

# 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)



## March 10, 2024: Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

### CLERGY AND STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@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>Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry</b>	Maria Goitiandia mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com	
<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	

### 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)

### ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

“The soul of education is the education of the soul”

<https://saintrita-school.org/> | 703-548-1888

**Principal** Max Bindernagel

**Preschool Director** Caitlin Rockwell

### 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, March 11, 2024

*Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

7:00 am Gerald and Catherine Bender ☩  
7:30 pm Joshiko Weick

### Tuesday, March 12, 2024

*Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

7:00 am Nancey Taylor ☩

### Wednesday, March 13, 2024

*Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

7:00 am Erika Ramirez  
7:30 pm Kieran McBride

### Thursday, March 14, 2024

*Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

7:00 am McCants Carter ☩

### Friday, March 15, 2024

*Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

7:00 am Martha Von Guggenberg  
7:30 pm Joan McCarty

### Saturday, March 16, 2024

*Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent*

8:00 am Sandi Paige  
5:00 pm Rev. Christopher P. Christensen

### Sunday, March 17, 2024

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

7:00 am Megan Rolla  
8:00 am Louise Harry ☩  
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Cynthia Hernandez

*Additional Mass intentions this week:*

Anthony Laschon, Carolyn Lundberg, Philip Schnur, Ana LeBlanc

### Coffee and Donuts Next Sunday

Join us for Coffee and Donuts **today, March 10th**, in the Parish Center after all Masses, beginning with the 8 am Mass!

### Upcoming Second Collections

**March 24:** Easter Flowers  
**March 28:** Holy Thursday  
**March 29:** Holy Land (Good Friday)  
**March 31:** Easter

*Thank you for your generosity!*



### 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!

### 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

### 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. This week's hosting group is the Youth Ministry.

## This Week at St. Rita

### Sunday, March 10, 2024

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

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face  
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  
6:00 pm St. Rita Young Adults F4

### Monday, March 11, 2024

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

### Tuesday, March 12, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

### Wednesday, March 13, 2024

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour  
6:00 pm Religious Education Classes  
6:00 pm RICA (en Español)  
8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adults Women's Group  
8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adults Men's Group

### Thursday, March 14, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

### Friday, March 15, 2024

5:30 pm Soup and Stations  
6:00 pm Estaciones en Español  
6:30 pm Stations in English  
7:00 pm Vespers  
7:00 pm Women's Group

### Saturday, March 16, 2024

9:00 am RCIA  
9:15 am English Legion of Mary  
6:30 pm Teams of Our Lady

### Sunday, March 17, 2024

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

### Saint Rita School Admissions

If you would like your child to join our quest for the good, the true, and the beautiful, please consider applying now for the 2024-2025 school year. We have very few spaces remaining, with waiting lists in numerous grades, so please do not delay! Visit our school website at [saintrita-school.org/admissions/apply](http://saintrita-school.org/admissions/apply) or call our Admissions Director, **Mrs. Malia Busekrus**, at **(703) 548-1888 ext. 32** with any questions.

### Saint Rita School Employment Opportunities

If you would like to serve our parish school in some capacity, we have various opportunities available now and for the 2024-2025 school year. We would love to consider you for any temporary or permanent full or part-time teaching positions, including substitute opportunities, as well as support and classroom aide positions. Please send a resume and cover letter to Assistant Principal **Mrs. Malia Busekrus** at [mbusekrus@saintrita-school.org](mailto:mbusekrus@saintrita-school.org) to express your interest, and we will look for a position that may be the right fit for you!

### Lenten Cross Donations

Help to prepare your body, mind and spirit during Lent! Donate 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 **Sunday, April 6th**. Thank you for your generosity!

### 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, Renuka Carlitti, Eva Conner, Margee M. Eife, Margaret Fisher, Elizabeth Holmes, Alexandra Meredith, Kimberly Meredith, Stephanie Prescott, 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, Aileen Price Alvaro Ramirez, Jesus Romero, Thomas Rowe, James Schick, Colleen Sheehan, Laura Maitre Stevens

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

After reflecting upon God's blessings to you, please consider a pledge to the BLA. Each donation is vital to the success of the appeal and the important work that it funds. You may mail in your pledge, or you may go online to make a donation at [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA) or scan the QR code below to make a gift.



SCAN ME

### Peticion Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2024

Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, piensen en la posibilidad de hacer una promesa de contribución a la Peticion Cuaresmal del Obispo. Para hacer una ofrenda pueden enviarla por correo postal, pueden hacer una donación en línea en [www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla) o escanear el código QR que aparece a continuación:



ESCANÉAME

### 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.

### News from the Diocese and Beyond

#### Bishop Ireton High School's Theater

Bishop Ireton High School's Theater Arts Department presents *Into the Woods*, **March 15, 16, 22** and **23** at **7pm**, and **March 17** at **2pm**, in Garwood Whaley Auditorium at Bishop Ireton High School, **201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, VA 22314**. Tickets and further information are available at <https://www.bishopireton.org/fine-arts/theater-arts>.

### Vocations

"God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him." Are you being invited to share the mission of Jesus as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at **(703) 841-2514** or email: [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org).