

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 20, 2022: Third 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 703-548-1888

Bethany Hamm, **Principal**
Josephine Cunningham, **Admissions**
Caitlin Rockwell, **Preschool Director**

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.

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)

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 21, 2022

Monday of the Third Week of Lent

7:00 am Turin O'Brien ☩

7:30 pm Feliks Pawlukiewicz ☩

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent

7:00 am Darlene O'Brien

7:30 pm Macon Edwards

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Saint Turbius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

7:00 am Gerard Gralton ☩

7:30 pm William Harrell

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Saint Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 am Charles Hruby ☩

7:30 pm Catalina Castro ☩

Friday, March 25, 2022

The Annunciation of the Lord

7:00 am Jessica Manalang ☩

7:30 pm Lisa Ann D'Gama

Saturday, March 26, 2022

Saturday of the Third Week of Lent

8:00 am Steve Hoffman ☩

5:00 pm Lawrence Violette ☩

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Justina Gryken ☩

8:00 am Rev. Walter Waldron

9:15 am Consuelo Esperante Fernandez ☩

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Estefano P. Palacios Topic ☩

The Simple Life and Spiritual Freedom: Women's Group Silent Retreat

All parish women (and friends) 18 and older are invited to join the St. Rita Women's Group Silent Retreat on **Saturday, April 2nd**. We will begin with the **8:00 am Mass** and end after lunch (**1:00 pm**). The theme is "The Simple Life and Spiritual Freedom" and is based on the book, *Happy are You Poor*, by Fr. Thomas Dubay. The book will be provided the day of the retreat. The retreat will be led by our generous Pastor and Parochial Vicar and will include Mass, breakfast, talks, group prayers, Adoration with Confession, and lunch. Please bring a water bottle and a Rosary.

All retreat participants will be asked for a \$30 donation the day of the event, which can be paid by check, cash, or credit. If the cost is prohibitive, we ask you to simply give what you can. We do not want cost to prevent anyone from attending. Please register by **Monday, March 28** here: <https://stritaalexandria.com/womens-group/2022-womens-group-lenten-retreat/>

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!

2022 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA): "Do this in remembrance of me"

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)! If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on your blessings and consider making a gift today! The Bishop's Lenten Appeal provides a unique opportunity to unite as a Catholic family to support programs, ministries and services which help tens of thousands of people. Every donation, large or small, is vital to the success of the BLA. You may mail in your pledge or go online to www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code to make a gift. Thank you for your generosity!



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 Supper will be held on **April 1** at **5:30 pm**.

This Week at St. Rita

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

Monday, March 21, 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 22, 2022

6:30 pm American Heritage Girls Meeting

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

2:30 pm Home School Holy Hour

6:00 pm RCIA Classes

7:30 pm SRYA Men's Group

Thursday, March 24, 2022

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, March 25, 2022

2:15 pm Stations of the Cross (School)

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

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

Saturday, March 26, 2022

8:00 am Respect Life Mass

9:00 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, March 27, 2022

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

6:00 pm St. Rita Young Adults F4

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 this **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.

Legion of Mary Pilgrim Virgin Statue

The St. Rita Legion of Mary would like to invite parish families to have the Pilgrim Virgin (Our Lady of Fatima) Statue visit your homes for a week. The Fatima Statue is left at your house for one week during which your family can pray the rosary daily before it. At the conclusion of the week, Legion of Mary members will come to pick up the statue and say farewell prayers. If you are interested in having the Fatima Statue visit your home or have any questions, please contact **Vivian Moran** at vbmoran@juno.com.

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

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!

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.



Post-Abortion Healing Retreats

A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on **Saturday, March 26, 2022**. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish. There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: **(703) 841-2504** or info@helpafterabortion.org.

Quo Vadis and FIAT Camps Registration Lottery

Quo Vadis Days and FIAT Camps are great opportunities for Catholic high school students (current freshmen through seniors) to have fun while deepening their faith and exploring their vocations. Quo Vadis (for boys) is staffed by Arlington seminarians, priests and religious, and runs **Sunday-Thursday, July 10-14**. FIAT (for girls) is staffed by religious sisters and runs **Sunday-Thursday, July 17-21**. Both are held at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. The registration lottery will be open the month of March. See the videos and photos from past years, get more information and register for the lottery at ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis or ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT.

Vocations

"I AM sent me to you." Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call **Father Michael Isenberg** at **703-841-2514**, or write: michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.