$4,991
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	747	240	32%	\$ 147,657	\$162,930	110.3%	\$159,145
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	120	44	37%	\$ 26,010	\$12,320	47.4%	\$12,320
<b>TOTAL (DIOCESE)</b>		<b>10,642</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,000</b>	<b>\$1,330,505</b>	<b>73.9%</b>	<b>\$1,315,373</b>