# MARCH 3RD, 2024 | THIRD 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 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.

Deacon Robert Ransom

Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870

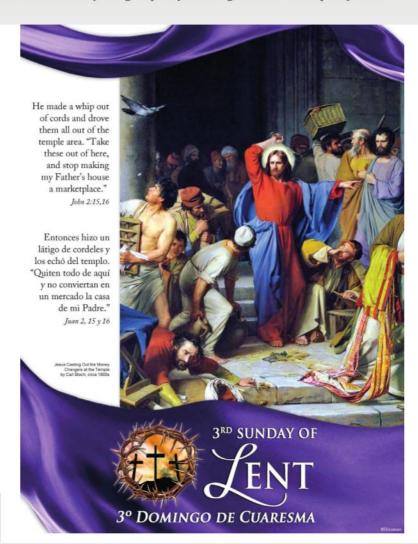
Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906

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.



March 2nd Lorraine Freeman March 4th Bailey Keys March 5th Juan Alvarez

Melanie Hernandez Flores

Christopher Decerbo

March 5th Juan Alvarez

March 6th Ana Laura Gonzalez Raythar

March 7th Leah Sutherland

Edward Mercier Pauline Phi

Maria Vazquez de Avilez

Margarita Castillo

March 8th Suzv Broussard

> Maria French Brenda Berg

March 9th March 10th Yesi Francisco

Josiah Atilano

March 11th Gerardo Guerrero March 12th Anderson Lainez

Adelyn Haynie

March 13th Nancy Lainez

Connie Stuckey

March 14th Jodie Morphew March 15th Kevin Watson March 17th Patricia Rodriguez March 18th Gary Kennedy March 21st Cathey Barron March 22nd Gabriel Perez

Tyrette Cowan

Amanda Sutherland

February 26th Chris Kennedy

Eli Watson

March 27th Sofia Hernandez March 28th Allan Ulloa March 29th Benjamin Grafton

Omar Ramirez

March 30th Jennifer Pangilinan March 31st

Candy Gerace

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

#### THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

#### Sunday, March 3rd

9:30 AM Sunday Mass 1:30 PM Misa en Español 7:00 PM NO Mass - Quarter break

#### Monday, March 4th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation 8:15 AM Daily Mass

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

#### Tuesday, March 5th

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

Wednesday, March 6th

Penance & Reconciliation 7:30 AM - 8:00AM 8:15 AM Daily Mass 8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open 8:00 PM NO Mass - Quarter break

#### Thursday, March 7th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation 8:15 AM Daily Mass

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

#### Friday, March 8th

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

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

#### Saturday, March 9th

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

#### Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel Jesus is asked "What sign can you show us?" Every day we can see signs of how God has visited us in the blessings of our lives. Let us be a sign of God's love by being a blessing to others. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can be a sign of God's love to the suffering and poor.



#### Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

En el Evangelio de hoy, Se le pregunta a Jesús: "Que signo nos puedes enseñar?" Cada día vemos señales de como Dios nos ha visitado en las bendiciones de nuestras vidas. Que seamos signos del amor de Dios a los que sufren de pobreza. ¿Habrá alguna familia que tu conoces que necesite asistencia? Favor de llamar a La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl de nuestra parroquia para que juntos podamos ser el signo del amor de Dios a los más sufridos y pobres.

#### **Ministry Schedule**

Saturday March 2nd 2024

**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

Saturday March 9th 2024

Deacon John Serio

Lectors: George Trevison, John Allen

EMHC: Beth Buske, Bob Rorie

Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday March 10th, 2024

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Thomas Rogers

EMHC: Emily Chartier, Elaine Johnson, Jim Martin, Gary Kennedy

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

Feb 24/25 General Sunday Collection \$5,781.00

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 March 2<sup>nd</sup> Bobby Ortego +

(by Karen Ortego)

Sunday March 3rd Paul & Mike Buske +

(by Dave & Mary Leonard)

Por los feligreses de la Parroquia

Santo Tomas de Aquino

Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup> Alejandro Rodriguez

(by Jonathan & Ailish Rodriguez)

Friday March 8th Harvey C Walker +

(by Phyllis Lampo)

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>



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!



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!



#### 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



#### ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY **FUNDRAISER**

Please stop by and browse the **SVdP Booth** 

at the LINCOLN PARISH LIBRARY SPRING COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE



**SATURDAY - MARCH 9** 8 AM - 1 PM



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE WORK OF THE SOCIETY IN ASSISTING LINCOLN PARISH RESIDENTS WITH FOOD, **HOUSING and UTILITY NEEDS** 

WE WILL HAVE A VARIETY OF ITEMS FOR SALE: KITCHEN, HOUSEHOLD, CRAFTS, BABY, SPORTING GOODS, TOOLS, AND TOO MANY MORE TO BE LISTED HERE

(If you have any shopping / grocery bags for SVdP to use, please drop them off at church office by Wednesday, March 6.)

### I, THE LORD. AM YOUR GOD

Exodus 20:2



813 Carey Ave, Ruston, LA 71270





#### SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL (1858-1955)

Born into Philadelphia society, Katharine was an infant when she lost her mother. Her father remarried and the couple taught their daughters that their wealth was a "gift on loan" to be shared with the poor, whom they fed and cared for in their home. Invited by priest-friends to witness firsthand the destitution on Native American reservations, Katharine resolved to devote her inheritance to this apostolate and enter a contemplative order. When, however, in private audience, she begged Leo XIII to send missionaries to staff the schools she was building, the pope replied, "My child, why not become a missionary yourself?" Katharine renounced a twenty-million-dollar fortune and founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, adoring Christ present in the Eucharist and ministering to Christ suffering in victims of racial discrimination. Her Sisters established over sixty schools nationwide, including Xavier University, New Orleans, the first dedicated to professional education for African Americans. In 2000, John Paul II canonized "Mother Drexel," praising her "excellent example of practical charity and generous solidarity with the less fortunate, long the distinguishing mark of American Catholics. -Peter Scagnelli

#### **Parish School of Religion**

#### February/March PSR Schedule

- 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

#### **Past & Upcoming Confirmation Deadlines**

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

Parish Picnic: Mark your calendars for an upcoming Parish picnic on Sunday, May 19, 2024 (Time: TBA but likely around 11am). This will be our end of the year celebration. All are invited! Details TBA.

YOUTH CAN CHANGE THE WORLD PLEASE SUPPORT YOUTH MINISTRY WE ARE HOPING TO HAVE A DAY AT T **BOWLING ALLEY, PURCHASE** 2 PICKLEBALL NETS AND A NEW PING PONG TABLE NET THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPO PLEASE MARK YOUR ENVELOPES OR BRING DONATION TO CHURCH OFFICE





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** 



## **Spring Break!**



A throwback picture from our White Elephant party this past St. Nicholas's Feast Day.

The students are enjoying their break and are making use of this time for further reflection during Lent.

The ACTS students wish everyone a good week!

Weekly *ACTS*tivities

No Events this week!

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

# **LENTEN SCHEDULE**

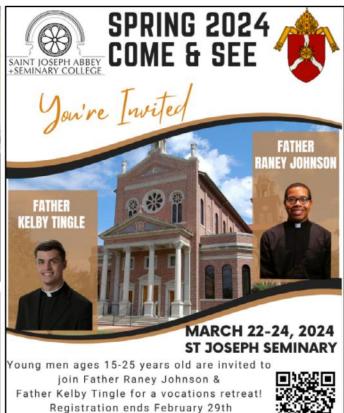
\*This schedule is in addition to the regular weekly Liturgical Schedule.

Date	Time	Event	Place			
Wed., Feb. 14th	8:15 am, 6pm (Bilingual) & 8:00pm	Ash Wednesday	Church			
Fri., Feb. 16th	6pm	Stations of the Cross (ACTS)	Church			
	6:30pm	Holy Hour and Confession				
Fri., Feb. 23rd	6pm	Stations of the Cross (STAY)	Church			
	6:30pm	Holy Hour and Confession				
Fri., Mar. 1st	6pm	Stations of the Cross (PSR)	Church			
	6:30pm	Holy Hour and Confession				
Fri., Mar. 8th	6pm	Stations of the Cross (OCIA)	Church			
	6:30pm	Holy Hour and Confession				
Fri., Mar. 15th	6pm	Stations of the Cross (Confirmation)	Church			
	6:30pm	Holy Hour and Confession				
Fri., Mar. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6pm	Stations of the Cross (Women's Guild	Church			
	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.





2/22/2024, 4:32 PM

#### 2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

THE RELEASE CO.		Families	2024 (to date)	Persentage			2024 (to date)	Pledged	2024
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	0	6		5	-	51,460		\$1,460
St. Joseph, Bastrop		83	1	2%	5	9,000	5600	9.7%	5100
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	338	12	4%	5	69,000	\$8,530	12.4%	52,740
Oxist the King - Bussier City	13	425	5	1%	S	28,000	\$3,280	11.7%	\$510
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	1,094	20	2%	\$	144,000	\$11,179	7.8%	54,024
St. Ann, Eharb	25	94	2	2%	\$	17,000	\$340	2.0%	5130
St. Benedict the Black	3%	26		0%	\$	3,000		0.0%	
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	40	1	2%	\$	12,000	\$100	0.8%	\$100
St. Margaret, Horser	34	21		0%	\$	12,000		0.0%	
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	30	50		ON	\$	9,000		0.0%	
St. Joseph, Mamifield	41	97	50	5%	\$	70,000	54,890	7.0%	51,940
St. John the Bagnist - Many	44	100	2	1%	\$	23,000	\$1,200	5.2%	-5200
St. Timence	45	54	1	2%	\$	6,000	\$3,000	16.7%	51,000
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19		0%	\$.	3,000		0.0%	
St. Paul - Minden	47	80		10%	ŝ	14,000		0.0%	
iesus the Good Shepherd	48	800	20	3%	5	91,000	\$34,100	37.5%	527,579
Little Flower of Jeous	49	146	1:	1%	5	1,000	556	1.0%	550
Our Lady of Fetime	50	382	3	2%	5	27,000	510,400	28.5%	510,150
St. Matthew	52	383	3	2%	5	36,000	51,400	3.9%	5300
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	95		0%	5	3,000		0.0%	
St. Theresa - Defhi	59	27		0%	5	3,000		0.0%	
St. George, Coushatta	62	30		CFS.	5	12,000		0.0%	
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40	1	3%	\$	6,000	\$240	4.0%	\$40
St. Thomas Aguinas - Ruston	65	267	9	3%	5	32,000	\$6,655	20.8%	\$5,805
Holy Trivity	68	675		1%	5	75,000	51,525	2.0%	5395
Our Lady of the Birssed Sacrament	AR	140	3	2%	5	11,000	51,600	15.4%	5155
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	220	4	2%	\$	13,000	5458	3.5%	5208
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	278	37	2%	\$	189,000	511,210	5.9%	54,000
St. Joseph Chorch - Shreveport	78	729	32	4%	5	240,000	550,485	23.0%	526,740
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	6	2%	S	55,000	52,005	3.8%	5945
St. Pies X	75	152	7	5%	\$	34,000	51,840	5.4%	\$1,020
St. Clement - Vivian	82	.44	3	7%	5	11,000	\$770	7.0%	5220
St. Paschal - West Monroe	113	499	7	2%	s	51,000	\$3,485	6.6%	\$1,135
St. Joseph, Zwode	86	636		1%	9	80,000	\$3,590	4.3%	\$635
St. Lawrence - Swartz	96	75	1.	2%	5	5,000	5250	5.0%	
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	110		0%	\$	9,000		8.0%	
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	21	2%	5	176,000	517,525	20.0%	39,435
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	110	4.	4%	5	15,000	52,850	19.0%	\$350
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		10,381	211	2%	Ś	1,600,000	\$183,192	11.4%	\$101,981

# **Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance Fund**

#### **Financial Assistance for Catholic Students**

Contact vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org

for more information

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

#### Third Sunday of Lent -- March 3, 2024

"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Does a life dedicated to furthering the grace of reconciliation in Christ for others appeal to you? Consider answering the call to the priesthood and serve God and His people. Talk to your priest or to Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org

# 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



#### Alter It

Alteration Service Formal or Casual Donna M. Serio 318-243-2355

#### computer solutions

COMPUTER SALES & SERVICE Rhonda Reed - Manager 255-2555



Advanced **Dermatology Care** Loretta Gremillion, M.D., A.P.M.C. Board Certified Dermatologist

#### ADULT & PEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

Skin Cancer • Mole Removal Acne • Hair & Nail Disorders Botox • Fillers

Chemical Peels • Sclerotherapy Laser Hair Removal • Rosacea Wrinkles • Skin Care Products

### 318-323-8799

2409 Broadmoor Blvd. Monroe, LA 71201 www.advanceddermcareapmc.com **Platinum Energy** Services L.L.C.

"When life is too hard to stand, kneel." 318-548-7696









Avery Murphy or Advertising@Diocesan.com

VISA

#### ADVERTISE HERE

**Promote your Business** AND support your Parish.

Give us a call! 800-997-4986

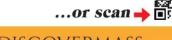




Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.

Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/5737







**⋄**DISCOVERMASS



The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible. Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week.

Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe