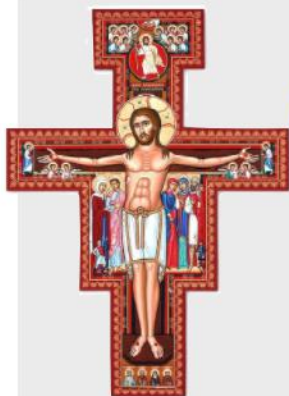


DECEMBER 8TH, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

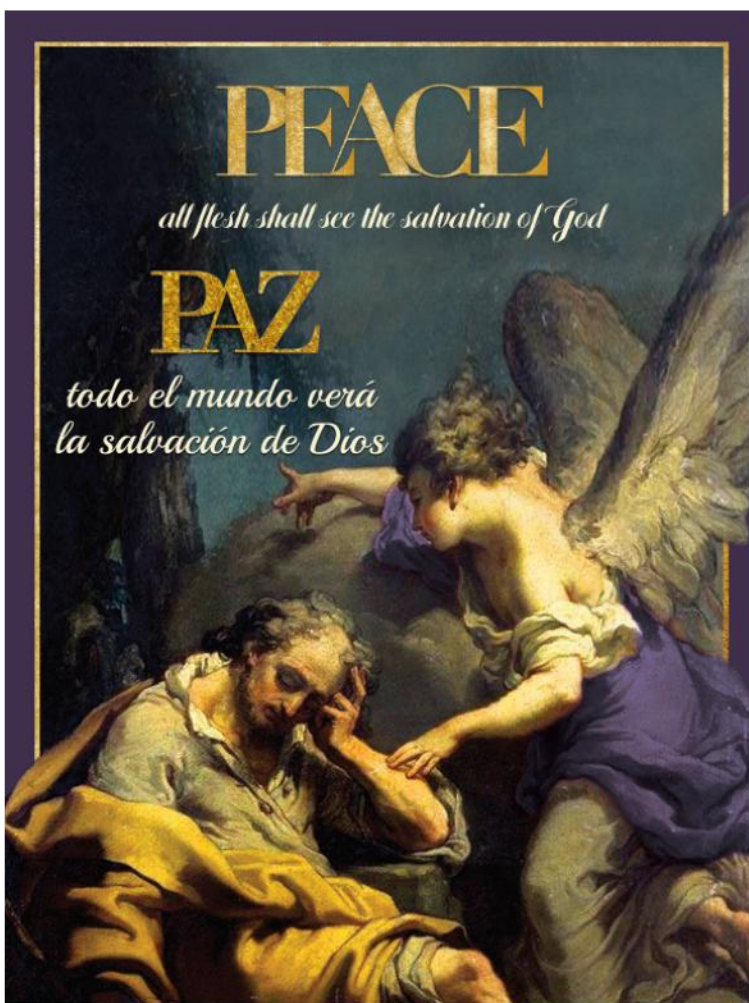
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

PENANCE & RECONCILIATION

Monday-Thursday 7:30AM-8:00AM
Friday 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Saturday: 3:30PM to 4:45PM

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

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



December 2nd

Thomas Rogers

December 3rd

Becky Smith

December 5th

Liliana Salazar

December 6th

Gordon Reger

December 7th

Christie Weeks
Bob Rorie
Ximena Ruiz

December 8th

Louis Reis
Lucas Haynie

December 9th

Marilyn Rhodes

December 10th

Camille Maier
Patrick Stuckey

December 11th

John Thomas Colvin
Jack Smith
Alice Spears
Renee Garcia

December 12th

Danielle Nash
Jesus Torres

December 13th

Sergio Ruiz

December 14th

Elise Reis

December 15th

Jed Denny

December 16th

Frank Reger
Ella Viator
Harold Cramer
Mary Vidrine

December 17th

Karen Rogers
Jesus Gonzalez
Sheila Montgomery

December 18th

Paull Jackson

December 19th

Anyi Garcia Solis
Susan Fauchaux
Beatriz Hernandez
Francisco Morales

December 22nd

Bridney Perez
Kimble Devenin
Clifton Sandlin
Mollie Devening

December 24th

John Serio

November 25th

Cruz Medrano
Bryan Lopez

December 26th

Clyde Vidrine
Ren Cynthia Murpew

December 27th

Pamela Allen
Connor Broussard

December 28th

Ohan Kitishian
Jan Sibayan
Harry May
Robin Kirkham
Alondra Tapia
Steve Danna

December 29th

Daniel Lindsey

December 30th

Scott Martin
Leslie Mendez
Christopher Montgomery

December 31st

Kenneth Carter
Jim Martin
Kimberly Landaverde
Erick Ramirez

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, December 8th

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

Monday, December 9th

7:00 AM	Mass - Immaculate Conception
8:30 AM - 4:00PM	Church Office Closed
5:30 PM	Mass - Immaculate Conception
7:00 PM	Misa en Español Inmaculada concepción

Tuesday, December 10th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM	Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM	Daily Mass
8:30 AM - 4:00PM	Church Office Open
6:00 PM	Choir Practice
7:00 PM	El Manto de Maria

Wednesday, December 11th

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

Thursday, December 12th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM	Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM	Daily Mass
8:30 AM - 4:00PM	Church Office Open
5:00 PM	Procesión virgen de Guadalupe
6:00 PM	Misa Virgen de Guadalupe
7:00 PM	Celebración en el Luffey

Friday, December 13th

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

Saturday, December 14th

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





Ministry Schedule

Saturday December 7th 2024

Lectors: Pam Allen, George Trevison
EMHC: Trish Carter, Slade Richard
Altar Servers: Cedric Serio
Ushers: Benny Grafton, AJ Trevison

Sunday December 8th, 2024

Lectors: Jim Martin, Paul Jackson
EMHC: Paul Jackson, Todd Wasson, Gary Kennedy, Chris Kennedy
Altar Servers: Hannah, Brooklynn & Olivia Bryan
Misa en español: Karin Lopez, Evelina Lopez
Ushers: The Nashes

Monday December 9th 2024

Lectors: Charlotte Wilkerson, Dolly Hurtig
EMHC: George Trevison, Bob Rorie
Altar Servers:
Ushers: Josh Adams, Greg Bimle

Saturday December 14th 2024

Lectors: Samantha Groce, Tom Garza
EMHC: Beth Buske, Bob Rorie
Altar Servers: Jessie & Julie Groce
Ushers: Jack Groce, Slade Richard

Sunday December 15th, 2024

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Josie Bishop
EMHC: Gary Kennedy, Tom Bishop, Jim Martin, Todd Wasson
Altar Servers: Brennan, Matthew & Anna Kate Jackson
Misa en español: Veronica Ramirez, Lwini Bembele
Ushers: Flint Sibayan, Greg Bimle

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 23/24

General Sunday Collection \$8,190.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!



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

Mallary Adams	Kim Lowe
Patti Hooper Allen	Ken Martinez
Quintana Atkins	Tobie McKown
Miriam Bishop	Carol Mercier
Jackie Bolden	Larry Miller
Frankie Career	Katherine Ned
Gerald Cosentino	Odi Okeke
Bruce Cowan	Don Olivier
Judy Darcey	Matthew Reichert
Butch Doiron	Tristen Roberts
Laurie Duvall	Pearline Robey
Becky Ferrell	Laura Leigh Saleese
Robert Frasier	Jennie Schutte-Patrick
Mary Lou French	Nicole Smith
Emmely Gay	Polly Smith
Bernice Harrison	Eloise Solis
Harvey Hayes	Tyler Sorrels
Connie Howard	Willie Tannerhill
Charles Jacobs	Karen Taylor
Karl Johnson	Diane Theriot
Magnolia Johnson	Danica Tipton
Jeffery Judice	Pam Turner
Mary Lanning	David & Kim St. John
Emily Landry	Kathleen "Kathy" Walter
Chris Letendre	Janice Williams
Cristian Leon	



Saturday December 7th For the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

Sunday December 8th Mary Antony +
(by Pat & Connie Stuckey)

Gary & Jan Luffey
(by Barbara Lewis)

Thursday December 12th Leigh A Stephens +
(by Phyllis Lampo)

Friday December 13th Nobie Kennedy
(by Gary & Selene Kennedy)

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/>

PSR News

- 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.

Protecting God's Children Absences: If your child was absent from PSR on Sunday, October 27th, please get with Mindy Bryan. She has a Diocesan form that needs to be completed because your child missed the Protecting God's Children required lecture.

Save the Date

- First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 10th during the 5:00pm Mass.
- Confirmation: Saturday, May 17th during the 5:00pm Mass.

Upcoming Deadlines for Sacrament Classes

• First Holy Communion:

1. December 15, 2024: Please turn in your child's student information form along with your child's baptismal certificate. If your child was baptized at St. Thomas, we don't need the baptismal certificate but do need the date the child was baptized on the student information form.

2. Confirmation

December 1, 2024: Choose your Sponsor.



Nativity Play Singers Needed!

Children who are in 2 - 6 grades are invited to join the children's choir for this year's nativity play. The play will be held in the Luffey Center on Sunday, December 15. If your child(ren) are interested, please contact Mindy Bryan or Heidi Adams.

Save the Date for CONFIRMATION

MAY
SATURDAY 17 5:00 PM

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
813 CAREY AVE, RUSTON LA, 71270
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

Misa de Primera Comunion

Guarde la fecha

Sábado,
10 de mayo de 2025
Durante la Misa de las 5 p.m.*
*Recepción a seguir.

Iglesia Católica de Santo Tomás de Aquino
813 Carey Ave, Ruston, LA 71270

First Holy Communion Mass

Save the Date

Saturday, May 10, 2025
during the 5:00pm Mass*
*Reception to Follow

St. Thomas Catholic Church
813 Carey Ave, Ruston, LA 71270



Ministry to the Homebound

Please contact the church office or Dr. 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 Dr. John.



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!



Peace Makers Sewing Club

All are welcome to join us as we sew with a mission. All items made will be donated (baby items, pillow cases and rosary bags. Donations will be made to Mary's House, DART and NIC unit.

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



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.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY GUMBO

SAVE THE DATE



JAN 26, 2025 -11 AM



Second Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,
MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Peace to those on whom His favor rests

Catholic Charities of North Louisiana serves the North Louisiana region with the belief that education and temporary assistance lead to long-term independence.

Our annual campaign sustains our work throughout the year. Generous gifts from parishioners across the diocese make it possible for us to serve the 2,770+ individuals and families who walk through our doors each year. These gifts allow us to provide financial assistance, immigration legal services, and family support programs to our community's most vulnerable.

Please consider how you can help Catholic Charities serve our neighbors when they need it most.

MAKE A GIFT:



ccnl.org/peace

"The Lady from Heaven"

Did you know?

- Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego on December 9, 10 and 12, 1531.
- The image left on Saint Juan Diego's tilma is the only true picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe in existence.
- The image has remained intact with all its original vibrancy for 475 years. The natural life span of a cloak made with fiber from the agave or maguey plant is only about 30 years.
- The image is a pictograph which could be read and understood by the Aztec Indians.
- Our Lady appears as a beautiful young Indian maiden and Queen.
- Her eyes are looking down with humility and compassion. She is human, not God.
- She is wearing a blue-green mantle (the color worn by royalty) covered with stars.
- The stars signify she comes from heaven – the Queen of Heaven. The constellations are in the exact position as appeared before dawn on the morning of December 12, 1531.
- Her robe is colored rose or pale red and covered with Aztec flowers, symbolic of an Aztec princess.
- In the center of her robe, overlying her womb, is a four petal quincunx flower in the shape of a cross which is the sign of the Divine and the center of the cosmic order to the Aztec. The Virgin's Baby, Jesus, is Divine and the new center of the universe.
- Her hands are joined in prayer and, therefore, she is not God but clearly there is one greater than she and she points her finger to the cross on her brooch.
- Her fur cuffs symbolize royalty.
- She wears a black maternity band signifying she is with Child.
- A black cross is on the brooch around her neck. This signifies she is a follower of the God of the Spanish Missionaries, Jesus Christ who died on the cross for all.
- She stands in front of the sun. The sun symbolizes the greatest Aztec god – Huitzilopochtli. She announces the God who is greater than their sun god.
- She stands on the moon. The crescent moon symbolized the Aztec god Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent moon god. She has clearly crushed and defeated him.
- An angel with eagle's wings supports the Mother of God. The eagle was the "bird of the sun." Here the eagle is the servant of the Virgin. She holds her mantle in one hand and robe with the other, signifying the Son she bears is from both heaven and earth.
- To date the image cannot be explained by science.
- The image on the tilma was able to do what up to that time the missionaries were not able to do significantly. Namely, clearly explain Christianity to the Indian people. The proof is in the fact that after the apparitions, eight million natives of Mexico converted to Catholicism from 1531 to 1538.

Santo Tomás de Aquino de Ruston te invita...

DIA DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE



Jueves 12 de diciembre

- Las Mañanitas - 6:30 a.m. en la parroquia
- Por la tarde...
 - 5:00 p.m. Procesión encabezada por los hombres, padres, jóvenes y niños, rezando el Santo Rosario.
 - 6:00 p.m. Santa Misa.
 - 7:00 p.m. Celebración amenizada por:
 - Sugey y César Mejía.
 - Grupo de danza folclórica de las Hermanas Soto.

Te invitamos a traer comida para compartir y disfrutar en familia.
¡Únete a la celebración!
 Todos son bienvenidos.

**EN ESTE LUGAR,
 MOSTRARÉ Y DARÉ
 TODO MI AMOR,
 COMPASIÓN Y AYUDA
 NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE**

Jubilee OF YOUTH



Embark on a Pilgrimage to Italy with the Department of Multicultural Ministries!

Join us as we celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025 and journey to the sacred sites of Assisi and Rome. This special pilgrimage provides a profound opportunity for young adults to deepen their faith and connect with others on a meaningful spiritual adventure.

ROME & ASSISI

JULY 26 - AUGUST 5TH, 2025

20 YRS AND OLDER

\$4099 PER PERSON



Scan for more info

DIocese of SHREVEPORT
 318-219-7257






11/27/2024:46 PM

2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Park and Location	Park ID	# of Park Families	# of Families Participating 2024 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2024 Parish Goal	Amount Budgeted 2024 (to date)	% Goal Met/2024	Amount Contributed 2024
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	0	37		\$ -	\$6,102		\$7,962
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	83	23	28%	\$ 9,000	\$4,450	49.4%	\$4,080
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	84	25%	\$ 69,000	\$38,980	56.5%	\$57,680
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	64	15%	\$ 28,000	\$19,025	67.9%	\$17,410
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	800	212	27%	\$ 144,000	\$89,372	62.1%	\$87,000
St. Ann, Earls	25	84	33	39%	\$ 17,000	\$11,325	66.6%	\$10,905
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	8	31%	\$ 3,000	\$1,500	50.0%	\$1,500
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	48	12	25%	\$ 12,000	\$5,800	48.3%	\$5,775
St. Margaret, Homer	34	21	12	57%	\$ 12,000	\$4,965	41.4%	\$4,715
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	14	28%	\$ 9,000	\$5,385	59.8%	\$5,385
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	97	39	40%	\$ 70,000	\$30,827	44.0%	\$28,747
St. John the Baptist - Mary	44	180	39	22%	\$ 23,000	\$16,323	71.0%	\$15,355
St. Terence	45	54	9	17%	\$ 6,000	\$4,825	80.4%	\$4,825
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19	6	32%	\$ 3,000	\$1,250	41.7%	\$1,250
St. Paul - Minden	47	80	19	24%	\$ 14,000	\$4,270	30.5%	\$3,805
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	118	20%	\$ 91,000	\$71,853	79.0%	\$70,738
Little Flower of Jesus	49	146	33	23%	\$ 9,000	\$4,410	48.9%	\$4,110
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	37	20%	\$ 27,000	\$20,025	74.2%	\$20,000
St. Matthew	52	383	47	12%	\$ 36,000	\$14,800	41.1%	\$14,575
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55	12	22%	\$ 3,000	\$1,950	65.0%	\$1,950
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	27	3	11%	\$ 3,000	\$1,100	36.7%	\$1,100
St. George, Coushatta	62	30	14	47%	\$ 12,000	\$8,340	69.5%	\$8,340
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40	8	20%	\$ 6,000	\$2,290	38.2%	\$2,270
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	287	39	13%	\$ 32,000	\$21,855	68.3%	\$21,170
Holy Trinity	68	675	90	13%	\$ 75,000	\$60,053	80.1%	\$59,073
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	140	32	23%	\$ 11,000	\$6,870	62.5%	\$6,800
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	132	41	31%	\$ 13,000	\$8,888	68.4%	\$8,603
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	645	135	21%	\$ 189,000	\$128,217	68.0%	\$123,997
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	201	28%	\$ 240,000	\$144,570	60.2%	\$138,430
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	106	15%	\$ 55,000	\$36,959	67.2%	\$34,746
St. Pius X	75	152	59	39%	\$ 34,000	\$23,832	70.1%	\$22,582
St. Clement - Vivian	82	44	21	48%	\$ 11,000	\$6,555	59.6%	\$6,220
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	406	87	21%	\$ 53,000	\$38,197	72.1%	\$37,026
St. Joseph, Zolfo	86	636	131	21%	\$ 80,000	\$64,570	80.7%	\$60,903
St. Lawrence - Smartz	90	75	8	11%	\$ 5,000	\$375	7.5%	\$315
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182	14	8%	\$ 9,000	\$3,645	40.5%	\$3,595
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	179	20%	\$ 176,000	\$127,463	72.4%	\$123,815
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	110	23	21%	\$ 15,000	\$7,400	49.3%	\$7,000
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		9,623	2,049	21%	\$ 1,600,000	\$1,069,076	66.8%	\$1,033,152



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MASS IN CELEBRATION OF

Bishop Francis I. Malone's
Fifth Anniversary of Episcopal
Ordination and Installation

as Bishop of the
Diocese of Shreveport

JANUARY 25, 2025, 10 AM
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans, Shreveport

Reception to follow in the school
multi-room, all are welcome




FÊTE FOR LIFE

BANQUET FOR MARY'S HOUSE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER
Bossier Civic Center ♣ February 11, 2025

With Special Guest Speaker
40 DAYS FOR LIFE Co-Founder Shawn Carney

Tickets - 2025 Fête For Life

- 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 call (318) 220-8009

SAVE THE DATE!

Devoted

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2025

March 14-15, 2025
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

with Keynote
Speaker
Katie McGrady



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*



DIOCESAN To Advertise 1-800-997-4986 or Advertising@Diocesan.com

VISA
MasterCard
Discover
AmEx
5737

<p>Grace and Peace to All</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>HEARD CONSTRUCTION ROOFING DIVISION 318.514.7747</p>	<p>PATRICK STUCKEY, D.D.S. GENERAL DENTISTRY 318-255-8648</p>	<p>catholicmatch Louisiana CatholicMatch.com/goLA</p>
<p>computer solutions COMPUTER SALES & SERVICE Rhonda Reed - Manager 255-2555</p>		<p>RUSTON SMILES Trey Hanna, DDS (318) 251-9600</p>		
<p>Jim TAYLOR FORD • RUSTON 318.436.0003 jimtaylorford.com 1605 NORTH SERVICE ROAD EAST, RUSTON</p>		<p>EWTN.COM/RADIO EWTN Global Catholic Radio TUNE IN</p>	<p>ADVERTISE HERE Promote your Business AND support your Parish. <i>Give us a call!</i> 800-997-4986</p>	
<p> Get this bulletin emailed to you every week. Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/5737 ...or scan </p> <p>DISCOVERMASS</p>	<p> GREAT TASTING LOCALLY BOTTLED KING SPRINGS PURIFIED LOUISIANA SPRING WATER 318-396-1047 KingSpringsLA.com</p>			

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

