

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 24, 2024: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@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	Sam Fortune sjfortune.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry	Maria Goitiandia mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com	
Sacristan	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
Bulletin Editor	Vanessa Lopez bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com	
Maintenance Manager	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/ 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 25, 2024

Monday of Holy Week

7:00 am Jessica Manalang †

7:30 pm Lisa Franchetti

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Tuesday of Holy Week

7:00 am The Tayrani Family

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Wednesday of Holy Week

7:00 am Reynaldo V.L. Paredes

7:30 pm Lynn Durel

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Holy Thursday

6:00 pm (*en Español*) Catalina y Jaime

7:30 pm Marilyn Manning †

Friday, March 29, 2024

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

See Holy Week Schedule for Good Friday Liturgies

Saturday, March 30, 2024

Holy Saturday

8:30 pm Bill and Laurie Bean †

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:00 am Cecilia Sierra

8:00 am Frank and Alice Walsh †

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Raul Rendon Vasquez †

Additional Mass intentions this week:

Robert Schnur, Lisa McNichols, Martha Von Guggenberg

Pray to End Abortion on Good Friday

Please join us in commemoration of the Passion of our Lord as we pray for all the innocent lives lost through abortion, beginning at **10:00 am** on **Good Friday, March 29**, at the Abortion Clinic located at 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA. Fr. Tom Ferguson, Pastor of Good Shepherd, will begin the Stations of the Cross at noon. If you have any questions, please contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com.

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 by **Wednesday, ten days before the desired bulletin date**. Thank you!

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 or scan the QR code below to make a gift.



SCAN ME

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.

Tenebrae

Join us for Tenebrae on Wednesday of Holy Week, **March 27**, at **8:30 pm**. Tenebrae is Latin for "darkness," and features the chanting of Psalms, as well as readings from Sacred Scripture. During the liturgy, candles are gradually extinguished, reminding us of the darkness we experience without Christ.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, March 24, 2024

11:00 am Young Adult Brunch

4:30 pm High School Sacrament Preparation

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, March 25, 2024

5:30 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

6:00 pm RICA (*en Español*)

Thursday, March 28, 2024

See Holy Week Schedule.

Friday, March 29, 2024

See Holy Week Schedule.

Saturday, March 30, 2024

See Holy Week Schedule.

Sunday, March 31, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

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!

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 or call our Admissions Director, **Mrs. Malia Busekrus**, at **(703) 548-1888 ext. 32** with any questions.

St. Rita Seminarian to be Ordained Deacon

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will ordain 12 seminarians to the transitional diaconate on **Saturday, April 6, 2024**, including St. Rita Seminarian Joseph Connor. All are welcome to attend the ordinations at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Ashburn, VA at **11:00 am**. Soon-to-be Deacon Joseph Connor will preach at the **11:00 am** Mass at St. Rita on **Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7, 2024**. Please continue to pray for Joseph and all of our diocesan seminarians as they continue their formation to become priests for the Diocese of Arlington.

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:

John Abarre, Diego Alzugaray, Ciarán Canning, Renuka Carlitti, Eva Conner, Samuel Dunton, 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. 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, Angela Wilson

Holy Week 2024

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week

7:00 am Mass
6:30 - 7:30 pm Adoration
7:00 pm Confession
7:30 pm Mass *

* *Tuesday evening's Mass will be a Latin Novus Ordo*

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

8:30 pm Tenebrae

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

6:00 pm Misa de la Cena del Señor
7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (English)
After Mass – Midnight Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament
 There will be no evening confessions on Holy Thursday

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

8:30 am Good Friday Lauds (Morning Prayer)
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Confession
12:00 pm Stations of the Cross (English)
3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English)
6:00 pm "Via Crucis" en vivo en Español
(Living Stations of the Cross in Spanish)

Despues Celebración de la Pasión del Señor

There will be no evening confessions on Good Friday

Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024

8:30 am Holy Saturday Lauds (Morning Prayer)
After Lauds Polish Blessing of the Easter Food
9:00 am - 12:00pm Confession

There will be no afternoon or evening confessions on Holy Saturday

Easter 2024

Saturday, March 30, 2024

8:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass
There will be no afternoon or evening confessions and no 5:00 pm Mass on Holy Saturday.

Sunday March 31, 2024

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 2024

3:00 - 4:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 Divine Mercy Chaplet
 Silent Adoration
 Confessions
 Benediction

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"Morning by morning He wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught." Listen in prayer daily to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, seek to know your vocation. If He is asking you to consider the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at **(703) 841-2514** or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.