

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305

703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9 am - 9 pm

www.stritaalexandria.com / www.saintrita-school.org



November 29, 2020: First Sunday of Advent

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Daniel N. Gee	Ext. 17
	fathergee@gmail.com	
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Nicholas Schierer	Ext. 30
	fatherschierer@gmail.com	
Permanent Deacon	Rev. Mr. Stephen J. Dixon	
	deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
In Residence	Rev. Karol Nedza	Ext. 15
Director of Sacred Music	Lawrence Bowie	Ext. 29
Parish Secretary and Hispanic Liaison	Alma Ramirez	Ext. 10
	aramirez.strita@gmail.com	
Business Manager	Debbie Beck	Ext. 13
	dbeck.strita@gmail.com	
Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry	Klarissa Blank	Ext. 12
	kblank.strita@gmail.com	
Sacristan and Bulletin Editor	Elizabeth Vail	
	evail.strita@gmail.com	
Maintenance Manager	Adan Aguilar	
	maintenance.strita@gmail.com	
Saint Rita School	Bethany Hamm, Interim Principal	
703-548-1888	Josephine Cunningham, Admissions	
	Caitlin Rockwell, Preschool Director	

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

(The Church is open for prayer every day from 6am-9pm.)

Sunday: 7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:00 (TLM*), 10:00 am (TLM), 11:00 am, 12:00 pm, & 1:00 pm (en Español)

Monday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (preceded by Miraculous Medal Novena)

Tuesday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (TLM)

Wednesday: 7:00 & 7:30 pm

Thursday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (TLM)

Friday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am, 5:00 pm, & 6:00 pm (en Español)

*Traditional Latin Mass

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Monday - Friday: 7:00 pm

Saturday: 8:30 am, 4:00 pm, & 7:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Wednesday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Thursday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 pm - 8:00 am (Saturday)

First Friday 6:30-7:30pm

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to St. Rita Church! Please join us, as together we worship God and grow in love for one another under the protection of our patroness, St. Rita of Cascia. Registration forms can be found in the Russell Road entrance of the church, or online at www.stritaalexandria.com/parish-registration/.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to attend a Baptism preparation class, scheduled individually with Fr. Schierer. Please note that it is possible for expectant parents to attend the preparation class before the birth of their child.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain an application to begin marriage preparation. Diocesan regulations require 6 months of marriage preparation. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the marriage preparation time.

HOSPITALIZED AND HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Please contact the Parish office so that the hospitalized and homebound may receive pastoral care from the priests and volunteers of St. Rita.

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Monday, November 30, 2020

Saint Andrew, Apostle

7:00 am Jota Carlos Vidigal ☩

7:30 pm Thomas John Hanniff, Sr. ☩

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Tuesday of the First Week of Advent

7:00 am Bethany Pattee Family

7:30 pm The Gress Family

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent

7:00 am Laize and Doris Vidigal ☩

7:30 pm Jill Bender

Thursday, December 3, 2020

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

7:00 am David Joseph Bork

7:30 pm Margaret Fitton ☩

Friday, December 4, 2020

Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor

7:00 am Fr. Paul Scalia

7:30 pm Holy Souls in Purgatory ☩

Saturday, December 5, 2020

Saturday of the First Week of Advent

8:00 am Andrew McGowan ☩

5:00 pm Thomas John Hanniff, Sr. ☩

6:00 pm Celebrant's Intention

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

7:00 am Sonny Hill and Larry King ☩

8:00 am Thomas John Hanniff, Sr. ☩

9:00 am Eva Behan ☩

10:00 am Aldo and Lorraine Scudo ☩

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

12:00 pm The Church Family

1:00 pm Maria Ramona Salgado ☩

December Second Collections

December 6: Repairs & Replacements
Christmas Flower Offering
December 8: Immaculate Conception
December 13: Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington
December 25: Christmas
January 1, 2021: Mary, Mother of God
Thank you for your continued generosity!



Patricians Society Meeting

The next Patricians meeting will be Saturday, **December 12th at 6:00 PM** in the parish center. Our subject is the Immaculate Conception. All are welcome to join us and our Spiritual Director Fr. Schierer for a discussion of this important dogma of the Church.

Bulletin Submissions - Updated Date

Due to Holiday Printing Schedules, please submit all announcements for the bulletin to Elizabeth Vail at eval.strita@gmail.com by **Monday, two weeks before the desired bulletin date.** Thank you!

Parish News

First Annual Christmas Tree Lot

The Knights of Columbus are excited to announce their First Annual Christmas Tree Lot! The lot is located on Glebe Road behind the school and the convent, and will be open every **Saturday and Sunday from 8 am - 6 pm**, starting **Saturday, November 28th**. Both Douglas and Fraser Firs (from 5' to 9' in height) will be available for purchase.



Men's Morning Retreat for Advent

On **Saturday, December 12th**, there will be a morning retreat for men to bring in the new liturgical year and to prepare for the holy season of Christmas. The focus will be on St. Joseph and his quiet obedience to God's will. The cost will be \$25, with financial support for anyone who needs it. For details, contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com.



Lectors Needed for All Masses

Lectors are needed for all Masses to replace some who have left. Please consider volunteering for this ministry, which is a way to spread the Word of the Lord and contribute to our parish. Scheduling is flexible. For more information please contact **Frank Donahoe**, at **703-960-0719** or fpdonahoe137@gmail.com.

This Week at Saint Rita

Monday, November 30, 2020

7:00 pm Confession and Rosary

7:30 pm Miraculous Medal Novena

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

6:30 - 7:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm Confession

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

6:30 - 7:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm Confession

Thursday, December 3, 2020

6:30 - 7:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm Confession

Friday, December 4, 2020

(First Friday)

6:30 - 7:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 pm Confession and Vespers

8:00 pm All Night Adoration

Saturday, December 5, 2020

(First Saturday)

8:00 am End of All Night Adoration

8:30 am Confession

4:00 pm Confession

7:00 pm Confession

Sunday, December 6, 2020

There are currently no Confessions on Sunday due to the increased number of Masses.

Prepare the Way of the Lord

The "St. Andrew's Prayer" is another practice that can help us prepare our hearts for Christmas. It is traditionally prayed 15 times a day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve (December 24th).

Hail and blessed be the hour and the moment at which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech thee, O Lord, to hear my prayer and grant my desires [make intention here] through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

Support St. Rita Parish with an End of the Year Gift

As we near the end of the tax year, it is a great time to support St. Rita with a gift of stock or an IRA Charitable Rollover. In exchange for a gift of long-term appreciated securities (stock), you can receive an income tax deduction and avoid capital gains taxes on the gift. For more information on gifts of stock please call the parish office. Those over 70½ can also make tax-free gifts from an IRA directly to the parish. To complete a 2020 IRA Charitable Rollover, please contact your IRA provider for instructions. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish!



Diocesan High School Placement Test (HSPT)

Please pray for our St. Rita School 8th graders, who will be taking the High School Placement Test (HSPT) on **December 3**. Any 8th graders who are not presently attending a Catholic school but who are interested in applying to Catholic high schools in our Diocese will need to register to take the HSPT on **Saturday, December 5 (8:30 am-12 pm)**, at one of the four diocesan high schools. For more information, or to access the registration form, please go to <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholic-schools/high-school-placement-test-information/>.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Maria Josepha, Labor Mariae; William Manaker, Jesuits; Our Seminarians in the Diocese of Arlington, especially Tim Courtney, Andrew Clark, and Sean Nypaver

For the Sick in our Parish:

Ciarán Canning, Egidio and Graciela Vera-y-Aragón, Carol Walsh

If you know of someone who should be on the list, please contact Elizabeth at evail.strita@gmail.com. Names will remain on the above prayer list for 30 days from the time they are requested. At the end of that time, you may renew your request. Thank you!

For the Deceased in our Parish:

Joseph M. Behan, Sr., Carola Czernic, Mary Lilly D'Souza, Oskar Egger, John Gleeson, Duane Hackmann, Thomas John Hanniff, Sr., Karen Hill, James Francis Lynch, Jr., John Allen McKlveen, Donald Page Merz, Stephen Meister, Edilberto Reyes, Thomas Rowe, Florette Marie Scalzo, William Shields, Estella Elizabeth Szwed, Phyllis Yancy

All-Night Adoration

Friday All-Night Adoration will continue weekly. Adoration will take place from 8:00 pm Friday - 8:00 am on Saturday. Please consider taking some time to come and adore the Lord in the Eucharist.



News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." Could God's plans for you involve being a priest or sister? Call **Father Michael Isenberg** at **703-841-2514**, or email michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.

Days of Recollection for Men and Women Discerners

Could Christ be calling you to the priesthood or religious life? Take a step to find out. The Office of Vocations will hold a day retreat for men on **Saturday, December 12**, and a day retreat for women on **Sunday, December 13**. They are open to those 18 years and older. Religious sisters will be present for the women, and seminarians, priests and men religious will be at the men's. For more information and to register contact the Office of Vocations, **703-841-2514** or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Spread the Light of Christmas

The Mother of Light Center (MOLC) is a Catholic organization which provides food, clothing, and spiritual support to the needy in Northern Virginia. MOLC hopes to buy gifts for 500 children this Christmas and needs your help. To donate a gift, either shop on MOLC's Amazon Charity Wish List at <https://bit.ly/christmasgiftlistMOLC> or mail gift cards for Wal-Mart or Target to **MOLC, 421 Clifford Ave, Alexandria VA 22305**. Please ensure that gifts and gift cards are delivered by **December 12th**.



Annual Catholic Charities Christmas Collection



2020 has been a challenging year for many of us and our neighbors, so we ask that you consider making a special gift to support the needy and disenfranchised throughout the diocese by supporting Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington's programs. This allows you to play a direct role in spreading the love of Christ for the poor. The Annual Collection will take place the weekend of **December 12-13**. If donating with a check, please note **Catholic Charities** on the memo line. You may also make a gift online at www.cdda.net/donate/ChristmasCollection.

"Home for Christmas" Virtual Concert

Every December, the Daughters of Saint Paul Choir goes on tour to bring the Christmas message to thousands of people around the country. This year we decided to try something new! On **Thursday, December 3 at 8pm EST**, our sisters will sing a free concert that will be streamed on our Youtube page: <http://www.youtube.com/c/DaughtersofStPaul>.