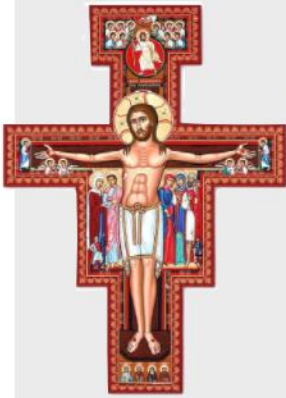


JANUARY 12TH, 2025 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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 Ssenyondo
Deacon John Serio

Pastor
Parroquial Vicar

Deacon Robert Ransom

Marcie Tucker (318) 255-2870

Business Manager

Melinda Bryan (318) 525-4906

Interim PSR Director

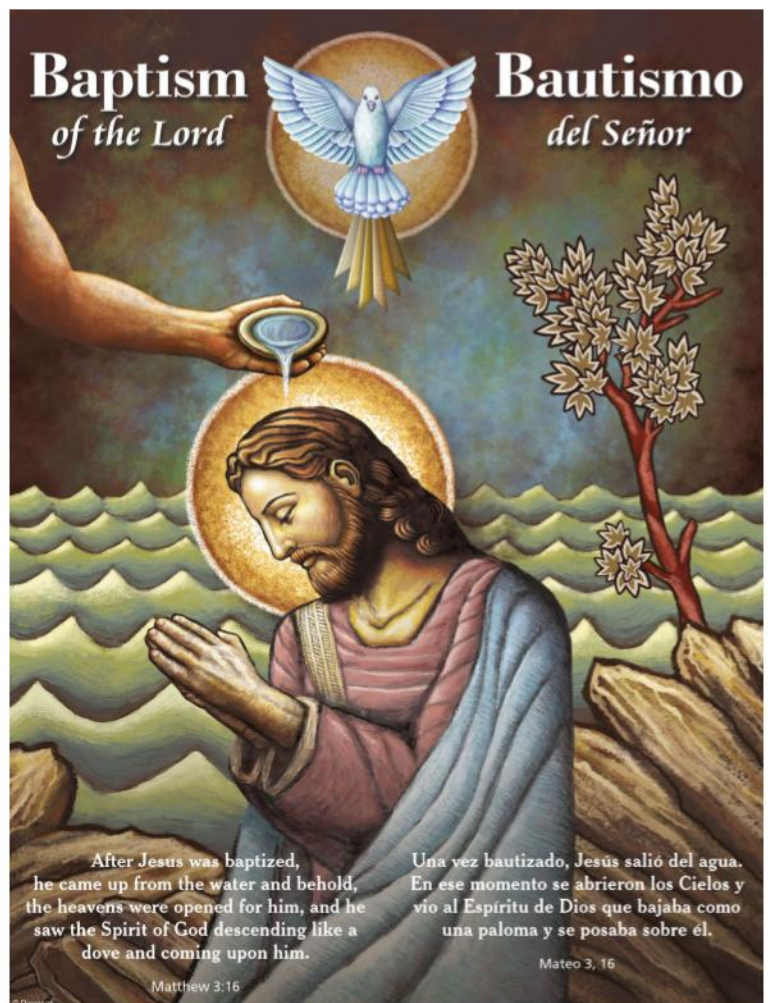
Matthew Bryan

President of Pastoral Council

Thurston Allen

Chairman of Finance Council

St. Vincent de Paul Society (318)255-8090



After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him.

Una vez bautizado, Jesús salió del agua. En ese momento se abrieron los Cielos y vio al Espíritu de Dios que bajaba como una paloma y se posaba sobre él.

Matthew 3:16

Mateo 3, 16

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



January 1st

Wayne Skipper
Michael Langiulli
Dolly Garcia
Christopher Esau Castillo

January 2nd

Carmen Trevison
Ethan Moreno

January 3rd

Ethan Moreno
Stephanie Martinez
Darlene Menzina
Alissia Hinton
Hudson Hinton
Michelle Machen

January 5th

Ramona Bishop
Juana Melendez

January 7th

Josie Bishop
Redel Perez
Janie Holbron
Ashley Landaverde

January 10th

Jennifer Youngblood
Yanney Hernandez

January 11th

Olivia Roger
Beth Keys

January 12th

David Broussard
Melissa Jackson
Kaitin Corcia
Harryn Lopez

January 13th

Joseph Lanning

January 14th

Brennan Jackson
Marcie Tucker

January 15th

Sandy Freeman

January 16th

Juana Maria Leon
Jaiden Langiulli

January 17th

Jerry Berg II

January 18th

Linda Oakley

January 20th

Christine Hanna
Matthew Montgomery

January 21st

Rose Kitishian
John Mark Adams
Jose Maria Garcia

January 22nd

Benjamin Denny
Hayden Frost
Edgar Nunez

January 24th

Cindy Bimle

January 25th

Fr. Kevin Mues

January 26th

Ryan Corcia

January 28th

William Slusher

January 31st

Pedro de Rosa

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, January 12th

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

Monday, January 13th

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

Tuesday, January 14th

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

Wednesday, January 15th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM Daily Mass
8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM STAY
8:00 PM Student Mass

Thursday, January 16th

7:30 AM - 8:00AM Penance & Reconciliation
8:15 AM Daily Mass
8:30 AM - 4:00PM Church Office Open
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM OCIA

Friday, January 17th

8:30 AM - 12:00PM Church Office Open
11:15 AM - 11:45AM Penance & Reconciliation
12:00 PM Daily Mass
6:00 PM Adoration

Saturday, January 18th

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

Here is my Chosen One
WITH WHOM I AM PLEASED
The Baptism of the Lord

Your gift matters.

Scan to give.

The people rejoiced over the offerings, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord.
1 Chronicles 29:9



Saturday January 11th 2025

Lectors: Katherine Austin, Dolly Hurtig
 EMHC: Beth Buske, Bob Rorie
 Altar Servers: Jessie & Julie Groce
 Ushers: Benny Grafton, Josh Adam

Sunday January 12th, 2024

Lectors: Sheila Mariano, Paul Jackson
 EMHC: Todd Wasson, Emily Chartier, Elaine Johnson, Jim Martin
 Altar Servers: Brennan, Jackson & Anna Kate Jackson
 Misa en español: Veronica Ramirez, Gabriel de la Cruz
 Ushers:

Saturday January 18th 2025

Lectors: John Allen, Charlotte Wilkerson
 EMHC: Slade Richard, Joan Mullens
 Altar Servers: Cedric Serio
 Ushers: Dolly Hurtig, Benny Grafton

Sunday January 19th 2025

Lectors: Mallory Taylor, Stacey Denny
 EMHC: Mary Ghongkedze, Tom Bishop, Paul Jackson, Todd Wasson
 Altar Servers: Ramona Bishop, Maggie & Georgia Rogers
 Misa en español: Ilda Ajanel, Marichuy Torres
 Ushers: The Nashes



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
 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
 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
 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

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

General Sunday Collection \$17,538.00 **December 28/29**

General Sunday Collection \$19,521.00 **January 4/5**

Thank you for continued and generous support!



Altar flowers

Donated by Diana & Harry May in thanksgiving for healthy twin grandchildren

We have six Sunday's available before lent and plenty after Easter. If you would like to donate flowers please call Marcie Tucker at **318)255-2870** for more information.



Saturday January 11th

Toni Traina Torres
(by Jody & Kim Traina)

Sunday January 12th

Theresa Robinson
(by Mary Jane Allen)

For the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas

Wednesday January 15th

Gregorio Viray +
(Bernadette Mariano)

Thursday, January 16th

Gene Cosentino
(anonymous)

Friday, January 17th

Gregorio Viray +
(Bernadette Mariano)

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 January - February 2025:

- 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.



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-b24c-b0f9ce22ade0>

6-12th grades
YOUTH NIGHTS
 Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm

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

HEAVEN WAS OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDED UPON HIM IN BODILY FORM LIKE A DOVE.
Luke 3:21-22

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



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.



A.C.T.S stands 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."

The February 2025 Men's ACTS Retreat Registration is now open.

The retreat date is February 20-23 at Maryhill Retreat Center.

For any questions, please give me a call. John Matherne 318-376-7496

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. Lunch provided for a \$5.00 donation.

Upcoming meeting January 14 2025 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 January 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm.**




The Baptism of the Lord


After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words. As you help those who are suffering, know in your heart the truth of the words "you are my beloved in whom I am well pleased".



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.




NOWELA Chapter Meal
 Saturday, March 8, 2025, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 @ The Catholic Center, Speaker: Dani Laurion
 Come here Dani's story about the power of prayer and of not one but the two miracles she received at a parish mission for healing!



Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Please purchase your ticket by mailing a check with each attendees name and email address to:
 Magnificat NOWELA Chapter
 Mail to: P.O. Box 4293, Shreveport, LA 71134
 For questions contact Sandy at: 318-222-0007

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS FEAST DAY GUMBO

SAVE THE DATE



JAN 26, 2025 -11 AM


SAVE THE DATE!



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2025

March 14-15, 2025
 ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

with Keynote Speaker
Katie McGrady





The Catholic Diocese of Shreveport

Diocesan Employment Opportunities

- Communications Director - Catholic Center , Shreveport, LA
- Human Resources Generalist/Administrative Assistant - Catholic Center , Shreveport, LA
- 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>



Baptism of the Lord - January 12, 2025
 "You are my beloved Son; with you, I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22). God takes great pleasure in those who respond to His call. Do you hear His voice? He may be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Director of Vocations Father Raney Johnson at (318) 221-5296 or email: vocations@dioshpt.org

Bautismo del Señor – 12 de enero de 2025
 "Tú eres mi Hijo amado; estoy muy contento de ti" (Lucas 3:22). Dios se complace en quienes responden a su llamado. ¿Escuchas su voz? Quizás te esté llamando al sacerdocio o a la vida consagrada. Habla con tu sacerdote o comunícate con la Oficina de Vocaciones al (318) 221-5296 o por correo electrónico: vocations@dioshpt.org






Mary's House
Pregnancy Care Center

Foundation

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




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*




*Quo
Vadis*

VOCATIONS RETREAT
Diocese of Shreveport

FEBRUARY 8, 10 AM - 7 PM
CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN BERCHMANS, SHREVEPORT

FEBRUARY 22, 9 AM - 7 PM
JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH, MONROE

Open to all young men currently enrolled in high school in the Diocese of Shreveport.
For more information please contact Vocations Director, Reverend Raneey C. Johnson
rjohnson@sjbcathedral.org or
vocationsoffice@dioshpt.org



To register please scan the QR Code here:



1/2/2025 4:28 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	39		\$	\$9,432		\$9,432
St. Joseph, Bastrop	8	83	24	29%	\$	9,000	54.6%	\$4,325
Mary, Queen of Peace	10	333	85	26%	\$	69,000	86.8%	\$59,335
Christ the King - Bossier City	11	435	69	16%	\$	28,000	19.6%	\$18,460
St. Jude Church - Bossier City	12	850	222	26%	\$	144,000	68.5%	\$98,174
St. Ann, Elbert	25	84	35	42%	\$	17,000	69.8%	\$11,800
St. Benedict the Black	31	26	9	35%	\$	3,000	51.7%	\$1,750
St. Lucy - Hodge	33	48	12	25%	\$	12,000	50.0%	\$6,000
St. Margaret, Homer	34	21	13	62%	\$	12,000	56.9%	\$6,915
St. Patrick - Lake Providence	38	50	15	30%	\$	9,000	63.5%	\$5,535
St. Joseph, Mansfield	41	97	43	44%	\$	70,000	56.0%	\$39,332
St. John the Baptist - Many	44	100	41	26%	\$	23,000	72.6%	\$16,400
St. Terence	45	54	10	19%	\$	6,000	90.4%	\$5,425
Blessed Sacrament, Ringgold	46	19	6	32%	\$	3,000	45.0%	\$1,350
St. Paul - Minden	47	80	20	25%	\$	14,000	36.2%	\$4,770
Jesus the Good Shepherd	48	600	125	21%	\$	91,000	61.9%	\$56,521
Little Flower of Jesus	49	146	34	23%	\$	5,000	91.7%	\$4,490
Our Lady of Fatima	50	182	39	21%	\$	27,000	74.9%	\$20,225
St. Matthew	52	383	48	13%	\$	36,000	41.6%	\$14,975
Sacred Heart, Oak Grove	58	55	14	25%	\$	3,000	77.5%	\$2,325
St. Theresa - Delhi	59	27	3	11%	\$	3,000	40.0%	\$1,200
St. George, Coushatta	62	30	15	50%	\$	12,000	73.7%	\$8,890
Sacred Heart, Rayville	64	40	8	20%	\$	6,000	38.2%	\$2,290
St. Thomas Aquinas - Ruston	65	267	43	16%	\$	32,000	71.3%	\$22,770
Holy Trinity	68	675	92	14%	\$	75,000	83.7%	\$62,618
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament	69	140	34	24%	\$	11,000	73.4%	\$7,970
Sacred Heart of Jesus - Shreveport	70	132	41	31%	\$	13,000	68.6%	\$8,891
Cathedral of St. John Berchmans	72	645	139	22%	\$	189,000	70.5%	\$133,192
St. Joseph Church - Shreveport	73	729	208	29%	\$	240,000	65.6%	\$154,176
St. Mary of the Pines	74	714	114	16%	\$	55,000	74.2%	\$40,404
St. Pius X	75	152	59	39%	\$	34,000	92.7%	\$25,017
St. Clement - Vivian	82	44	22	50%	\$	11,000	62.9%	\$6,915
St. Panchal - West Monroe	83	406	90	22%	\$	53,000	73.5%	\$38,517
St. Joseph, Zwolle	86	636	136	21%	\$	80,000	89.9%	\$70,620
St. Lawrence - Swartz	90	75	16	21%	\$	5,000	50.7%	\$2,535
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	91	182	14	8%	\$	9,000	42.3%	\$3,805
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	93	913	192	21%	\$	176,000	77.7%	\$136,203
St. Ann, Stonewall	94	110	26	24%	\$	15,000	56.5%	\$8,475
TOTAL (DIOCESE)		9,623	2,153	22%	\$	1,600,000	72.0%	\$1,139,529

Diocesan is proud to now be printing *St. Thomas Aquinas's Sunday Bulletin*

You are invited to help support our Parish!
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