

St. 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



March 13, 2022: Second Sunday of Lent

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frcc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Nicholas J. Schierer fatherschierer@gmail.com	Ext. 30
In Residence	Rev. Łukasz Duda	
Permanent Deacon	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
Director of Sacred Music	Lawrence Bowie lbowie.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 29
Parish Secretary and Hispanic Liaison	Alma Ramirez aramirez.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 10
Business Manager	Debbie Beck dbeck.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 13
Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry	Klarissa Blank kblank.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
Sacristan and Bulletin Editor	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
Maintenance Manager	Adan Aguilar aaguilar.strita@gmail.com	
Saint Rita School	Bethany Hamm, Principal Josephine Cunningham, Admissions Caitlin Rockwell, Preschool Director	

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

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

Sunday: 7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:15 am (TLM*), 11:00 am & 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 am, 8:20 am (School Mass), & 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 (Sunday Vigil Mass)

*Traditional Latin Mass

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Monday - Friday: 7:00 pm

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

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

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, March 14, 2022

Monday of the Second Week of Lent

7:00 am Emma Oliverio

7:30 pm Timothy Lang

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent

7:00 am Matthew Gallegos

7:30 pm James Julius Horvath †

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent

7:00 am Jordan Wilkins

7:30 pm Nicolas Alfaro

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Saint Patrick, Bishop

7:00 am Tui Curiel

7:30 pm Duane Bry †

Friday, March 18, 2022

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Edward J. Pawlukiewicz †

7:30 pm Susan Glover †

Saturday, March 19, 2022

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Zelig & Brigid Wilmes

5:00 pm Grace J. Pawlukiewicz

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Thana Dixon †

8:00 am Antonio Pawlukiewicz †

9:15 am Nicholas Purification

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Neftali Cardoza

Upcoming Second Collections

March 27: Catholic Relief Services

Thank you for your continued support.

Lenten Soup and Stations

The American Heritage Girls, with the help of the Women's Group, will once again be hosting Soup Suppers in the parish center before Stations of the Cross this Lent. The remaining Suppers will be held on **March 18** and **April 1** at **5:30 pm**.

2022 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)!

Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries which provide services that no parish could provide on its own. Our parish goal is 100% participation. You may go online to make a donation at: www.arlingtondiocese.org or scan the QR code to the right.



Bulletin Submissions

Please submit all announcements for the bulletin to bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com by Wednesday, ten days before the desired bulletin date. Thank you!

Legion of Mary Lenten Retreat

The Saint Rita Parish Legion of Mary is sponsoring a Lenten retreat on **Saturday, March 19** that is open to all parishioners.

The retreat begins with **8:00 am** Mass in the Church followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary. Confessions will be available. The program continues in the Parish Center at **9:00 am** and will include talks on the Holy Rosary, Our Lady of Sorrows, and ways in which we can honor the Blessed Mother by regular work and prayers. We will conclude at **12 noon**, with a potluck lunch. Please RSVP to **Vivian Moran** at vbmoran@juno.com.

St. Rita Annual Report

Thanks to your generosity, St. Rita finished the 2021 fiscal year in a healthy financial position. Please take some time to review the annual report, which is available on the website: <https://stritaalexandria.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Offertory-Commitment-Flyer-2021.pdf>.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, March 13, 2022

Coffee and donuts after the 9:15 am, 11 am, and 1:00 pm Masses

5:30 pm Teams of Our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

Monday, March 14, 2022

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes (Grades 1-12)

7:00 pm Rosary (in the Church)

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

2:30 pm Home School Holy Hour

6:00 pm RCIA Classes

8:00 pm Knights of Columbus

Thursday, March 17, 2022

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, March 18, 2022

2:30 pm Stations of the Cross (School)

5:30 pm Lenten Soup and Stations

6:00 pm Stations of the Cross (en Español)

6:30 pm Stations of the Cross (in English)

7:00 pm Women's Fellowship

Saturday, March 19, 2022

9:00 am Legion of Mary Mini Retreat

6:00 pm AHG Father Daughter Dance

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Bagels and donuts after all Masses

5:30 pm Teams of Our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

The Feast of St. Everett



Our parish celebrates March 22nd in honor of St. Rita's "little own" St. Everett of Alexandria. Everett died of a brain hemorrhage in 2017 and was buried in a special grave in the churchyard, following the time-honored church tradition of venerating baptized children who die sinless, before the age of reason. In May 2021, we buried another little saint near Everett, St. Maria Therese, who died at the age of four months, bearing witness to the value of every life. Around the saints' grave, St. Rita has also offered its parishioners a place to bury miscarried children.

In anticipation of St. Everett's feast, all are welcome in the Parish Center on **Sunday, March 20** for bagels, donuts, juice, and coffee following the Masses at **8:00 am, 9:15 am, and 11:00 am**.

On **Tuesday, March 22**, Everett's relic will be displayed on the Marian altar throughout the day. Please feel free to pick up a prayer card in one of the vestibules and pray for the intercession of St. Everett on your behalf.

Father Daughter Dance

Saint Rita's American Heritage Girls cordially invites fathers, grandfathers, brothers, uncles, and friends to accompany their lovely ladies to a night of dancing. There will be dancing and refreshments. **Saturday, March 19, 2022** from **6:30-8 pm** in the St Rita School Hall. Cost is \$20 per family for non-members.



St. Rita Women's Group March Meeting

All women are invited to the next Women's Group meeting on **Friday, March 18th at 7:00 pm**.

Our guest will be personal stylist, Leah Whetstone, who will speak on presenting ourselves as Catholic women...Daughters of the King! We hope you can join in right after Stations for a social time from **7-7:30 pm** followed by her talk at **7:30 pm**. Please contact **Cindy Hart** at saintritawomen@gmail.com with any questions.

Save the Date: Women's Group Silent Retreat Saturday, April 2nd, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

We are very blessed to be able to offer this mini-retreat thanks to the generosity of our Pastor Fr. Christensen and our Parochial Vicar, Fr. Schierer. All women of the parish, ages 18 and older, are invited!

This silent mini-retreat will begin with the 8:00 am Mass and conclude after lunch. Retreat details and sign up will be available soon but mark your calendars now!

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Mother of Light Lenten Donations

Help to prepare your body, mind and spirit during Lent by donating to those in need! Select a tag from the Lenten cross in the Russell Road vestibule for donation to the Mother of Light Center. Items can be delivered to St Rita Church during the season of Lent until **Wednesday, April 13**. Thank you for your generosity!

¡Ayuda a preparar tu cuerpo, mente y espíritu durante la Cuaresma donando a los necesitados! Seleccione una etiqueta de la cruz de Cuaresma que se encuentra en el vestíbulo de Russell Road para donarlos al Centro Madre de la Luz. Los artículos se pueden traer a la iglesia de Santa Rita durante el tiempo de Cuaresma antes del miércoles 13 de abril. ¡Gracias por tu generosidad!

Annual Mass and Anointing of the Sick

On **Sunday, March 20 at 3:00 pm**, the Order of Malta will sponsor the annual Mass and Anointing of the Sick for the first time since 2020. Offered this year at Cathedral of Saint Thomas More, Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Loverde will concelebrate the Mass, assisted by the Northern Virginia Region Chaplains from the Order of Malta.

Holy Hour for Vocations

On **Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 pm**, the Serra Club of Arlington will sponsor a Holy Hour for Vocations at the Basilica of Saint Mary. The Rector, Father Hathaway, will preside at this annual Holy Hour, which will include sung Vespers for the Vigil of the Annunciation. It will be both in-person and live-streamed through the Basilica website.

Vocations

"This is my beloved Son, hear him." Is our Lord asking you to follow him in tending His flock as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call **Father Michael Isenberg** at **703-841-2514**, or write: michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Maria Josepha, Labor Mariae; William Manaker, Society of Jesus; Seminarians for the Diocese of Arlington, especially Tim Courtney, and Sean Nypaver

For the Sick in our Parish:

Diego Alzugaray, Alana Austin, Ciarán Canning, Margaret Fisher, Elizabeth Holmes, Stephanie Prescott, Constance Richardson, William Rodger, Egidio and Graciela Vera-y-Aragón, Carol Walsh

If you know of someone who should be on the list, please contact Dori at bulletin.submit.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:

Elizabeth Allenbach, Wilson A. Alvarez, Mary Barbee, Maria Bond, Carlos Deupi, Deborah File, John Carrington, Oskar Egger, Pamela Hayes, Isabel Hernandez, Andrea Orsini Herndon, Leslie Hyland, Matthew Parowski, Jeffrey Petrino, Thomas Rowe, James Schick, Eileen Serice, William Shields, Angela Smith, John Wonderoth