

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



May 12, 2024: The Ascension 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, May 13, 2024

Our Lady of Fatima

7:00 am Tom McBride, Jr.
7:30 pm Timotea Agbayani †

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

St. Matthias, Apostle

7:00 am Kenneth and Amy Wolfe

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Saint Isidore

7:00 am Rev. John F. Heisler
7:30 pm Rev. Michael Taylor

Thursday, May 16, 2024

Thursday of the Seventh Week of Easter

7:00 am Rev. Christopher Pollard

Friday, May 17, 2024

Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter

7:00 am Andre Krol
7:30 pm Tommy Colleton †

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Saint John I, Pope and Martyr

8:00 am Rev. Paul Scalia
5:00 pm Rev. Ronald J. Gripshover, Jr.

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Pentecost Sunday

7:00 am Rev. Denis Donahue
8:00 am Carlie Franzman
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo
1:00 pm Kazuo Chapina Rendon †

Additional Mass intentions this week:

Joanne Robertson, Aleksandra Oakes,
Kathleen Cole †, Len Pawlak and Jean Gehdron

Save the Date: St. Rita Festival

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend our Annual Festival on **Saturday, May 25th, 11am-3pm** in the St. Rita parking lot. Celebrate our 100th Anniversary with live performances including Marie Miller; Pupusas, Tacos, Snow Cones, and Beer & Wine for sale; Bouncy Castle, Rock Climbing, and Face Painting for children; Church Tours, 'Dunk the Pastor,' and more! There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted. If you are interested in helping with this exciting day, please contact: **Maria Goitiandia** at mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com.



Upcoming Second Collections

May 12: Catholic Communication Campaign

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!

Happy Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers of our St. Rita community! "Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates." -Proverbs 31:30

Coffee and Donuts Today

Join us for Coffee and Donuts **today, May 12th**, in the Parish Center after all Masses, beginning with the 8:00am Mass!

Pentecost Vigil

On **Saturday, May 18, 2024** our **5:00 pm** Mass will be celebrated as an extended Vigil, which will include several additional readings before the Gospel. It is a beautiful opportunity to enter more deeply into the prayer and longing for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost Evangelization

Join Deacon Joseph Connor in the Parish Hall immediately following the 11 am Mass on **Sunday, May 19** for a talk on evangelization. After his talk groups will carpool to the National Mall to give witness to others. There will be an optional dinner afterward, at around **5:00pm**, for all participants. For more information, or to sign up, please email **Deacon Joseph Connor** at jconnor228@gmail.com.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, May 12, 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
6:00 pm High School Youth Group
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, May 13, 2024

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

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

6:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour
6:00 pm Religious Education Classes
6:15 pm RICA (en Español)
8:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, May 17, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, May 18, 2024

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

Sunday, May 19, 2024

12:00 pm Pentecost Evangelization
5:00 pm Teams of Our Lady
6:00 pm High School Youth Group
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group
7:00 pm Pentecost Organ Recital

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

The next meeting of the St. Rita Chapter of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face will be **today, May 12 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**.

Organ Recital and Sacred Music for Pentecost

Join us **Sunday, May 19, at 7:00pm**, for a concert of sacred music for Pentecost, with Lawrence Bowie, Director of Sacred Music, assisted by schola cantorum, cello and violin, featuring works by Titelouze, Buxtehude, Bach, Bohm, Bernhard, Viadana, and Mozart, as well as the sung Solemn Te Deum. A reception will follow in the Parish Center.

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolate that does the Spiritual Works of Mercy. Founded by Frank Duff in 1921 in Ireland, it has spread throughout the world. Here at St. Rita Parish, the English Adult Legion group meets on **Saturdays at 9:15am** in the Parish Center conference room. Some of the works they do are door-to-door visitation, Pilgrim Virgin visits and auxiliary visits. The Junior Legion of Mary, open to children in grade 3 and higher, meets on Thursdays. They visit Alexandria Rehab Center as their work. For more information, please contact **Vivian Moran** at vbmoran@juno.com or call or text her at **(703) 888-8196**.

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 Deacon Joseph Connor, and John Murphy

For the Sick in our Parish:

Diego Alzugaray, Ciarán Canning, Renuka Carlitti, Eva Conner, Samuel Dunton, Margee M. Eife, Margaret Fisher, Elizabeth Holmes, Alexandra Meredith, Kimberly Meredith, Stephanie Prescott, Michael Slavin, 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:

John Abarre, 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

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the Inova bloodmobile at St. Rita Church on **Saturday, June 29 from 10 am - 2 pm**. Many lives have been saved thanks to the generosity of our community in past drives. Use the link below to sign up: https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/34051.

St. Rita 100th Anniversary

This year we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of St. Rita Parish, founded on September 21, 1924. All are welcome to join us for the many events we have planned for the parish. Come see and see all that St. Rita Parish has to offer! Visit our website at www.stritaalexandria.com/100th to see a list of upcoming events.



Este año celebramos el centenario de la parroquia fundada el 21 de septiembre de 1924. Todos son bienvenidos a unirse a nosotros en los numerosos eventos que hemos planeado para la parroquia. ¡Ven a ver todo lo que la parroquia Santa Rita ofrece! Visite nuestro sitio web en www.stritaalexandria.com/cien para ver una lista de los próximos eventos.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Volunteer Sewing Instructors for MOLC's Sewing School

Mother of Light Center (MOLC) is seeking volunteers to support the MOLC Sewing School. The program's mission is to empower women from low-income, immigrant families by learning sewing skills, increasing their income, and boosting self-esteem. Passionate volunteers with sewing skills are desperately needed at this time, due to personal circumstances with our current teacher. Classes are on **Saturdays from 3:00 – 6:00 PM** at the MOLC. Please contact **Aimee Gilroy** at aimee@agilroygroup.com or **202-641-5708** for further details.

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, and computer/tech instructors. Schedule is flexible. 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

"And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them." If you are discerning a vocation to proclaim the Gospel as a priest or consecrated religious, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at **(703) 841-2514** or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.