

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



October 20, 2024: Twenty-Ninth 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: 6:30 pm (**new time starting October 7**)

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, October 21, 2024

Monday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Ava Alegria

7:30 pm Fr. Christopher P. Christensen

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Saint John Paul II, Pope

7:00 am Violet Therese Oliverio

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Saint John of Capistrano, Priest

7:00 am Rita Knott

7:30 pm Randy Hart †

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

7:00 am Fr. Nicholas Schierer

Friday, October 25, 2024

Friday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am John Francis Oliverio

7:30 pm Marjorie Dannenfesler

Saturday, October 26, 2024

Saturday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Madeline Connor Oliverio

5:00 pm Luca Co

Sunday, October 27, 2024

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Katerina Kerzhner

8:00 am Katie Walker

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Difuntos Legionarios †

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

All Souls in Purgatory †, Allison Tracey, Andrew Scott Coulter †, Gordie Keys †



Coffee and Donuts Today in the School Hall

Please join us for Coffee and Donuts today in the School Hall after all Masses, starting after the 8:00 am Mass.

Change to Confession Schedule Beginning October 7

Beginning **October 7, 2024, Monday - Friday** 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** on **Monday - Thursday** for Benediction and Mass, and will resume after Mass if there are still penitents. On **Friday**, Confessions will continue through Vespers and Mass. The Weekend Confession Schedule remains unchanged. For more information, as well as resources for Confession and Examination of Conscience, please see the Note from Fr. Christensen for **September 29, 2024**. The Notes from Fr. Christensen can be found on our website at <https://stritaalexandria.com/this-weeks-note-from-fr-christensen/>.

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!

Jesuit Martyrs of Virginia



Thirty-seven years before the founding of Jamestown, a small band of Spanish Jesuit missionaries preached the Gospel to the native people. Come learn about the cause for canonization of these missionaries in a presentation

by Fr. Andrew Fisher, Pastor of St. Ambrose Parish, and a member of the Historical Commission for the Cause of the Martyrs of La Florida, which includes the Jesuit Martyrs of Virginia, on **Sunday, October 27** at **6:30 pm** in the **St. Rita School Hall**.

Brothers and sisters, do not be afraid to welcome Christ and accept his power. Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ. Do not be afraid.

Pope John Paul II (Feast: October 22)

Upcoming Second Collections

October 20:	World Mission Sunday
October 27:	Porto Charities
November 1:	All Saints Day
November 2:	All Souls Day
November 3:	Repairs and Replacements

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, October 20, 2024

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

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, October 21, 2024

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:30 pm RICA (en Español)

8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adults Men's Group

8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adults Women's Group

Thursday, October 24, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, October 25, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, October 26, 2024

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

6:30 pm Teams of our Lady

Sunday, October 27, 2024

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

6:30 pm Jesuit Martyrs of Virginia Presentation

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THE JESUIT MARTYRS OF VIRGINIA

St. Rita School Hall
Sunday, October 27, 2024 at 6:30 pm



Thirty-seven years before the founding of Jamestown, a small band of Spanish Jesuit missionaries preached the gospel to the native people. Learn about the cause for canonization of these missionaries.

Refreshments served.

Presented by Father Andrew Fisher, Pastor of St. Ambrose Parish and a historian and member of the Historical Commission for the Cause of the Martyrs of La Florida, which includes the Jesuit Martyrs of Virginia.

St. Rita's School

5K & FUN RUN



**SATURDAY
NOV 2**

MAIN LINE BLVD, ALEXANDRIA



CASH PRIZES - FAMILY FUN - RAISE MONEY FOR A GREAT SCHOOL!

To Register, Donate, Sponsor, or find Event Information Visit:

www.StRita5k.com

**REGISTER BEFORE OCT 14 TO GET \$5 OFF YOUR REGISTRATION!
CODE: EARLYBIRD**

Porto Charities Second Collection

The second collection next weekend (**October 26-27**) will benefit Porto Charities, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing access to diocesan Catholic schools for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our schools need financial support to provide the additional resources to support these students, and your donation will help them create or expand their inclusion programs for the coming year. Since 2009, Porto Charities has given more than \$1.2 million in grants to all four of our Catholic High Schools and more than fifteen elementary schools. Thank you for your generosity to this collection, which enables our diocese to continue to serve those who want and deserve the tremendous benefit of a Catholic education. To learn more about Porto Charities, please visit <https://www.portocharities.org/>.



St. Nicholas Market: Save the Date

The 4th Annual St. Nicholas Market will be held on **Sunday, December 8**, from **10:30 am - 3:30 pm**. Be sure to mark your calendars and bring the entire family to this fun-filled event! If you are interested in being a vendor or helping with the committee, please email **Amanda** at saintrita hospitality@gmail.com. This annual event brings together hundreds of families for Christmas shopping, fellowship, and merrymaking, and fosters our strong parish community. We have a number of corporate and family sponsorships available this year! Sponsorship information is available on our website (<https://stritaalexandria.com/st-nicholas-market/>). Please consider joining us!

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, John Murphy, and Daniel Usewick

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, Bob D'Sylva, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Margarita Linman, Martin McGarth, Oscar Merino, Victor Manuel Piche, Aileen Price, Joanne Robertson, Thomas Rowe, James Schick, Laura Maitre Stevens, George Szele, Rafael Vasquez-Coubert, Raymond Williams, 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**.

RALLY for High School Youth

All High School students are invited to attend RALLY, a Diocesan wide event on **Sunday, October 27** from **12:00 - 8:00 pm** at Bishop O'Connell High School. RALLY includes Mass with Bishop Burbidge, Eucharistic Adoration, inspirational speakers and entertainers, breakout sessions, inflatable games, music, and more! For more information and to register with the Parish, contact **Maria Goitiandia** at mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com.

Substitute Teachers Needed

Saint Rita School is looking for substitute teachers (Pre-K-8th Grade) to fill in on a daily basis and occasionally for extended periods. A good rapport with children is essential, but a teaching license is not required. Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree. For more information or to apply to get on our substitute list, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Pre-School: **Caitlin Rockwell** at rockwell@saintrita-school.org

K-8: **Malia Busekrus** at mbusekrus@saintrita-school.org

20th Annual St. Rita 5K and Fun Run

Come join us 20th Anniversary of St. Rita's 5K and Fun Run on **November 2!** Whether you're a seasoned runner or joining in for the fun, we can't wait to bring together the community to support the education of the students and families at St. Rita School. The race will take place at Main Line Blvd. (behind GW Middle School). Registration for the 5K (start time: **8:30 am**), is \$35, and registration for the Fun Run (start time: **8:00 am**), is \$25. Come for the race, stay for the community fun! Let's make this year's run the biggest and best yet. Lace up your shoes, bring your friends and family, and join us as we celebrate two decades of fitness, fun, and fellowship. For more information and to sign up, please visit <https://runsignup.com/strita5k>.

CYO Basketball Registration

Registration is now open for 3rd-8th grade boys and girls from our school and parish to play basketball this winter! Religious Education students and Homeschool Students are eligible to play. The season begins mid-November and runs until early March, with weekly practices and weekend games. The fee is \$125 per athlete, and registration is open at this link (<https://reg.sportspilot.com/106556/leagues>) until **October 28**. Please contact Coordinator **Mr. Chad Worz** at chad.worz@gmail.com with any questions or for more information.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" Should the Lord direct these words to you in prayer, how will you respond? As a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact **Father Michael Isenberg** at [703-841-2514](https://www.arlingtondiocese.org), or email michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org.