## **DECEMBER 22ND, 2024 | FOURTH 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

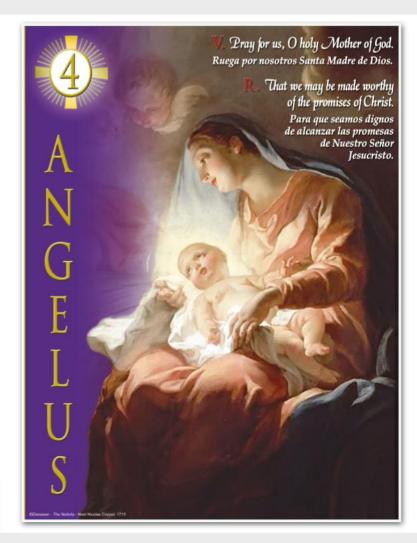
#### STAFF/TELEPHONE EXT.

Fr. Kevin Mues (318) 310-4007 Fr. Charles Ssennyondo Deacon John Serio

Pastor **Parroquial Vicar** 

**Deacon Robert Ransom** Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870 Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906 Matthew Bryan Thurston Allen St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090

**Business Manager** Interim PSR Director President of Pastoral Council Chairman of Finance Council



#### **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

## Page II

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 2<sup>nd</sup> **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 10<sup>th</sup> Camille Maier Patrick Stuckey

December 11<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> Paull Jackson

December 19th Anyi Garcia Solis Susan Faucheux Beatriz Hernandez Francisco Morales

December 22<sup>nd</sup> **Bridney Perez** Kimble Devenin Clifton Sandlin Mollie Devening

December 24th John Serio

November 25th Cruz Medrano Bryan Lopez

December 26<sup>th</sup> Clyde Vidrine Ren Cynthia Morphew

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 22nd

Sunday Mass

Sunday Mass

Misa en Español

10:00 AM 1:30 PM 7:00 PM

#### Monday, December 23rd

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

#### Tuesday, December 24th

8:15 AM 9:00 AM 8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Closed 6:00 PM

Daily Mass Christmas decorating (church) Mass

#### Wednesday, December 25th

8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Closed 10:00 AM Mass 1:30 PM Misa en Español

#### Thursday, December 26th

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

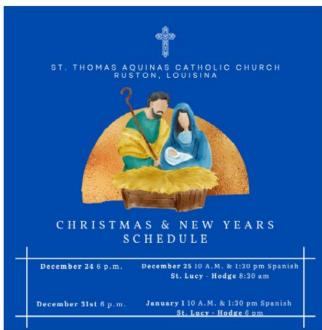
#### Friday, December 27th

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

#### Saturday, December 28th

3:30PM - 4:45AM 5:00 PM

Penance & Reconciliation Vigil Mass



### Page III

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22nd, 2024



#### 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

#### Saturday December 28th 2024

Lectors: Pam Allen, George Trevison EMHC: Bob Rorie, Joan Mullens Altar Servers: Jessie & Julie Groce Ushers: Benny Grafton, Josh Adam

#### Sunday December 29th, 2024

Lectors: Ryan Freling, Jim Martin EMHC: Todd Wasson, Emily Chartier, Paul Jackson, Elaine Johnson Altar Servers: Jack Taulli, Liam Taylor, Elliott Frost Misa en español: Pablo Tepole, Angel Ventura Ushers: Flint Sibayan, Greg Bimle

#### **STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY**

General Sunday Collection General Sunday Collection

\$12,081.00 **12/8/24** \$29,186.00 **12/15/24** 

#### Thank you for continued and generous support!





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

Mallary Adams Patti Hooper Allen Quintana Atkins Miriam Bishop Jackie Bolden Frankie Career Donald Colvin 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 Judice 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 Pearline Robey Laura Leigh Saleese Jennie Schutte-Patrick Hudson Smith Nicole Smith Polly Smith **Eloise Solis Tyler Sorrels** Willie Tannerhill Karen Taylor Diane Theriot Pam Turner David & Kim St. John Kathleen "Kathy" Walter Janice Williams Rodney Wood



Saturday December 21st	Mary Antony + (by Pat & Connie Stuckey)				
Sunday December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mary Antony (by Pat & Connie Stuckey)				
	For the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas				
Monday December 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dennis C Kennedy + (by Gary & Selene Kennedy)				
<u>Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup></u>	Mary Carol Vidrine (anonymous)				
Wednesday December 25th	Charles Bourgeois + (by Mary Bailey)				
Thursday December 26 <sup>th</sup>	Clyde Vidrine (anonymous)				
Friday December 27th	Dave Andres (anonymous)				
	l for your intentions, or for the intentions				

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 <u>https://stthomasaquinasruston.com/calendar/</u>



#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

#### **PSR News**

- PSR for Dates for December 2024 February 2025:
  - 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 had great success with our ornament sales and appreciate the support. Here are some pictures from our preparations.







Camp Little Flower is a summer camp for youth organized by the Diocese of Shreveport. Our mission is to provide families with the opportunity to experience a Catholic outdoor education and recreation program in North Louisiana.

> Campers aged 8 to 13 June 23 - 27, 2025 Scottsville Camp 400 Harkins Lane Marshall, TX 75672

**Contact Information:** 

If you have any questions, please email us at camplittleflower@dioshpt.org or rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org.

#### **Refund Policy:**

100% Refund if canceled 60 days or more prior to the camp 50.% Refund if canceled between 59 and 30 days prior to the camp. No Refund if canceled 29 days or less before the camp.

If you are unable to cover the full amount for one camper or multiple campers, please email us at camplittleflower@dioshpt.org to inquire about camperships for financial assistance. If the camp is fully booked, please contact us to be placed

on the waitlist. Camp Little Flower Registration Fee 1 \$125.00. https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/c529f830-e5c9-4900-b24cb0f9ce22ade0

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 13 Carey Ave, Ruston, LA 71270

6-12th grades





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

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



## Page V

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### December 22nd, 2024

**Celebración a nuestra señora la Virgen de Guadalupe** Gracias a todos lo que asistieron a celebrar a nuestra virgencita. La celebración fue posible gracias a todos los que donaron tiempo, comida, compraron tiquetes de la rifa, ayudaron a limpiar y se aseguraron de que todo estuviera listo para que este evento fuera posible. Nuestra comunidad unida continúa engrandeciendo nuestra parroquia Santo Tomas Aquino.





#### **Posadas Navideñas**

¡Nuestra posada navideña fue un éxito total! Disfrutamos de ricos platillos, dulces, piñata y compartimos con nuestra comunidad.







## Advent Gaudete Breakfast and Nativity Play

Thank you to our teachers and all who volunteered, donated food, helped serve and clean up!.



Page VI

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024



## **Christmas Break!**

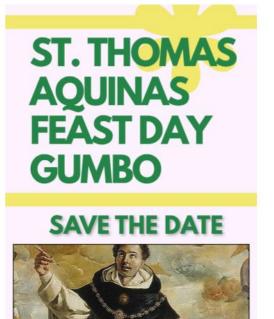
Louisiana Tech students are home for the holidays! This week students will be on Christmas break. ACTS members have been busy around the center for the past couple of weeks with events for Habitat for Humanity, socials, Dollar Lunches and more.

Before returning to school in January, many of our ACTS members will be attending the SEEK Conference for Catholic college students from across the country. This year, the conference is being held in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Students will spend a week there attending daily Mass and adoration, listening to speeches, and experiencing widespread Catholic fellowship. Please pray for our students as they travel. We can't wait to see you again soon!

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





JAN 26, 2025 -11 AM



## Leace 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.



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!



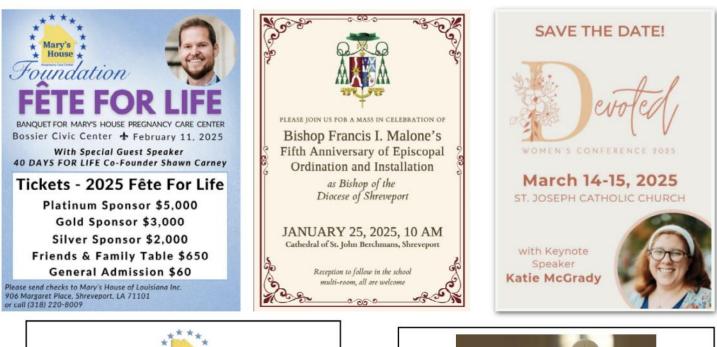


#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there. Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.



Fourth Sunday of Advent





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.



12/12/20245:01 PM

#### 2024 Catholic Service Appeal Report

Parish and Location	Parish ED	# of Parish Families	# of Families Participating 2028 (to date)	Participation Percentage	2024 Parish Goal	Amount Pledged 2024 (to date)	N Goal Fielged	Amount Contributed 2024
Miscallaneous Contributions	1	0	38		\$ -	\$8,382		\$7,782
St. Joseph, Bastrop		83	23	28%	5 9,000	54,450	49.4%	\$4,080
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	85	26%	5 69,000	\$59,145	05.7%	\$58,020
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	67	15%	\$ 28,000	\$19,355	69.1%	\$17,920
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	850	720	25%	S 144,000	\$96,553	67.1%	\$94,986
St. Ann, Ebarb	25	84	34	40%	\$ 17,000	\$11,845	69.7%	\$11,425
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	9	35%	\$ 3,000	\$1,750	58.3%	\$1,750
St. Lacy - Hodge	33	48	12	25%	\$ 12,000	\$5,900	49.2%	\$5,875
St. Margaret, Homer	34	21	12	57%	5 13,000	55,165	43.0%	55,015
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	15	30%	\$ 9,000	\$5,485	60.9%	\$5,405
St. Juseph, Manufield	41	97	40	41%	5 70,000	\$31,027	44.3%	\$29,047
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	160	41	26%	\$ 23,000	\$16,418	71.4%	\$15,800
St. Terence	45	54	10	19%	5 6,000	\$4,925	82.1N	\$4,925
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19	6	32%	\$ 3,000	\$1,350	45.0%	\$1,350
St. Paul - Minden	47	80	20	25N	5 14,000	\$4,970	35.5N	\$4,505
lesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	122	20%	5 91,000	\$73,783	81.1%	\$78,271
Little Flower of Jesus	49	346	33	23%	\$ 5,000	\$4,485	89.7%	\$4,290
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	38	21%	5 27,000	\$20,205	74.8%	\$20,205
St. Matthew	52	383	48	13%	5 36,000	\$14,975	41.6%	514,950
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55	13	24%	5 3,000	52,225	74.2%	\$2,225
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	27	3	11%	5 3,000	\$1,200	40.0%	\$1,200
St. George, Coushatta	62	30	24	47%	5 12,000	58,340	69.5%	\$8,390
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40	8	20%	\$ 6,000	52,290	38.2%	\$2,290
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	267	40	15N	5 33,000	\$22,480	70.3%	\$22,095
Holy Trinity	68	675	90	13%	\$ 75,000	\$62,568	83.4%	561,793
Our Lady of the Blessed Secrement	69	140	34	24%	5 11,000	\$7,020	63.8%	\$6,845
Secred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	132	41	31%	\$ 13,000	58,838	68.0%	\$8,788
Cathedral of St. John Benchmans	72	645	137	21%	\$ 189,000	\$128,907	68.2%	\$127,877
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	205	28%	\$ 240,000	\$151,070	62.9%	\$146,636
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	111	16%	\$ \$5,000	\$39,814	72.4%	\$37,891
St. Pius X	25	152	59	39%	\$ 34,000	\$24,857	73.1%	\$24,157
St. Clement - Vivian	82	44	23	40%	5 11,000	56,665	60.6%	\$6,515
St. Pauchal - West Monroe	83	406	88	22%	\$ 53,000	\$38,597	72.8%	\$37,806
St. Juseph, Zwalle	86	636	133	21%	5 80,000	\$66,160	82.7%	562,768
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	14	19%	\$ 5,000	\$1,985	39.7%	\$1,985
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182	14	2%	\$ 9,000	\$3,645	40.5%	\$3,645
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	188	21%	\$ 176,000	\$134,813	76.5N	\$133,453
St. Ann, Stonewall	54	110	25	23%	\$ 15,000	\$8,175	54.5N	\$7,925
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		9,623	2,111	22%	\$ 1,600,000	\$1,109,817	69.4%	\$1,084,964



Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 22, 2024 "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1:45) Like Mary, you are called to trust in God's plan for your life. If you feel that God is asking you to serve as a priest or religious brother or sister, believe in His promise and follow with courage. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at (318) 221-5296 or email: vocations@dioshpt.org

Cuarto domingo de Adviento – 22 de diciembre de 2024 "Bienaventurada tú que has creído, porque se cumplirá lo que te fue dicho de parte del Señor" (Lucas 1:45) Al igual que María, estás llamado a confiar en el plan de Dios para tu vida. Si sientes que Dios te pide que sirvas como sacerdote o religioso, cree en su promesa y síguela con valentía. Habla con tu sacerdote o comunícate con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 221-5296 o por

correo electrónico: vocations@dioshpt.org

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 allows 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.



## 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



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

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