

# 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](http://www.stritaalexandria.com) / [www.saintrita-school.org](http://www.saintrita-school.org)



## February 4, 2024: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### CLERGY AND STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frcc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	Rev. Nicholas J. Schierer fatherschierer@gmail.com	Ext. 30
<b>In Residence</b>	Rev. Łukasz Duda	
<b>Permanent Deacon</b>	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
<b>Director of Sacred Music</b>	Lawrence Bowie lbowie.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 29
<b>Parish Secretary and Hispanic Liaison</b>	Alma Ramirez aramirez.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 10
<b>Business Manager</b>	Debbie Beck dbeck.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 13
<b>Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry</b>	Sam Fortune sjfortune.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
<b>Sacristan</b>	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Vanessa Lopez bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com	
<b>Maintenance Manager</b>	Adan Aguilar aaguilar.strita@gmail.com	
<b>Saint Rita School</b> 703-548-1888	Max Bindernagel, <b>Principal</b> Caitlin Rockwell, <b>Preschool Director</b>	

### 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, 11:00 am & 1:00 pm (*en Español*)

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

**Tuesday:** 7:00 am

**Wednesday:** 7:00 am & 7:30 pm

**Thursday:** 7:00 am

**Friday:** 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (Novus Ordo Latin)

**Saturday:** 8:00 am, 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil Mass)

### SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

**Monday - Friday:** 7:00 pm

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

**Sunday:** 12:30 pm (*en Español*)

### 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 online at [www.stritaalexandria.com/parish-registration/](http://www.stritaalexandria.com/parish-registration/) or at the Parish Office.

### 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, February 5, 2024

*Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr*

7:00 am Brian Salerni Family  
7:30 pm Zachary Taylor †

### Tuesday, February 6, 2024

*Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs*

7:00 am Norka Miller

### Wednesday, February 7, 2024

*Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Kim Schenker Dicintio  
7:30 pm John David Hogan †

### Thursday, February 8, 2024

*St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*

7:00 am Cesar Anchraico-Hinostroza

### Friday, February 9, 2024

*Friday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Margaret Linman †  
7:30 pm Napoleon Paredes †

### Saturday, February 10, 2024

*Saint Scholastica, Virgin*

8:00 am Alma Ramirez  
5:00 pm Martin Hamberger †

### Sunday, February 11, 2024

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Sarah Terracina  
8:00 am Isabella Terracina  
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Juana Rosado de Anchraico

*Additional Mass intentions this week:*

Thomas Frank Bilek, Rachel Cochrane, John Jackson  
Sloan, Santiago R. Soutuyo †

### Upcoming Second Collections

**February 4:** Repairs & Replacements  
**February 4:** Arlington Catholic Herald  
**February 14:** Ash Wednesday  
**February 18:** Black & Indian Missions

### St. Rita's Auction & Gala

All Parish Members are Cordially Invited to St. Rita's St Valentine's Day Dinner Auction & Gala on **February 10th, 2024**, at **6:00pm** at **The Columbus Club of Arlington**. This year's Gala will be a grand affair that will also double as a fundraiser to support the educational fund. This fund is crucial because it provides support for many important activities that keep St Rita teaching the true, the good, and the beautiful. Tickets (\$95 per person, \$180 per couple) include a delicious dinner, full bar, live auction, casino games, and a chance to win prizes. Purchase tickets at [www.stritaauction.com](http://www.stritaauction.com).

### Bulletin Submissions

Please submit all announcements for the bulletin to [bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com](mailto:bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com) by **Wednesday, ten days before the desired bulletin date**. Thank you!

### Ash Wednesday Schedule

**February 14, 2024**

**7:00 am** Mass in English  
**12:15 pm** Mass in English  
**6:00 pm** Misa en Español  
**7:30 pm** Mass in English

\*There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Ash Wednesday\*

### Fridays of Lent

**5:30 pm** Soup and Stations  
**6:00 pm** Estaciones en Español  
**6:30 pm** Stations in English  
**7:00 pm** Vespers

### Lenten Regulations for Fast and Abstinence

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on **Ash Wednesday** and all **Fridays of Lent**. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind (even those made from animal fat). Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to **fast** on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. On days of **fasting**, only one full meal may be taken. Two additional smaller meals are permitted to maintain strength, but the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal.

## This Week at St. Rita

### Sunday, February 4, 2024

4:30 pm High School Sacrament Preparation  
5:30 pm Teams of Our Lady  
6:00 pm High School Youth Group  
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### Monday, February 5, 2024

5:30 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary  
6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

### Tuesday, February 6, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

### Wednesday, February 7, 2024

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes  
6:15 pm Spanish RCIA

### Thursday, February 8, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

### Friday, February 9, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers  
7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

### Saturday, February 10, 2024

9:00 am-2:00 pm Young Adult Lenten Retreat  
9:00 am RCIA  
9:15 am English Legion of Mary

### Sunday, February 11, 2024

*Coffee and Donuts after all Masses, beginning with the 8am Mass*

4:30 pm High School Sacrament Preparation  
6:00 pm High School Youth Group  
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### Annual All Saints' Car Raffle

St. Rita's will once again be participating in the annual car raffle conducted by All Saints' Catholic Church. Prizes include four cars and cash prizes up to \$20,000. All registered parish families will be receiving tickets in the coming weeks. Proceeds will in part benefit our parish, so we strongly encourage all parishioners to participate by purchasing or selling their tickets. Further instructions will be found in the letter enclosed with the tickets.

### Sorteo Anual de Autos de Todos los Santos

St. Rita's volverá a participar en la rifa anual de autos realizado por la Iglesia Católica de Todos los Santos. Los premios incluyen cuatro autos y premios en efectivo de hasta \$20,000. Todas las familias parroquiales registradas estarán recibiendo boletos en las próximas semanas. Los ingresos beneficiarán en parte a nuestra parroquia, por lo que animamos encarecidamente a todos los feligreses a participar mediante la compra o venta de sus entradas. Encontrará más instrucciones en la carta adjunta a los boletos.

### WorkCamp 2024 Registration

Student registration for Diocesan WorkCamp 2024 is now open. WorkCamp 2024 will take place from **June 22-28** in Frederick County, VA. Student registration is open to current ninth through twelfth graders. Adult volunteers are needed, as well. Please contact **Sam Fortune**, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry, at [sjfortune.strita@gmail.com](mailto:sjfortune.strita@gmail.com) for more information. The deadline to register for WorkCamp is **February 16, 2024**.

### Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

#### For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Maria Josepha, Labor Mariae; William Manaker, Society of Jesus; Catherine Addington, Daughters of St. Paul; Vayla Lamarra, Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles; Seminarians for the Diocese of Arlington, especially Joseph Connor and John Murphy

#### For the Sick in our Parish:

Diego Alzugaray, Ciarán Canning, Eva Conner, Margee M. Eife, Margaret Fisher, Elizabeth Holmes, Alexandra Meredith, Kimberly Meredith, Stephanie Prescott, Aileen Price, Constance Richardson, Joanne Robertson, Egidio and Graciela Vera-y-Aragón, Hayley Wynn

*If you know of someone who should be on the list, please contact Vanessa at [bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com](mailto: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:

Hessie Bannon, Laura Bean, Maggie Delia Bernard, Leger Brosnahan, Reno Carlitti, Rumalda Coletto, Margarita Linman, Martin McGarth, Joseph McKenna, Victor Manuel Piche, Alvaro Ramirez, Jesus Romero, Thomas Rowe, James Schick, Colleen Sheehan

### Friday Lenten Soup Suppers

Join us **every Friday** in Lent at **5:30 pm** for a simple soup supper in the Parish Center followed by Stations of the Cross in the Church. Please bring a pot of meatless soup to share. Bread and water will be provided by the hosting group.

### 2024 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

The 2024 BLA Commitment Sunday is next weekend! 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. We are asking every family to participate to help our parish make our goal. By participating in the BLA, we renew our commitment to the Lord with a response to His call to serve our brothers and sisters. You may go online to make a donation at: [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA).



SCAN ME

### Peticion Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2024

El domingo del compromiso con la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2024 es el próximo fin de semana. Una vez al año se nos pide que hagamos una promesa de contribución para apoyar el trabajo de nuestros programas y ministerios diocesanos, que prestan servicios que ninguna parroquia puede prestar sola. Le pedimos a cada familia que participe para ayudar a la parroquia a alcanzar nuestra meta. Al participar en la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo, renovamos nuestro compromiso con el Señor al responder a su llamado a servir a nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Ustedes pueden hacer una donación en línea en [www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla) en [www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla).



ESCANÉAME

### 2023 Tax Letters

2023 Tax Letters have been emailed and the mailing is on its way. If you received an email, but would prefer to receive your tax letter through the mail, please call the parish office to let us know. If you do not receive an email or a paper copy of your tax letter, please contact **Alma Ramirez** at [aramirez.strita@gmail.com](mailto:aramirez.strita@gmail.com). If you give online, please obtain your tax letter directly from the Parish Giving site at [parishgiving.org](http://parishgiving.org). If you primarily use Parish Giving (PG) but also received a tax letter from the church, add that sum to your PG total.

### Las Cartas de Impuestos 2023

Se han enviado las Cartas de Impuestos 2023 por correo electrónico. Si no tenemos su correo electrónico enviaremos una copia por correo. Si no recibe un correo electrónico o una copia impresa de su carta de impuestos, comuníquese con **Alma Ramirez** a [aramirez.strita@gmail.com](mailto:aramirez.strita@gmail.com). Si hace sus donaciones en línea, obtenga su carta de impuestos directamente del sitio Parish Giving en [parishgiving.org](http://parishgiving.org). Si usa principalmente Parish Giving (PG) pero también recibió una carta de impuestos de la iglesia, agregue esa suma a su total de PG.

### News from the Diocese and Beyond

#### Vocations

"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" Could God be calling you to spread his Word and his love as a priest or consecrated religious? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at **(703) 841-2514** or email: [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org).