SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2024 | 26TH 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: 10:00AM

> 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 John Serio
Deacon Robert Ransom

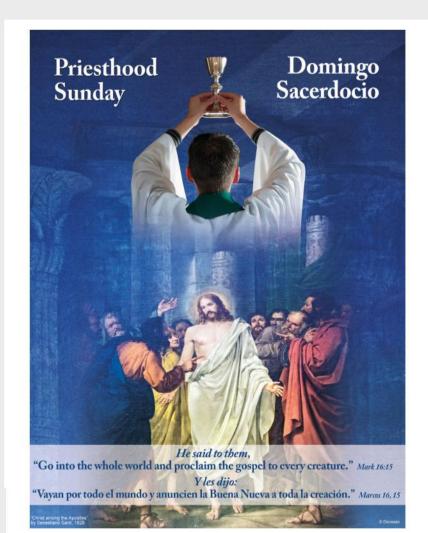
Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870

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



October 2nd

Eric Sutherland Andres Mujica Mia Vallez Jesus Castillo

Octoberber 3rd

Andre Ajanel

October 5th

Ileana Espinoza Douglas Gerace

October 6th

Selene Kennedy

October 7th

Maria Hernandez Fitzgerald Anderson Alexander Anderon

October 8th

Virginia Lewis

October 9th

John Buske Denise Ramirez Lolita Baudoin

October 11th

Silvana Freeman John Denny

October 12th

Brad Denny

October 13th

Delena Ashworth Ramona Adams Quincy Lewis

October 15th

Ricky Meier Victoria Velazquez Niki St. Clair

October 17th

Dylan Nash Molly Derveloy

October 18th

Will St. Clair

October 19th

Jan Luffey

October 20th

Nina Cazenave Paula Martin Ann Van

October 21st

Judi Lalla

Oscar Esau Maradiaga

October 22nd

Adolfo Garcia

October 23rd

Sutton Taylor Thalia Aguirre Nadja Haynie

October 24th

Kathie Cordaro Lander Smith

October 25th

Susan Benedetto

October 27th

Flint Sibayan Sandra Cannon

October 28th

Michael Villa Jesus Castillo

October 29th

Barbara Lewis Kevin Serio Kristina Stanfield Enrique Barrientos

October 30th

McKenzie Oakley

October 31st

Jamie Watson Leila Brumett

If I've missed your birthday, please email me at

starbulletin@suddenlinkmail.com so that I can add you to the master

list.

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 29th

10:00 AM Sunday Mass 1:30 PM Misa en Español 7:00 PM Sunday Mass

Monday, September 30th

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

Tuesday, October 1st

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

Wednesday, October 2nd

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM
8:15 AM
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
8:00 PM
Penance & Reconciliation
Daily Mass
Church Office Open
STAY
Mass

Thursday, September 3rd

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
Baily Mass
Church Office Open

Friday, September 4th

Saturday, September 5th

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



Welcome to 2024-2025 OCIA/OCIC Registration

OCIA/OCIC will begin on Thursday, September 19th and run from 6:00pm-7:30pm most Thursdays (schedule to follow). Please complete this form to register for OCIA/OCIC. You should register for this class if you are...

- an adult interested in learning more about the Catholic religion or are interested in receiving Catholic Sacraments (ex., Baptism, First Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation), or
 - a child interested in receiving sacraments, but you were not able to receive the sacrament(s) at the following designed age/
 - grade:
 o Baptism before 2nd grade
 - o Baptism before 2nd grade
 - o First Holy Communion in 2nd grade; and/or
 - o Confirmation in 7th/8th grade

If the above does not apply to you, you are likely eligible to register for Parish School of Religion/Sunday school classes. Those grade-level classes are held on Sunday mornings from 11:00am to 12:00noon.

If you have questions about your specific situation and are not sure what classes to register for, please reach out to Mindy Bryan (DRE) at 318-525-4906 or melinda@latech.edu



If you are interested in volunteering contact Mr. Greg Bimle (318) 366-5500. **Usher training information to come!**

Mallary Adams

Mary Lanning

Emily Landry

Chris Letendre

Ministry Schedule

Saturday September 28th 2024

Lectors: Samantha Groce, Tom Garza EMHC: Beth Buske, George Trevison

Altar Servers: Cedric Serio Sunday September 29th, 2024 Lectors: Jim Martin, Paul Jackson

EMHC: Gary Kennedy, Carol Mercier, Mary Ghongkedze, Emily Chartier

Altar Servers: Maggie & Georgia Rogers, Ramona Bishop

Misa en español: Manuel Izaguirre, Angel Ventura

Saturday October 5th 2024

Lectors: Dolly Hurtig, Pam Allen

EMHC: Joan Mullens, George Trevison Altar Servers: Jack, Jessie & Julie Groce

Sunday October 6th, 2024

Lectors: Stacey Denny, Jim Martin

EMHC: Emily Chartier, Tom Bishop, Chris Kennedy, Todd Wasson

Altar Servers: Jack Taulli, Liam Taylor, Elliott Frost Misa en español: German Lara, Rocio Paita



Please contact the parish office to have names added to our prayer list.

Patti Hooper Allen Kim Lowe **Quintana** Atkins Ken Martinez Miriam Bishop Tobie McKown Jackie Bolden Claudia Michel Frankie Career Leopoldo Michel Gerald Cosentino Larry Miller Bruce Cowan Katherine Ned Don Olivier Judy Darcey Laurie Duvall Matthew Reichert Tristen Roberts Sean Dwyer Becky Ferrell Pearline Robey Robert Frasier Laura Leigh Saleese Jennie Schutte-Patrick Mary Lou French Roxana Gamero Nicole Smith Emmely Gay Polly Smith Bernice Harrison Tyler Sorrels Willie Tannerhill Harvey Hayes Maureen Hinton Karen Taylor Diane Theriot Charles Jacobs Karl Johnson Danica Tipton Magnolia Johnson Pam Turner David & Kim St. John Jeffery Judice Kathleen "Kathy" Walter

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY September 14/15

General Sunday Collection \$8,228.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!



Altar flowers donated by Ken & Trish Carter in loving memory of Patricia Harnett.

If you would like to donate flowers in the church, please call Marcie Tucker at (318)255-2870 for more information.





Saturday September 28th Oscar Hannibal + (by Phyllis Lampo)

Sunday October 29th Billie Desser +

(by Ed & Karen Jacobs)

Janice Williams

Santiago Gonzalez & Eliza Alonso + (by Guadalupe Gomez Gonzalez)

For the parishioners of St. Thomas

Aquinas

Monday October 30th Oscar Hannibal +

(by Mary Ghongkedze)

Jean Schodlatz + Thursday October 3rd

(by John & Beth Buske)

Friday October 4th Joseph Ghongkedze +

(by Mary Ghongkedze)

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://stthomasaguinasruston.com/calendar/

PSR and Other Faith Opportunities at St. Thomas, Ruston, LA

PSR for Dates for September - December:

- September 29th: PSR all Grades / First Holy Communion Parent Meeting in the Church (2nd grade parents)
- October 6th: NO PSR / Fall Break Confirmation, Year 1 (7th Grade Class) Inscription Ceremony at Jesus the Good Shepherd, Monroe during 11:00 am Mass
- October 13th: PSR all Grades
- October 20th: PSR all Grades / Family of Faith meeting with Fr. Kevin in the Luffey Center
- October 27th: PSR all Grades
- November 3rd: PSR all Grades
- November 10th: PSR all Grades
- November 17th: PSR all Grades / Family of Faith talk with Fr. Kevin in the Luffey Center
- November 24th: NO PSR / Thanksgiving Break
- December 1st: PSR all Grades
- December 8th: PSR all Grades
- December 15th: NO PSR / Advent Gathering & Christmas Play in the Luffey Center
- December 22nd, 29th, & Jan 5th: NO PSR / Christmas Break / No Family of Faith meeting in the month of December. PSR will resume on January 12th.

Upcoming First Communion Meeting: A First Holy Communion Parent Meeting is scheduled for September 29th - in the Church; at least one parent for all children in First Holy Communion preparation (2nd grade) should attend.

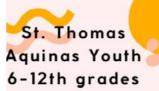
Protecting God's Children Upcoming Training: During PSR on Sunday, October 20th, all children will participate in the mandatory Diocesan lessons on Empowering God's Children Safety Program: Teaching Boundaries and Safety. This lesson will be a quick (15 minute) presentation, and then we will continue PSR normally for the remainder of the time. If you would like to opt out of this training, please contact Mindy Bryan for an opt-out form.

STAY

The last couple of weeks at youth group we have been reading from the gospel of Mark to prepare for Sunday Mass and have discussed human dignity and the inherent value all humans have being made in God's image. We played some games, too!







KARAOKE AT LA BAMBA





Youth @ St. Thomas Aquinas

What happens during Wednesday meetings?

6-7:30 pm in the Luffey building

We share a meal, then we either have a short lesson, play games, hear a short alk, or do a service project

Youth team

Marina Bishop Paula Martin Karen Rogers Gracie Barrientos I

Who can be on team?

Any adult age 18 who has had safe environment training who wants to support our youth in their Catholic journey

Why is youth group important?

Christ established a Church because we are called to Please let us know so we community. Our youth group is established to bring together the Catholic children and teens of our area to grow in faith and

strive to know, love, and

serve the Lord.

Can I bring a friend?

Who can come to

youth night

meetings?

Any youth in our parish in

6th grade

through 12th grade

have enough food.

Our youth group is Catholic in identity and practice. Our youth support one another as they members can help spread the joy of our faith to others.



ACTS - Dollar Lunch

The Dollar Lunch Program will be offered once again for the 2024-2025 academic year! This program is a ministry of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. We offer all LA Tech students a hot lunch & dessert throughout the year for a donation of \$1.00. This ministry has been in place for over 20 years and gives the students a place to come and enjoy a meal and meet with friends. Lunches are on held on Wednesday, 11:30 am until 1:00pm & coordinated with the academic calendar for each quarter. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve and provide desserts. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Christi Faulkner 318-278-4904 (chair) or Diana May 318-573-0388 (dessert chair). We are looking forward to another year of meeting and serving our LA Tech students!



We are seeking volunteers to provide desserts for the Tech students' Dollar Lunch program. Each volunteer would contribute 24 servings of a dessert one or more times during the school year. If you are interested in helping make a student's meal a bit sweeter, please reach out to Diana May, 318-573-0388.



In today's gospel Jesus tells his disciples: "Anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to Christ will not, I assure you, go without his reward." On September 27, the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are on the front line in laboring for the poor, they are among the first to know their real needs. This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist families, providing in food, for utilities, rent and other bills. God Bless You!



Leace Makers Sewing Club

All are welcome to join us as we stitch, (crochet, knit, quilt) & visit.

Luffey Catholic Life Center Youth Room
9:15 am - noon. For more information call Cathey Barron (318) 548-3097,

Sandi Adams (318) 245-0832

Weekly meetings Thursday



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. Bring your own sack lunch. Upcoming meeting October 8 2024 at noon.



St Thomas Aquinas Men's Club strives to create and foster a spirit of fellowship among our members. All men are welcome! If you have any questions contact Joshua Adams (318)548-6686.

Upcoming meeting October 16, 2024 at 6:00pm

Experience Eucharistic Revival at the Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress!

During this time of Eucharistic Revival, the faithful are encouraged to renew our worship of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, and to encounter His healing grace. We have the perfect opportunity to do so during the Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress being held in the Diocese of Shreveport from October 5-11. During the month of May, we as a diocese pray the rosary and count our rosaries, during this week in October we combine Eucharistic Adoration and praying the rosary aloud hourly throughout the week.

A Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress is seven days of around-the-clock Eucharistic Adoration and Hourly Rosary, with each day hosted at different parishes, in response to Our Lady of Fatima's call to conversion, consecration and prayer. It is offered in a spirit of reparation to restore the sanctity of life, to pray for vocations, to establish peace in our cities, nation, and world, and to console the hearts of Legus and Mary

During this 7-day period of the Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress, the host parishes will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the Rosary prayed aloud at the beginning of each hour, followed by silent prayer for the remainder of the hour. An Opening Mass for the Eucharistic Rosary Congress will be held on Saturday, October 5th at the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans at 4:00 followed by Adoration and praying the rosary aloud through Sunday at 3:00pm. Closing the week St. Thomas Aquinas will offer Adoration and praying the rosary aloud beginning at noon until 7:00pm closing the Diocesan Traveling Eucharistic Rosary Congress.

Please consider participating at your parish in this special event as we pray in reparation for our families, our diocese, our country, and our world. For more information how to participate, go to www.dioshpt.org for the schedule of churches participating. Prayerfully consider volunteering for an hour of Adoration and/or leading the rosary.

Learn more about the incredible history of the Rosary Congress, involving Poland, Pope Saint John Paul II, the fall of communism, and St. John Bosco's dream! https://www.rosarycongressusa.org/history-diocesan-rosary-congress/

Sign up sheet will be in the back of church as well as at the ACTS building or here https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JDZ9LjwciKQudin_ECSpwchJKiaOt76Y2TQM_ypXnM/edit?gid=0#gid=0

Eucharistic Rosary Congress 2O24 SATURDAY OCT 5 OCT 6 OCT 7 OCT 8 OCT 9 OCT 10 OCT 10 Perpetual Adoration \$1. Insepth, Streveport \$1. Insepth, Streve





Fall Quarter in full swing

Students are now fully immersed in the 2024-2025 school year. Our ACTS students are studying hard but there are still many fun activities taking place!

This week, there will be the usual Dollar Lunch at the student center on Wednesday. Later that evening, ACTS will have Girls' and Guys' groups as well.

We want to encourage all of you to take advantage of our weekly adoration times. We will continue to have Eucharistic adoration from 6pm to 7pm on Friday evenings – this is also a great chance to go to Confession! Please join us!

As always, thank you for your support and have a great week!

Weekly ACTS tivities

Mon: Freshmen Crossing 6pm

Wed: Dollar Lunch 11:30-1pm

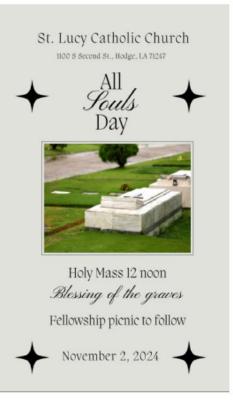
Mass 8pm

Fri: Adoration 6-7pm

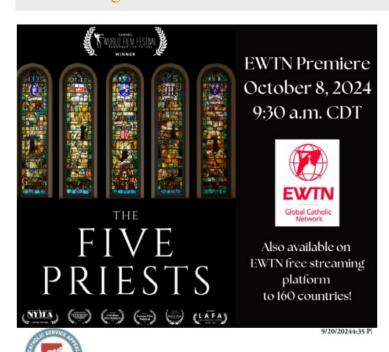


For more information, please visit: stac-acts.com









2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

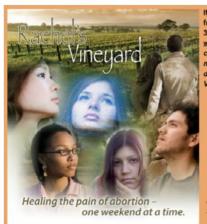
Parish and Location	Parish ID	f of Parish Families	Participating 2024 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2024 Parish Goal	Amount Pledged 2024 (to date)	% Goal Pledged	Contributes 2024
Miscellaneous Contributions	- 1	0	37		5 -	\$8,012		\$7,312
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	83	22	27%	\$ 9,000	\$4,050	45.0%	\$3,820
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	82	25%	\$ 69,000	\$57,355	83.1%	\$53,905
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	63	14%	\$ 28,000	\$18,005	64.3%	\$15,780
St. Jude Church - Bossler City	12	850	205	24%	\$ 144,000	\$84,526	58.7%	\$76,958
St. Ann, Eberb	25	84	31	37%	\$ 17,000	511,175	65.7%	59,855
St. Benedict the Black	31	.26	7.	27%	\$ 3,000	\$1,450	48.3%	\$1,400
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	48	12	25%	\$ 12,000	\$5,800	48.3%	\$5,725
St. Margaret, Homer	34	21	12	57%	\$ 12,000	\$4,965	41.4%	53,865
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	12	24%	\$ 9,000	\$5,175	57.5%	\$5,100
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	97	38	39%	\$ 70,000	\$29,797	42.6%	\$24,207
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	160	39	24%	\$ 23,000	\$15,998	69.6%	\$13,955
St. Terence	.45	54	9	17%	\$ 6,000	\$4,823	80.4%	\$4,825
Messed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19	6	32%	\$ 3,000	\$1,250	41.7%	\$1,250
St. Paul - Minden	47	80	19	24%	\$ 14,000	54,270	30.5%	\$3,460
iesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	116	19%	\$ 91,000	\$70,778	77.8%	567,311
Little Flower of Jesus	49	146	33	23%	\$ 5,000	\$4,410	88.2%	\$1,900
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	34	19%	\$ 27,000	\$29,575	72.5%	\$19,500
St. Matthew	52	383	46	32%	\$ 36,000	\$14,575	40.5%	\$14,100
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55	10	18%	\$ 3,000	\$1,675	55.8%	\$1,675
St. Therasa - Delhi	59	27	3	11%	\$ 3,000	\$1,100	36.7%	\$700
St. George, Coushatta	.62	30	14	47%	\$ 12,000	\$8,340	69.5%	\$8,160
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40		20%	\$ 6,000	\$2,290	38.2%	\$2,230
St. Thermas Aquinas - Ruston	65	267	35	13%	\$ 32,000	\$20,835	65.1%	\$19,980
Holy Trinsby	68	675	83	12%	\$ 75,000	\$57,263	76.4%	\$53,848
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	140	31	22%	\$ 11,000	\$6,570	59.7%	\$5,860
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	132	40	30%	\$ 13,000	\$8,638	66.4%	58,433
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	645	128	20%	\$ 189,000	\$115,392	61.1%	\$105,302
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	195	27%	\$ 240,000	\$139,253	58.0%	\$127,320
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	103	34%	\$ 55,000	\$35,634	64.8%	\$31,358
St. Plus X	75	152	59	39%	\$ 34,000	\$22,840	67.2%	\$20,190
St. Clement - Vivian	82	44	21	48%	\$ 11,000	\$6,185	56.2%	\$5,280
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	499	86	17%	\$ 53,000	\$36,447	66.8%	\$33,316
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	636	128	20%	\$ 80,000	\$53,785	67.2%	\$44,043
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	. 75		11%	\$ 5,000	\$975	19.5%	\$795
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182	14	8%	\$ 9,000	\$3,545	39.4%	\$3,195
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	170	19%	\$ 176,000	\$119,427	67.9%	\$108,188
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	110	21	19%	\$ 15,000	\$7,250	48.3%	\$6,050
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		9,716	1,980	20%	\$ 1,600,000	\$1,013,435	63.3%	\$922,153

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Priesthood Sunday

"Whoever is not against us is for us." Pray for your priest! They heard God calling them to the priesthood and chose to serve Christ. Now, they enrich our spiritual well-being everyday in the name of God.







If you or someone you love is hurting from an abortion, please call 318-588-1084 for information, or visit www.rachelsvineyard.org. Absolute confidentiality is maintained by team members and participants prior to, during, and following a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.

> The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is October 18-20, 2024

For more information about the upcoming retreats please scan the code.





Diocesan Employment Opportunities

Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry - Catholic Center, Shreveport, LA

Director of Religious Education - St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Ruston, LA

Director of Jr. High & High School Youth Ministry - St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Ruston, LA Organist - St. Paul Catholic Church, Minden, LA https://www.dioshpt.org/job-opportunities

Diocesan is proud to now be printing

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



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