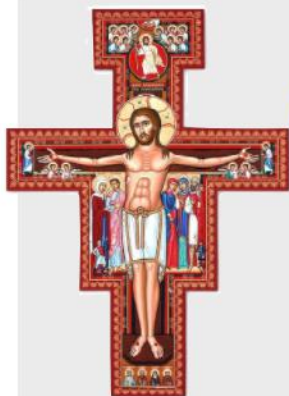


DECEMBER 15TH, 2024 | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

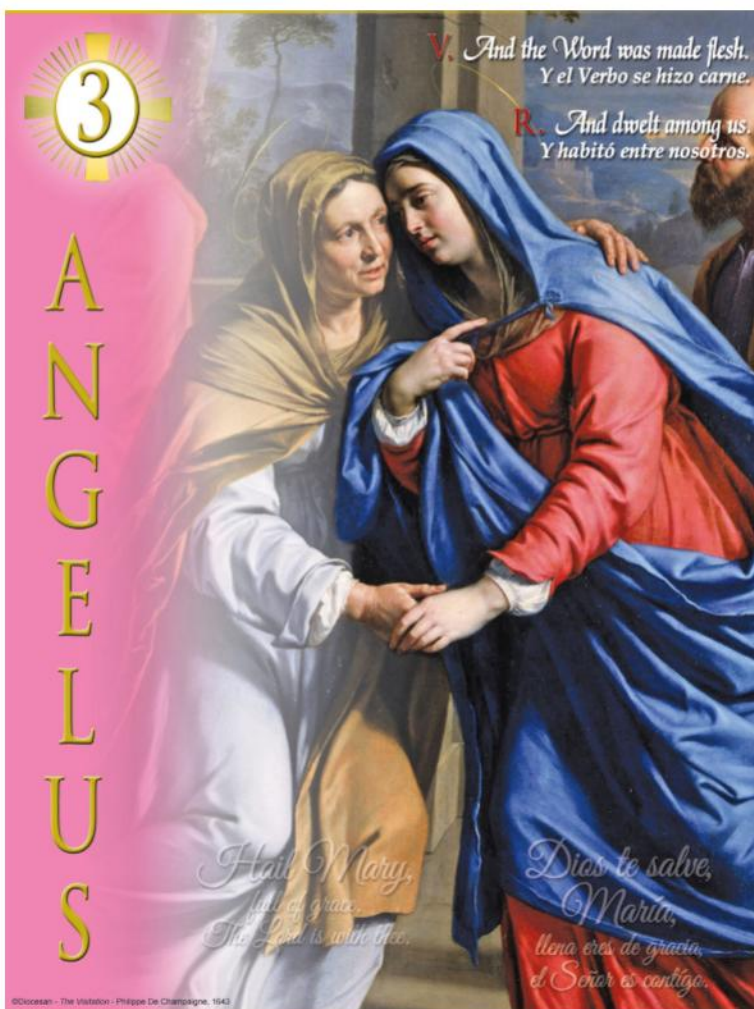
Please call Church Office SIX MONTHS in advance to schedule

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 Faucheux
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 15th

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

Monday, December 16th

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

Tuesday, December 17th

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 18th

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 19th

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 20th

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

Saturday, December 21st

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

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
RUSTON, LOUISIANA

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS
SCHEDULE

December 24 6 p.m.	December 25 10 A.M. & 1:30 pm Spanish St. Lucy - Hodge 8:30 am
December 31st 6 p.m.	January 1 10 A.M. & 1:30 pm Spanish St. Lucy - Hodge 6 pm



Ministry Schedule

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

Saturday December 21st 2024

Lectors: John Allen, Charlotte Wilkerson
 EMHC: Joan Mullens, George Trevison
 Altar Servers: Cedric Serio
 Ushers: George Trevison, AJ Trevison

Sunday December 22nd, 2024

Lectors: Jim Martin, Stacey Denny
 EMHC: Emily Chartier, Elaine Johnson, Tom Bishop, Gary Kennedy
 Altar Servers: Ramona Bishop, Maggie & Georgia Rogers
 Misa en español: Ana Ambrosio, Ilda Solis
 Ushers: The Rogers

Tuesday December 24th 2024

Lectors: Paul Jackson, Dolly Hurtig
 EMHC: Elaine Johnson, Bob Rorie, Slade Richard, Jim Martin
 Altar Servers:
 Ushers: Josh Adams, Greg Bimle, Brennan Jackson

Wednesday December 25th 2024

Lectors: Tom Garza, John Allen
 EMHC: Mary Ghongkedze, Todd Wasson, Gary Kennedy, Chris Kennedy
 Altar Servers:
 Ushers: Flint Sibayan, Wynn & Charlie Rogers

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 30/ DECEMBER 1

General Sunday Collection \$9,9810.00

Thank you for continued and generous support!



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

Mallory Adams
 Patti Hooper Allen
 Quintana Atkins
 Miriam Bishop
 Jackie Bolden
 Frankie Career
 Gerald Cosentino
 Bruce Cowan
 Judy Darcey
 Butch Doiron
 Laurie Duvall
 Becky Ferrell
 Robert Frasier
 Mary Lou French
 Emmely Gay
 Bernice Harrison
 Harvey Hayes
 Connie Howard
 Charles Jacobs
 Karl Johnson
 Magnolia Johnson
 Jeffery Justice
 Mary Lanning
 Emily Landry
 Chris Letendre
 Cristian Leon

Kim Lowe
 Ken Martinez
 Tobie McKown
 Carol Mercier
 Larry Miller
 Katherine Ned
 Odi Okeke
 Don Olivier
 Matthew Reichert
 Tristen Roberts
 Pearlina Robey
 Laura Leigh Saleese
 Jennie Schutte-Patrick
 Nicole Smith
 Polly Smith
 Eloise Solis
 Tyler Sorrels
 Willie Tannerhill
 Karen Taylor
 Diane Theriot
 Danica Tipton
 Pam Turner
 David & Kim St. John
 Kathleen "Kathy" Walter
 Janice Williams



Saturday December 14th Mike & Paul Buske +
(by Dave & Mary Leonard)

Sunday December 15th For the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

Charlene Sims
(by Barbara Lewis)

Monday December 16th Blaise Cosentino +
(by Gene Cosentino)

Wednesday December 18th Mr. & Mrs. Brown +
(by Barbara Lewis)

Thursday December 19th Dr. Edward Harrison +
(by Barbara Lewis)

Friday December 20th Dr. Andolyn Harrison
(by Barbara Lewis)

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

PSR for Dates for December 2024 - February 2025:

- December 15th: **NO PSR / Advent Gathering & Christmas Play in the Luffey Center**
- December 22nd, 29th, & Jan 5th: **NO PSR / Christmas Break**
- January – February Dates for PSR include (**Family of Faith meeting dates TBA next week for January & February**):
 - January 12th: PSR all grades.
 - January 19th: PSR all grades
 - January 26th: PSR all grades.
 - February 2nd: PSR all grades.
 - February 9th: PSR all grades
 - February 16th: **No PSR - Lincoln Parish Schools out for Presidents Day.**
 - February 23rd: PSR all grades

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:** If you have not, 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..
- **Confirmation:** If you have not, please choose your confirmation sponsor.



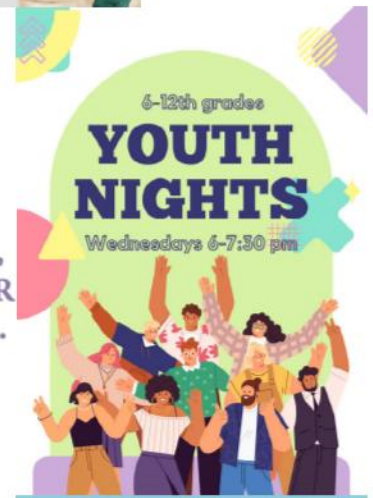
STAY

We thank you all for the huge support of our ornament sale. We will be restocking soon! Here are some of the youth working on them.



I AM BAPTIZING YOU WITH WATER, BUT ONE MIGHTIER THAN I IS COMING.

Luke 3:16





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

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.



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY GUMBO

SAVE THE DATE



JAN 26, 2025 -11 AM

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!



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.



Third Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none.

And whoever has food should do likewise..."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and shoes can share in the blessings of Christmas"



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



Back to School!

Louisiana Tech students are back in class and gearing up for a new round of studies. Along with studying, there is a lot going on at the center right now. Tonight, following 7pm Mass, will be our December Birthday Bash! Please join us as we celebrate all those with December birthdays. Tomorrow, there will be a General Body Meeting at the center starting at 6pm. This is a great opportunity to come by and see what events are ongoing and coming up soon. This Wednesday, several of our ACTS leaders will be hosting a White Elephant get together. Please join us for this exciting event!

This will be students last full week of classes before Christmas break. Please pray for our students as they travel home for the holidays.

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

Winter ACTStivities

Sun - Birthday Bash @8pm

Mon - GBM @6pm

Wed - White Elephant @6pm

Fri - Last day of classes before break



*Misa de
Primera Comunión*

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

*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

Vocations

Tercer Domingo de Adviento (Domingo Gaudete) – 15 de diciembre de 2024

"Regocijaos en el Señor siempre" (Filipenses 4:4)
¿Está usted lleno de alegría por la invitación del Señor a servirle en el sacerdocio o en la vida consagrada? Este profundo sentido de alegría es una señal de que Dios puede estar llamándole a compartir su amor con los demás de una manera especial. Hable con su sacerdote o comuníquese con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 221-5296 o por correo electrónico: vocations@dioshpt.org

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) - December 15, 2024

"Rejoice in the Lord always." (Philippians 4:4)
Are you filled with joy at the Lord's invitation to serve Him in priesthood or consecrated life? This deep sense of joy is a sign that God may be calling you to share His love with others in a special way. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at (318) 221-5296 or email: vocations@dioshpt.org






12/5/2024 4:40 PM

2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Parish and Location	Parish ID	# of Parish Families	# of Families Participating 2024 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2024 Parish Goal	Amount Pledged 2024 (to date)	% Goal Pledged	Amount Contributed 2024
Miscellaneous Contributions	1	0	37		\$	\$8,102		\$7,562
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	83	23	28%	\$ 9,000	\$4,450	49.4%	\$4,000
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	85	26%	\$ 69,000	\$39,010	56.5%	\$37,885
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	64	15%	\$ 28,000	\$19,120	68.3%	\$17,685
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	850	219	26%	\$ 144,000	\$93,922	65.2%	\$90,115
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	84	34	40%	\$ 17,000	\$11,825	69.6%	\$11,405
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	9	35%	\$ 3,000	\$1,750	58.3%	\$1,750
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	48	12	25%	\$ 12,000	\$5,900	49.2%	\$5,875
St. Margaret, Homer	34	21	12	57%	\$ 12,000	\$4,965	41.4%	\$4,815
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	\$30,852	44.1%	\$29,872
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	100	39	24%	\$ 23,000	\$18,323	79.7%	\$15,705
St. Terence	45	54	9	17%	\$ 6,000	\$4,825	80.4%	\$4,825
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19	6	32%	\$ 3,000	\$1,350	45.0%	\$1,350
St. Paul - Minden	47	80	19	24%	\$ 14,000	\$4,370	31.2%	\$3,905
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	120	20%	\$ 91,000	\$72,903	80.1%	\$71,953
Little Flower of Jesus	49	146	33	23%	\$ 5,000	\$4,410	88.2%	\$4,110
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	37	20%	\$ 27,000	\$20,025	74.2%	\$20,000
St. Matthew	52	383	48	13%	\$ 36,000	\$14,800	41.1%	\$14,775
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55	12	22%	\$ 3,000	\$2,300	76.7%	\$2,200
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%	\$8,390
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40	8	20%	\$ 6,000	\$2,290	38.2%	\$2,270
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	267	39	15%	\$ 32,000	\$21,855	68.3%	\$21,170
Holy Trinity	68	675	90	13%	\$ 75,000	\$62,408	83.2%	\$61,508
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	140	32	23%	\$ 11,000	\$6,870	62.5%	\$6,070
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	132	41	31%	\$ 13,000	\$6,688	51.4%	\$6,603
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	645	136	21%	\$ 189,000	\$126,557	67.0%	\$125,177
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	202	28%	\$ 240,000	\$147,050	61.3%	\$141,656
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	107	15%	\$ 55,000	\$37,669	68.5%	\$35,746
St. Pius X	75	152	59	39%	\$ 34,000	\$24,332	71.6%	\$23,532
St. Clement - Vivian	82	44	21	48%	\$ 11,000	\$6,605	60.0%	\$6,455
St. Paschal - West Monroe	83	406	87	21%	\$ 53,000	\$38,297	72.3%	\$37,356
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	638	133	21%	\$ 80,000	\$66,090	82.6%	\$62,608
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	10	13%	\$ 5,000	\$1,725	34.5%	\$1,725
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182	14	8%	\$ 9,000	\$3,645	40.5%	\$3,645
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	182	20%	\$ 176,000	\$130,028	73.9%	\$127,085
St. Ann, Stoneville	94	110	23	21%	\$ 15,000	\$7,700	51.3%	\$7,425
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		9,623	2,072	22%	\$ 1,600,000	\$1,085,796	67.9%	\$1,056,353



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!



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

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<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>	
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