# FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



# 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 9:30AM Sunday:

> 1:30PM (Spanish) 7:00PM (*Sept. - May*)

#### DAILY MASSES

8:15AM Monday: 8:15AM Tuesday:

8:15AM & 8:00PM Wednesday:

Thursday: 8:15AM 12:00PM Friday:

#### **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.

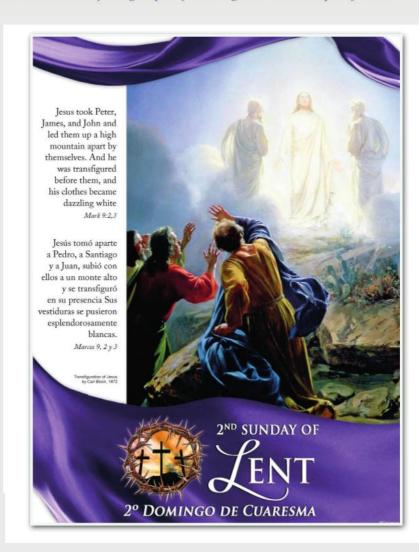
Fr. Kevin Mues (318) 310-4007 **Pastor** Fr. Charles Ssennyondo **Parroquial Vicar** Deacon John Serio

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



#### **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.



February 1st Michael Hinton
February 2nd Libby Manning

Aylmer Rainwater

February 3<sup>rd</sup> Martin Aviles
February 4<sup>th</sup> Wyatt Rust

Jessica Johnson

February 6th Iris Reis

Kaejha Stewart

<u>February 7<sup>th</sup></u> Ralph Pettijohn

Francisco Negrete

February 8th Charles Rogers

Cathy Riggin

February 9th Christi Faulkner

Martin Aviles

February 12th Margaret Stanton

Roan Sutherland

Britney Aguirre

Gail Lindsey Matthew Bryan

February 15th Roland Baudoin
February 17th Elizabeth Rodriguez
February 18th Margie Strickler
February 19th Melissa Hernandez

February 13th

February 20<sup>th</sup> Linda Viator

Samantha Huff

Dusty Rust

February 21st Victor Salazar

AJ Trevison

February 22<sup>nd</sup> Gwen Barron

Michelle McCumber

Gabrielle Rodriguez

February 25th Cesario Gonzalez
February 28th Edgar Nunez

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, February 25th

9:30 AMSunday Mass1:30 PMMisa en Español7:00 PMSunday Mass

Monday, February 26th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation

8:15 AM Daily Mass

8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open

Tuesday, February 27th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation

8:15 AM Daily Mass

8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open

Wednesday, February 28th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation

8:15 AM Daily Mass

8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open

8:00 PM NO Mass - Quarter break

Thursday, February 29th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation

8:15 AM Daily Mass

8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open

Friday, March 1st

8:30 AM - 12:00PM Church Office Open 11:15 AM - 11:45AM Penance & Reconciliation

12:00 PM Daily Mass

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 2nd

3:30PM - 4:45AM Penance & Reconciliation

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

#### Second Sunday of Lent

Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Your almsgiving in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



#### Segundo Domingo en Cuaresma

Cuaresma es un llamado, no solo para "ayunar de algo," pero más importante todavía, de "regalar algo a los pobres." Donde quiera que resides en nuestra parroquia, hay familias en necesidad a poca distancia de tu hogar. Cuando sufren de pobreza vienen a tocar el timbre de la rectoría. Realmente, están tocando tu timbre. Tus limosnas a la Caja Pobre de La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl ayudarán a los pobres a celebrar la gracia del amor de Dios estas Pascuas.

#### **Ministry Schedule**

Saturday February 24th, 2024

**Deacon Robert Ransom** 

Lectors: Pam Allen, Samantha Groce

EMHC: Trish Carter, Bob Rorie

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday February 25th, 2024

Lectors: Jim Martin, Rodney Manning

EMHC: Mary Ghongkedze, Gary Kennedy, Thomas Rogers, Paul Jackson

Altar Servers: Brad Denny

<u>Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024</u>

Deacon Robert Ransom

Lectors: Tom Garza, Sarah Wilkerson

EMHC: George Trevison, John Ryan Serio

Altar Servers: Cedric, Kevin and , Peter Serio

Sunday March 3rd, 2024

Lectors: Charlotte Wilkerson, Josie Bishop

EMHC: Paul Jackson, Mary Ghongkedze, Todd Wasson, Tom Bishop

Altar Servers: Hannah & Brooklyn 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 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 \$7,521.00 Feb 10/11 General Sunday Collection \$7,669.00 Feb 17/18

Thank you for continued and generous support!

#### 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.





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.



Saturday February 24th Theresa Robinson

(by Mary Jane Allen)

**Sunday February 25th** For the parishioners of St.

Thomas Aquinas

Thompson Family + (by Barbara Rogers)

Thursday February 29th Thomas Cornish

(by Jonathan & Ailish Rodriguez)

Friday March 1st June Cornish

(by Jonathan & Ailish Rodriguez)

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 <a href="https://stthomasaquinasruston.com/calendar/">https://stthomasaquinasruston.com/calendar/</a>

#### Parish School of Religion Schedule 2024

#### February/March PSR Schedule

- February 25th: Adult Family of Faith Meeting on the Sacraments of Healing/Reconciliation in the Luffey Center/PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- March 3rd: PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- March 10th: Adult Family of Faith Meeting in the Luffey Center/PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade
- · March 17th: PSR Meeting grades pre-K-12th grade.
- · March 24th: NO PSR / Palm Sunday
- · March 31st: NO PSR / Easter Sunday
- · April 7th: Save the Date for Parish Picnic

Past & Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines

• Mark Your Calendars - **Sunday, April 14th** from 2:30-8pm - Confirmation Retreat for all Confirmation, Year 2/B students. More information to come.



#### NORTHEAST LOUISIANA ACTS RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM ACTS Women's Retreat April 11-14, 2024

The ACTS retreat weekend is hosted by lay members of several local parishes/ churches who have themselves been on an ACTS retreat. The goal of the retreat is to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ, to receive spiritual renewal, to give new meaning to Sunday liturgy and your prayer life, and to build lasting relationships with other members of our community.

ACTS is an acronym for Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service. These four themes are the focus of activities for the three-day retreats, which are patterned after the description of the early church in Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47: "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to communal life, to the breaking of bread and to prayers...And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

Application: https://mcusercontent.com/0a05be742765a263d354d169b/files/569dd0fe-b4c7-4cde-a786-cb41fb382a7a/
NELA ACTS Women 039 s Registration April 2024.docx.pdf







# Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance Fund Financial Assistance for Catholic Students Application packets for tuition assistance from the Diocese of Shreveport Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance Fund are now available for the 2024-2025 school year. Partial tuition assistance is available on an as needs-basis for Catholic students registered in a Diocese of Shreveport Catholic School. Parents may contact any Catholic school for information. Deadline for application is April 15, 2024. For more information, contact the Diocesan Catholic Schools Office at (318) 219-7266. Sr. Carol Shively, OSU Superintendent of Catholic Schools



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 meeting March 12th, 2024!



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 chanel. All are welcome!



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** 



# BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED

Ephesians 2:5



## **Last Finals!**



Girls Group creating prayer boards

The students have two more days of finals, and then get a well-deserved two weeks off.

They will have a chance to reflect during this season of Lent, and not have to focus on classes.

We here at ACTS wish everyone a blessed and fruitful Lent!

For more information, please visit:  $\underline{\text{stac-acts.com}}$ 

#### Weekly ACTS tivities

No Events this week!

#### LENTEN SCHEDULE \*This schedule is in addition to the regular weekly Liturgical Schedule. Place Date Time Event Wed., Feb. 14th 8:15 am, 6pm (Bilingual) & 8:00pm Ash Wednesday Church Stations of the Cross (ACTS) Fri., Feb. 16th Church 6pm 6:30pm Holy Hour and Confession Fri., Feb. 23rd 6pm Stations of the Cross (STAY) Church Holy Hour and Confession 6:30pm Stations of the Cross (PSR) Fri., Mar. 1st Church 6pm 6:30pm Holy Hour and Confession Fri., Mar. 8th Stations of the Cross (OCIA) Church 6pm 6:30pm Holy Hour and Confession Fri., Mar. 15th 6pm Stations of the Cross (Confirmation) Church Holy Hour and Confession 6:30pm Fri., Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup> Stations of the Cross (Women's Guild) Church 6pm 6:30pm Holy Hour and Confession





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.





2/15/2024, 4:50 PM

#### 2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Parish and Location	Parish ID	F of Parish Families	Fof Families Participating 2024 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2024 Parish Goal	Amount Pledged 2024 (to date)	% Goel Pledged	Amount Contribute 2024
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	0	5		5 -	\$460		5460
it. Ioseph, Bastrop	8	83	1	1%	5 9,000	5600	6.7%	\$50
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	9	3%	5 69,000	57,105	10.3%	\$1,115
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	5	1%	5 28,000	53,280	11.2%	\$530
It. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,094	19	2%	5 144,000	\$11,004	7.6%	53,614
it. Ann, Ébarb	25	84	1	1%	5 17,000	\$240	1.4%	\$30
it. Benedict the Black	31	26		67%	5 3,000		0.0%	
t. Lucy - Hodge	33	48	1	2%	\$ 12,000	\$100	0.8%	\$100
it. Margaret, Homer	34	21		0%	5 12,000		0.0%	
t. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50		(1%)	\$ 9,000		0.0%	
t. Isseph, Mandield	41	97	5	3%	\$ 70,000	54,515	6.5%	51,545
t. John the Baptist - Many	- 64	160	1	1%	5 23,000	\$100	0.4%	\$100
it. Terence	- 45	54	1	2%	\$ 6,000	\$1,000	16.7%	\$1,000
Ressed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19		0%	\$ 3,000		0.0%	
it. Paul - Minden	47	80		0%	5 14,000		0.0%	
lesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	20	3%	5 91,000	\$34,070	37.4%	527,454
ittle Flower of Jesus	49	146	1	1%	\$ 5,000	550	1.0%	\$50
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	3	2%	\$ 27,000	\$10,400	38.5%	510,150
it, Matthew	52	383	3.	1%	5 36,000	51,400	3.9%	5100
lacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55		0%	5 3,000		0.0%	
It. Theresa - Delhi	38	27		6%	\$ 3,000		0.0%	
it. George, Coushatta	62	30		en.	5 12,000		0.0%	
lacred Heart, Rayville	- 64	40	1	3%	\$ 6,000	5240	4,0%	\$40
It. Thomas Aquines - Ruston	65	267	9	2%	5 82,000	\$6,005	20.8%	55,755
holy Trinity	68	675	3	-0%	5 75,000	5840	1.1%	\$260
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	0/0	140	2	1%	5 11,000	\$1,270	11.5%	\$120
iacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	220	4	2%	5 13,000	5453	3.5%	5201
Cethedral of St. John Benchmans	72	978	34	1%	\$ 189,000	59,685	5.1%	\$3,275
R. Asseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	29	4%	\$ 240,000	\$46,068	10.2%	\$25,848
it. Mary of the Pines.	74	714	-5	1%	\$ 55,000	\$1,950	3.5%	5600
it, Play X	75	132	7	5%	5 34,000	\$1,840	5.4%	\$990
it. Clement - Vivian	82	- 64	1	2%	5 31,000	5770	7.0%	5220
it. Paschal - West Moorpe	83	419	6	1%	5 53,000	\$3,110	5.9%	51,010
it. toseph, Zwolle	86	636		1%	5 80,000	\$3,590	4.5%	5635
it. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75		0%	5 5,000		0.0%	
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182		0%	5 9,000		0.0%	
it. Elicabeth Ann Seton	93	913	19	2%	5 176,000	\$15,890	9.0%	\$8,400
R. Ann, Stonewall	54	110	4	4%	\$ 15,000	52,850	19.0%	5125
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		10,381	189	2%	\$ 1,600,000	\$169,485	10.6%	\$94,375

## DIACONATE FORMATION PROGRAM

Registration ends February 29th

Contact vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org

for more information

The Diocese of Shreveport is kicking off another round of our Diaconate Formation program. All parishoners are encouraged 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

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH AT 6 PM

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



## Diocesan is proud to now be printing

# St. Thomas Aquinas's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish! For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-997-4986



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