

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 31, 2024: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection 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, April 1, 2024

Monday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 am Ron Middleton †

7:30 pm Alexandra and Isabella Prettitore

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 am The McKeague Family

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 am Nancy Maclachlan and Family

7:30 pm Cecilia Sierra

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 am Edelberto Guachamin

Friday, April 5, 2024

Friday within the Octave of Easter

7:00 am Cary Balsler and Family

7:30 pm Vivian Moran

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

8:00 am Theresa Collett †

5:00 pm Joseph Connor

Sunday, April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

7:00 am Elizabeth Burke

8:00 am Caitlin Rockwell

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Zolia Meza

Additional Mass intentions this week:

Joy Austin, Tere Wallace †, Santiago R. Soutuyo †

Office Closed Monday & Tuesday

The parish office will be closed, **Monday, April 1st & Tuesday, April 2nd** in observance of Easter.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 2024

3:00 - 4:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Silent Adoration

Confessions

Benediction

Upcoming Second Collections

March 31: Easter

April 7: Repairs and Replacements

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!

God's Rising Son

Good Friday had come, and sorrow ensued;
The Son of God breathed His last on the cross.
His Mother most dear, and friends, though but few,
Did witness His death and share in His loss.

His mother received the fruit of her womb;
She gently held Him with arms full of love.
They carried Him to another man's tomb,
The mourners were joined by hosts from above.

The cold burial stone received His remains;
A shroud covering from His head to His feet.
A rock closed the tomb, yet hid not the pains;
The mourners set off and soon there would meet.

Then Sunday arrived, a great glorious dawn;
The sunlight shown bright for all men to see.
The stone was rolled back, our Savior was gone;
He rose to redeem and set the world free.

Heaven's gates were thus opened, death was laid low;
The promise He made us had fully been done.
His work near complete and soon He would go;
We praise you, dear Jesus, God's rising Son!

All glory be raised to Father on high,
All glory and praise to His only Son,
Who rose from the grave and never more dies,
And praise to the Spirit, Three and yet One!

Deacon Steve Dixon

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, March 31, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, April 1, 2024

Parish Office Closed.

5:30 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Parish Office Closed.

6:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

No events scheduled.

Thursday, April 4, 2024

No events scheduled.

Friday, April 5, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, April 6, 2024

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, April 7, 2024

3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour

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

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

The next meeting of the St. Rita Chapter of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face will be **Sunday, April 14** at **3:00 pm** in the church. All are welcome to join us for the devotion's powerful prayers, including a short meditative reflection for all attendees. This new prayer group is dedicated to offering reparation for blasphemies against Our Lord and His Holy Name, for sins against keeping Sunday holy, and for sins of revolution and communism. You can read about the devotion at <https://hisholyface.com/the-devotion/>. The meetings will continue at **3:00 PM** on the **second Sunday of each month**.

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

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

Risen Jesus Party 2024

Celebrate Easter and Jesus' Resurrection! On **Saturday, April 6th**, from **11:00 am** to **2:00 pm**, the Daughters of St. Paul will host a Risen Jesus Party at Pauline Books & Media (1025 King St., Old Town Alexandria). Children are invited for story time, an Easter egg hunt, songs, crafts, and refreshments. RSVP is appreciated but not required. Please contact **(703) 549-3806** or alexandria@paulinemedia.com for more information.

St. Martin de Porres Senior Center - Volunteers Needed

St. Martin de Porres Senior Center, 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, is seeking volunteers for arts and crafts, exercise, serving congregate meals, computer/tech instructors and to give presentations. Flexible schedule. St. Martin's Senior Center provides services to prevent senior isolation and promote their wellness and independence. The Senior Center is a multicultural community with more than 20 countries represented. Center hours are Monday-Friday, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact maria.mellor@ccda.net or **703-751-2766**.

Relevant Radio

24/7 Catholic radio is now available in the DC region on channel 1260 AM. Relevant Radio has excellent shows that discuss current events, spiritual growth, and prayers such as the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet that you can listen to while driving in your car or at home anytime. For more information, go to www.relevantradio.com or just download the Relevant Radio app!

Vocations

"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power." Are you being called to proclaim the life of the resurrected Christ to the world? Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at **(703) 841-2514** or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.