

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



September 15, 2024: Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Nicholas Schierer fatherschierer@gmail.com	Ext. 30
Permanent Deacon	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
In Residence	Rev. Paul Berghout ihmpadre@gmail.com	Ext. 15
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	Chloe Holloway cholloway.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry	Maria Goitiandia mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 38
Sacristan	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
Bulletin Editor	Elizabeth Vail 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, 9:15 am (2nd Sunday - Novus Ordo Latin), 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

Malia Busekrus

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 in the Russell Road entrance of the church, or online at www.stritaalexandria.com/parish-registration/.

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, September 16, 2024

Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

7:00 am Angelina Reyes

7:30 pm Joseph Gerardi †

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

*Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church;
Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church*

7:00 am Kathleen Ann Trimbach †

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Wednesday of the Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Luke Tracey

7:30 pm Martha Von Guggenberg

Thursday, September 19, 2024

Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 am Robert J. Huddleston †

Friday, September 20, 2024

*Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang,
and Companions, Martyrs*

7:00 am Donna Connor

7:30 pm Maria O'Shea †

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 am Sr. M. Veneranda Aucoin †

5:00 pm John (Bill) Douglas †

Sunday, September 22, 2024

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Antionette Durel †

8:00 am Alice Walsh †

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Rosa Bonilla †

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Elizabeth Schnur, Fr. Nicholas Schierer, Elvera Aucoin †,
Elizabeth Burke



100th Anniversary Celebration

St. Rita Parish celebrates its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, September 21. On **Sunday, September 22**, our Centennial Celebration Day will include Mass with Bishop Burbidge, the blessing of the Tympanum and our Parish Picnic. For details please see the flyer included in this bulletin. All are welcome to join us!

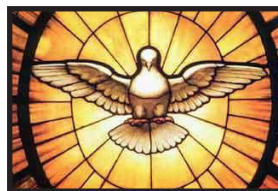


Celebración del centenario

El **domingo 22 de septiembre**, el obispo Burbidge celebrará una misa a las **11:00 am** en honor al centenario de la parroquia de Santa Rita. Luego de la misa, se bendecirá el tímpano a las **12:30 pm**. El Obispo también se unirá a nosotros para la misa en español a la **1:00 pm**. El picnic parroquial se realizará **hasta las 5:00 pm** e incluirá la presentación de la obra de teatro del aniversario sobre la vida de Santa Rita. ¡Todos están invitados a unirse a nosotros!

Bulletin Submissions

Please submit all announcements for the bulletin to **Elizabeth Vail** at bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com by **Wednesday, ten days before the desired bulletin date**. Thank you!



40 Hours Devotion

Holy Spirit: Fire of Divine Love

St. Rita Church will hold the 40 Hours Devotion from **September 18-21, 2024**. The devotion will begin with Holy Mass (in Spanish) at **7:30 pm** on **Wednesday, September 18**, followed by Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue for the remainder of the 40 Hours Devotion, interrupted only by the celebration of the Holy Mass. Each evening a priest with a connection to St. Rita Parish will be the primary celebrant and homilist at the 7:30 pm Mass. For a full schedule for the 40 Hours Devotion, please see the flyer included in the bulletin. There will be sign-up sheets in the Russell Road Vestibule to sign up for an hour of Adoration. Please come and spend some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Upcoming Second Collections

September 22: The Catholic University of America

October 6: Repairs and Replacements

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, September 15, 2024

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

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, September 16, 2024

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

40 Hours Devotion Begins - See Flyer for Schedule

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:30 pm RICA (en Español)

8:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, September 19, 2024

40 Hours Devotion Continues - See Flyer for Schedule

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, September 20, 2024

40 Hours Devotion Continues - See Flyer for Schedule

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Conclusion of 40 Hours Devotion - See Flyer for Schedule

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

6:30 pm Teams of our Lady

Sunday, September 22, 2024

Centennial Celebration - See Flyer for Details

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group



40 Hours Devotion

18-21 September 2024

Holy Spirit: Fire of Divine Love

WEDNESDAY

18 SEPTEMBER 2024

No 6:30pm Exposition

- 7:00pm Confessions
- 7:30pm Mass (en Español)
to begin 40 Hours
*(Principal Celebrant and Homilist:
Fr. Mauricio Piñeda)*
- Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
following Mass*
- 9:30pm Night Prayer (Sung)

THURSDAY

19 SEPTEMBER 2024

- 6:30am Morning Prayer (Recited)
- 7:00am Mass
- 3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 6:30pm Solemn Vespers (Sung)
- 7:00pm Solemn Benediction
- 7:00pm Confessions
- 7:30pm Solemn High Mass
(Traditional Latin Mass)
*(Principal Celebrant and Homilist:
Fr. Paul Scalia)*
- 9:30pm Night Prayer (Sung)

FRIDAY

20 SEPTEMBER 2024

- 6:30am Morning Prayer (Recited)
- 7:00am Mass
- 3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 6:30pm Solemn Vespers (Sung)
- 7:00pm Solemn Benediction
- 7:00pm Confessions
- 7:30pm Novus Ordo Latin Mass
*(Principal Celebrant and Homilist:
Fr. Edouard Guilloux)*
- 9:30pm Night Prayer (Sung)

SATURDAY

21 SEPTEMBER 2024

- 6:30am Morning Prayer (Recited)
- 7:00am Eucharistic Procession
- 7:45am Solemn Benediction
- 8:00am Mass (in English)
for the Feast of St. Matthew
*(Principal Celebrant and Homilist:
Fr. Daniel Gee)*
- 100th Anniversary Celebration in the
Parish Center following Mass

***Adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist continues for the remainder of the 40 Hours Devotion, interrupted only by the celebration of the Holy Mass. Please come and spend some time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. You can sign up for an hour of Adoration on the sign-up sheets in the Russell Road vestibule.**



100TH
ANNIVERSARY

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

JOIN US

for our

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DAY!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

— 100TH ANNIVERSARY MASS —
WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE & DIOCESAN CLERGY

11:00 AM

— BLESSING OF THE TYMPANUM —
BY BISHOP BURBIDGE

FOLLOWING MASS @ 12:30 PM

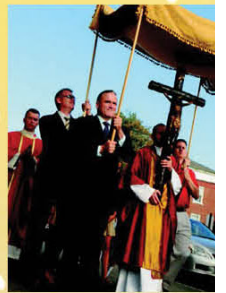
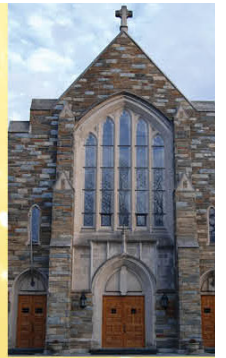
— PARISH PICNIC —
HELD ON THE GROUNDS OF ST. RITA'S

2:00-5:00 PM

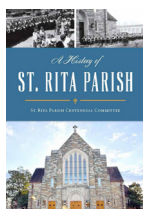
JOIN US FOR FREE FOOD, DRINKS & FUN!

- "The Life of St. Rita" Play in 3 acts (2:45, 3:45, and 4:45 PM)
- Burgers, hotdogs, pork, and delicious sides
- Beer, wine, and soft drinks
- Raffle (\$5/ticket) & prizes
- Team cornhole tournament with prize for winners
- Purchase anniversary books & commemorative merchandise
- Moonbounces
- Live Music featuring Marie Miller
- Free ice cream from 3-4 PM

For details, visit
www.stritaalexandria.com/100th



Last Chance to Pre-Order *A History of St. Rita Parish*



Pre-orders will cease on **Friday, September 20**, in order to prepare for book distribution at the picnic. The order site will resume soon afterwards. You can pre-order a copy of *A History of St. Rita Parish* by going to stritaalexandria.com or clicking the QR code, and earn a chance for your copy to be autographed by Bishop Burbidge and Father Christensen! 15 Winners will be announced at the Centennial Picnic celebration on **Sunday, September 22!** Pre-ordered books will be available for pick-up at the Centennial Picnic on **September 22**, as well as selected times on subsequent Sundays. Books will also be available for purchase at the picnic and subsequent Sundays.



Offertory Counters Needed



The Offertory Counters have the important job of counting the weekly Sunday collections. Volunteering is low-commitment and only requires meeting once a month. If you are interested in volunteering as an offertory counter, please contact Jill Bender at nymeetsva@yahoo.com.

On Today's Gospel (Mk 8:27-35)

"But after the Lord had accepted the confession of the disciples, who called Him the true God, He then reveals to them the mystery of the Cross." (Theophylact, from the *Catena Aurea*)

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, Karen Davidson, Samuel Dunton, Margee M. Eife, J.G., Shannon Harris, Elizabeth Holmes, Alexandra Meredith, Kimberly Meredith, Stephanie Prescott, Michael Slavin, Constance Richardson, Egidio and Graciela Vera-y-Aragón, Benjamin Weitzel, Hayley Wynn

If you know of someone who should be on the list, please contact Elizabeth 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, Bob D'Sylva, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Margarita Linman, Martin McGarth, Joseph McKenna, Victor Manuel Piche, Aileen Price Alvaro Ramirez, Joanne Robertson, Jesus Romero, Thomas Rowe, James Schick, Colleen Sheehan, Laura Maitre Stevens, Angela Wilson

Parking Notice

Please do not park in the spaces across from the Russell Road entrance to the church. These spaces are reserved and paid for by Presidential Greens residents. Please remember that we have permission from **The Birchmere** to use their front parking lot on **Sunday mornings from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm**. Please follow the signs and only park in the designated areas. Please vacate the lot by **2:30 pm**.

Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Rita

Limited spaces remain on the bus to Philadelphia for the 100th anniversary pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia and the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, in Philadelphia, PA, on **Monday, October 14, 2024 (Columbus Day)**. We will meet at the church at **7:00 am** and expect to return around **8:00 pm**. If you are planning to attend, please contact **Sarah Greiner** at sdgreiner1@verizon.net or **703-389-7006** to secure a spot (first come first served).

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes provide a broad overview of our Catholic Faith and prepare individuals to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. English Classes will take place on **Saturday** mornings at **9:00 am**, beginning **September 7**. The OCIA registration form can be found at <https://stritaalexandria.com/ocia/>. For more information or to register for OCIA in English please contact **Fr. Schierer** at fatherschierer@gmail.com.

RICA (en español)

Para obtener más información sobre la RICA en español o para registrarse, comuníquese con el **Padre Christensen** al frecc41@gmail.com. Las clases se ofrecerán los **miércoles** por la noche de **7:30 pm** a partir de **septiembre 4**. El formulario de inscripción se puede encontrar en el vestíbulo de la iglesia o visitando nuestra pagina web <https://stritaalexandria.com/rica/>.

Religious Education Classes have Begun

Religious Education Classes take place on Monday and Wednesday evenings from **6:00-7:00 pm**. Religious Education classes by grade level will meet on Mondays, and classes for children who need additional Sacramental Preparation will meet on Wednesdays. Registration forms are available in the Church vestibules, the parish office, or on the parish website at <https://stritaalexandria.com/religious-education/>. For more information, please contact **Chloe Holloway** at cholloway.strita@gmail.com or **703-836-1640, ext. 12**.

Bilingual Catechists Needed

We are particularly in need of bilingual catechists on both Mondays and Wednesdays. Please contact **Chloe Holloway** at cholloway.strita@gmail.com or **703-836-1640, ext. 12**, if you are interested in serving our St. Rita families in this way!

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"Who do you say that I am?" The One who calls is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Are you called to follow Him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Contact **Father Michael Isenberg** at **703-841-2514**, or email michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.