

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 29, 2024: Twenty-Sixth 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 30, 2024

Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am The Goitiandia Family

7:30 pm Odilia DeAbreu

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Saint Thérèse, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Nancy Rementer

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

The Holy Guardian Angels

7:00 am Fr. Sean Nypaver

7:30 pm Laureano Pachon †

Thursday, October 3, 2024

Thursday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Kyle Hruby

Friday, October 4, 2024

Saint Francis of Assisi

7:00 am Nancy Rementer

7:30 pm Megan Rolla

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin;

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest

8:00 am The Carlitti Family

5:00 pm Dorothy Marie Oliverio

Sunday, October 6, 2024

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Emma Faustina Oliverio

8:00 am For the Victims of 9/11

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Liam Lemus

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Philip Schnur, Deacon Stephen Dixon, Lee Wetmore †,
Oskar Egger †

Change to Confession Schedule Beginning October 7

Beginning **October 7, 2024**, Confessions will begin at **6:30 pm** instead of 7:00 pm, and there will be only one priest hearing Confessions. Confessions will end at **7:15 pm** for Benediction and Mass, and will resume after Mass if there are still penitents. Please look for further details in an upcoming Note from Fr. Christensen in the Parish Email Newsletter.

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**.

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!

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).

Parish History Books Available for Purchase

Books ordered online (go to www.stritaalexandria.com) will be available for pick-up after the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses this weekend (**September 28/29**) and next weekend (**October 5/6**). You can also simply purchase a book after Mass. After **October 6**, books will only be available for sale and pick-up at special events such as the St. Rita School 5K, the St. Nicholas Festival, and the St. Rita Festival.

Upcoming Second Collections

October 6: Repairs and Replacements
October 27: Porto Charities

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, September 29, 2024

St. Lucy Project Food Drive Bags distributed after all Masses

St. Rita History Books being sold after all Masses

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, September 30, 2024

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:30 pm RICA (en Español)

Thursday, October 3, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, October 4, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, October 5, 2024

St. Lucy Project Food Drive Bags collected after 5pm Mass

St. Rita History Books being sold after 5pm Mass

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, October 6, 2024

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

St. Lucy Project Food Drive Bags collected after all Masses

St. Rita History Books being sold after all Masses

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group



100TH ANNIVERSARY

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH





Saint Rita Parish Picnic
and Play

Coffee and Donuts October 6 in the School Hall

Please join us for Coffee and Donuts in the School Hall next **Sunday, October 6**, after all Masses, beginning with the 8am Mass. Please note the change in location for this week.

Annual Life Chain

St. Rita Parish will be hosting our own Life Chain this year on **Sunday, October 6** from **2:00 - 3:00 pm** along **Russell and West Glebe Roads**. Please bring your Rosary and a sign to participate in this peaceful witness to life which is still so needed in our time. For more information, contact **Chris Durel** at bprprd@gmail.com or **571-289-7228**.

Baby and Children's Clothing and Gear Swap

If you have gently used baby or kids' clothes, gear, supplies, toys, or books in great condition, please consider donating them to our upcoming swap event on **Sunday, October 6** from **8:30 am - 2 pm**. You can drop off items to donate (with clothes bagged by size and gender, up to size 5T) in the Convent Garden next to the playground beginning around **7:45-8:00 am** or just bring them when you come to your regular Mass. All St. Rita parishioners are welcome to take any baby or children's items they can use! At the end of the event, all remaining items will be donated to Mother of Light Center (MOLC). If possible, please also bring a package of diapers in sizes 4, 5, or 6 for MOLC in honor of October's Respect Life Month. Please contact **Nikki Volinsky** at nicole.a.volinsky@gmail.com with any questions or to help with the event!

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, 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

Spanish Baptism Class

The Spanish Baptism class for October will take place on **Thursday, October 3**, at **6:00 pm**. English Baptism classes are scheduled on an individual basis with Fr. Schierer. Please contact the parish office for more information or to sign up for a class.

Food Drive for Catholic Charities St. Lucy Project

The Knights of Columbus are conducting a food collection drive for the St. Lucy Project, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington program on the weekend of **October 5/6**. Blue shopping bags were distributed this weekend with a list of preferred items for purchase. Monetary donations and gift cards are also welcome. Please fill your bag and return it after all Sunday Masses next weekend (**October 5/6**). We need non-perishable items like hearty soups, canned chicken or tuna, canned veggies, beans or fruits, peanut butter and jelly, cereal and oatmeal, pasta and sauce, individually packaged snacks, and vegetable oil. Please, no glass jars.

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Procession

Join us on **Sunday, October 13**, from **3:00 - 4:00 pm**, for a Rosary Procession in honor of our Lady of Fatima (this day being the 107th Anniversary of her last apparition to the three shepherd children) and the Holy Face of Jesus. We will begin in the church, process through the Arlandria neighborhood, and end back in the church. What better way to give public witness to our Lord and our Lady on this special day.

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.

Faith, Screens, and Our Families

Join the St. Rita School Community on **Thursday, October 17**, at **7:00 pm** in the School Hall for a talk by Captain Peter Ryan, U.S. Navy (Retired) to learn how screen-based technology usage is impacting your family and get advice for protecting yourself and your children from its harmful effects. This is a practical and spiritual call to action.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Diocesan Golden Jubilee Pilgrimage

Bishop Michael Burbidge invites you to join him at the final celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Arlington by participating in the Diocesan Golden Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on **Saturday, October 5, 2024**, from **9:00 am - 2:30 pm**. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this free event! Visit arlingtondiocese.org/golden-jubilee-pilgrimage/ for the schedule and complete details.



Vocations

“Would that all the Lord's people were prophets ...” All Catholics share the prophetic ministry of the Lord through baptism. Is He calling you to bear witness to Him in the consecrated life? Contact **Father Michael Isenberg** at **703-841-2514**, or email michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.